

Windows Enterprise Announcement

July 27, 2011 – New File Service Information (CyFiles)

[The following text is from a post on July 18, 2011 to the CCSG mailing list by Mark Bland of ITS. Subject was “New File Service Information - Notice to OU admins”]

The following is important information regarding a new file service titled CyFiles that IT Services will be rolling out this summer. As part of this new service we will be making a few changes to the user provisioning service that will result in a three attribute changes on Active Directory user objects. Please read below for more information about how these changes will affect you and your clients as well as any steps you can take if you are not ready for these changes.

Information Outline

- What is CyFiles?
- What will be changing and why?
- What does this mean for the user?
- When will this change be occurring?
- What to do if you don't want this change for your area?
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What is CyFiles?

On August 8, 2011 IT Services plans to roll-out a new storage service called CyFiles. CyFiles gives all students, staff, and faculty 5GB of space to be used for individual University storage. Users can increase their quota above 5GB using an interface in ASW and have this billed to their UBill or a fund account. CyFiles offers both CIFS and NFS access allowing Windows, Mac, and Linux clients to connect natively to users' storage. Storage space on CyFiles will be created during the user creation process allowing quick and automated integration of services.

What will be changing and why?

To allow for seamless integration and accessibility across campus the new storage provisioning process will, by default, set the following Active Directory attributes on new user objects:

- homeDirectory – set to explicit CyFiles path
 - example: [\\cyfiles.iastate.edu\##\##\netid](#)
 - where ##\## is a series of numbers based off of the user's unique ID (uidnumber) and netid is the netid of the user
- homeDrive – set by default to U:

- profilePath – set to explicit CyFiles path plus profile directory (.profile)
 - example: [\\cyfiles.iastate.edu\##\##\netid\.profile](#)
 - where ##\## is a series of numbers based off of the user's unique ID (uidnumber) and netid is the netid of the user
 - Note: Windows Vista (and new versions) use .profile.V2 automatically

Setting attributes automatically upon creation will allow for better functionality for users who may login at several different machines or in labs across campus resulting in uniform access to a user's files.

What does this mean for the user?

Setting the homeDirectory and homeDrive attributes on the user object will result in the user having a new drive letter (U:) mapped upon login if the computer is a member of the IASTATE domain.

Setting the profilePath (roaming profile) will result in the user's roaming data (for more information see [http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc766489\(WS.10\).aspx](http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc766489(WS.10).aspx)) being saved to the .profile (.profile.V2 for Windows Vista and newer) path in their homeDirectory ONLY if the machine is in the IASTATE domain AND roaming profiles have been enabled at the OU container where the machine resides (roaming profiles are disabled via group policy at the domain level but may be enabled on a OU level through group policy).

For existing users in the domain we will be running a mass update that will update the homeDirectory, homeDrive, and profilePath attributes on a user object ONLY if the homeDirectory AND the profilePath attributes are empty. If there are preexisting information in either of these fields, the user object will be skipped.

When will this change be occurring?

The process for setting the attributes for new users will go into effect on August 1, 2011 and shortly after we will post process all existing user objects. More information regarding the exact time of the day will be posted closer to this date.

What to do if you don't want this change for your area?

If your department or college is not ready for CyFiles or these deployment settings will overwrite some of your preexisting settings (i.e. you are already using the U: drive through a drive mapping of your own) we have configured the service to allow for OU admins to submit their OU(s) for exemption. Submitting an OU will mean that any new user objects that would be auto-dropped into your OU AND any existing user objects in your OU will not be touched. User space on CyFiles will still be created and can still be accessed, only the Active Directory attributes will not be set.

It should be noted that OU admins will continue to possess the privilege to update the homeDirectory, homeDrive, and profilePath attributes on their user objects and we will NOT

be reconfiguring these attributes on existing users after the initial mass post process that will occur on August 1, 2011.

If you need to have your OU exempted from these settings changes please email storage@iastate.edu prior to August 1 2011 and include the full path to your OU and we will add your OU to the list.

Next CCSG Meeting

At the next CCSG meeting, July 26, 2011 we will be presenting more information regarding CyFiles and will also be able to answer any more questions.

Questions?

If there are any other questions please feel free to contact storage@iastate.edu.