

Re: Getting started with ADS

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.setup/2006-03/msg00112.html>

- *From:* "Alexander Ortha [MS]" <alexor@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 15 Mar 2006 23:24:19 +0100
-

Hello Greg,

for WinPE you can find this in the documentation, below is a snip from the online help:

snip

Getting started using Windows PE in ADS

As described in the previous section, using Windows PE in ADS requires that you obtain a bootable Windows PE image and add that image to ADS. A bootable Windows PE image is one that can be used to start a computer and run Windows PE. We recommend that you test a Windows PE image to make sure it runs on your intended hardware before importing the image into ADS. You can do this either by creating a bootable CD-ROM with the Windows PE files or by copying the files to an active partition. Both methods are documented in the Windows PE online Help (Winpe.chm). To use Windows PE with your hardware, you may need to consult your OEM provider for instructions and materials. For information about customizing Windows PE, such as adding drivers, see the Windows PE online Help.

snip

For the Deployment Agent is the information below:

snip

Deployment Agent Builder service repository

The Deployment Agent Builder service uses a copy of operating system files from the Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition CD to create Deployment Agent images. These files are stored in the systemdrive\Program Files\Microsoft ADS\WindowsCD\i386 directory. When the Deployment Agent Builder service starts, it uses the files in this directory to populate the Deployment Agent Builder service repository, systemdrive\Program Files\Microsoft ADS\nbs\repository\Windows. You must not modify the \Windows and \Deployment Agent repositories.

Supplementing the Deployment Agent repository

Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and independent hardware vendors

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(IHVs) periodically release software to customers that is not included in the retail versions of Windows. You can supplement the repository with this software so that the Deployment Agent Builder service produces Deployment Agent images that support additional hardware mass storage and network adapter hardware that was not included on the Windows CD.

The Deployment Agent Builder service performs an ordered search of two repositories to produce a Deployment Agent image. These repositories are called the \PreSystem and the system repositories. The Deployment Agent Builder service uses the first match that it finds in a repository. The Deployment Agent Builder service does not cross reference files across repositories.

The system repository is populated with files from the Windows CD. You can automatically update this repository when service packs are released, as described below. The \PreSystem repository is designed to be updated by the Automated Deployment Services (ADS) administrator. Because the Deployment Agent Builder service searches the \PreSystem repository before the system repository, you can override the drivers in the system repository by placing files in the \PreSystem repository. To populate the \PreSystem repository, you copy the .inf and .sys files into systemdrive\Program Files\Microsoft ADS\nbs\repository\User\PreSystem.

After you have updated the PreSystem directory, you must restart the Deployment Agent Builder service and the device.

snip

But you are right, it is not to easy to find this information.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen / Kind regards – Alexander Ortha (Microsoft)

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"Greg Chapman" <GregChapman@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:F5A7B63C-D644-44C7-8067-C6C3CD0C9F85@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Yes, this is 1.1 on SP1.

Now, what you're suggesting sounds reasonable but I have a Q about it: Where would I have found this in the docs? I had the honest impression from

them that none of this was necessary for a couple reasons:

- If you don't have PE, don't worry, we have the Deployment Agent to fall back on
- No indication that pre-staging the ADS server with vendor drivers, etc., is necessary nor a hint that anything is required beyond the base ADS install.

I'll take your suggestions and work that out but now I'm wondering what

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else
is not clearly spelled out in the otherwise excellent documentation.
Please,
go ahead and paint me as an idiot so I can figure out what I should have
noticed already...if it's in there!

Thanks much, Alexander!

Greg Chapman

"Alexander Ortha [MS]" wrote:

Hello,

ok, first you should be use the ADS 1.1 version. This is the current
version
of ADS and you could download this from the Microsoft-Website.
Is your ADS server a Windows Server 2003 SP1?

In you case, I think you should check that all necessary drivers are
integrated into the DA. How can you do this is in the KB article 841550
described. In the most cases you need to add the NIC drivers and the mass
storage driver to the DA.

If this not help to solve you problem, please send the XML file.

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Mit freundlichen Grüßen / Kind regards – Alexander Ortha (Microsoft)

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rights.

"Greg Chapman" <greg@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:2uke12lqc410k767r5m4ki1qb48ro1885o@xxxxxxxxxxx

Working through the initial phases of learning Automatic
Deployment
Services on Windows Server 2003 and I've run into a bit of a
bugger
which I haven't figured out. I've been reading all I can in
pursuit of
a solution and it's time to ask some experts.

When I attempt to capture an image using the default sample,
the
sysprep phase runs fine, but the part of the sequence which
issues the
boot-to-da command doesn't appear to work right.

When I watch the boot sequence on the destination agent, I

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can see the
PXE boot stub come up and get its address and see that it
receives the
instruction to "boot to Deployment Agent". Perfect!

Then the damned thing reboots and the job fails because "the
system
was rebooted".

At no time do I see anything like what I expected (of course,
finding
out what to expect is a real mystery) since my expectations
were for
something like this:

```
" Windows Automated Deployment Services  
Deployment Agent Version 1.0 Build 0000-000000-0000
```

```
DEPLOYMENT SERVICES  
Boot Selection: ramdisk(0)\windows  
Boot Options: RDBUILD  
RDGUID={E597073D-BCA9-4935-8257-25530A5677D0}  
RDSERVERS=192.168.100.5  
FASTDETECT ONECPU  
PXE Server: 192.168.1.5
```

```
LOCAL NETWORK CONFIGURATION (PXE BOOT)  
IP Address: 192.168.100.100  
Gateway: 192.168.100.200  
Subnet Mask: 192.168.1.10  
MAC Address: 00-10-5A-11-16
```

```
DEPLOYMENT AGENT STATUS  
Connected {192.168.1.34}: Valid BMCP message received  
at  
00:00:00"
```

I never see this. Why?

The controller is an HP DL380 G4 running Windows Server
2003 Ent
Edition. The system I want to image is a similar HP DL380
G4 running
W2k3 Standard. I'm depending on the built in PXE boot
services and
image builder because I haven't a copy of Windows PE.

Thanks!

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