

Windows Administrators Meeting

August 14, 2009

Notes (taken by Steve Kunz)

Meeting Started (9:00)

Announcements

- Domain upgrade done: Beata Pruski [ITSYS] stated that the upgrade of the Windows Enterprise domain controllers to new hardware and operating systems was completed on August 11 with the change in functional level to Windows Server 2008. For a detailed list of events that happened over the summer see:
<http://tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/rollout.status.2009.pdf>
Mike Lohrbach [ITSYS] commented that a new capability with the upgraded domain is the ability to put a group on the “Managed by” attribute for groups, etc. In the past only users objects were allowed in the “Managed by” field. Steve Kunz [ITSYS] added that most AD objects (OUs, users, groups, etc) now have a new checkbox on the ADUC “Object” tab that says “Protect object from accidental deletion”. Checking this on OUs protects the OU from accidental deletion (you receive an error message indicating “You don’t have sufficient privileges to delete, or this object is protected from accidental deletion”). You can always uncheck the box. [Information since the meeting **WARNING: NEVER check this on NetID-based user objects (non-bang user accounts) as it will break the automated provisioning supplied by ITS!**] This checkbox will only appear on ADUC on systems with the new “Remote Server Administration Tools” such as Vista and Windows Server 2008 (not the old “Adminpak” tools on XP and Windows Server 2003).
- PaperCut replacing NetPrint: Beata Pruski [ITSYS] stated that NetPrint (PCLPR on Windows and NetPrint on Macs) is being replaced by PaperCut. Information should be coming out soon on using this new product. For now see:
<http://www.its.iastate.edu/ciocorner/showitem.php?id=1>
- NATwork enabled: John Hascall [ITSYS] stated that NATwork is now enabled by default to all new NetReg connections in the Residence Halls. The new facility places student systems behind a NAT for greater security. See:
<http://dns.public.iastate.edu/natwork.html>
The comment was made in the meeting the systems using new NATwork addresses (10.24.*.* and 10.25.*.*) were unable to get to the Exchange servers. Mike Lohrbach [ITSYS] will investigate. [Information since the meeting: Yes – that was an issue. This will be fixed ASAP.]
- CyMail for students: Beata Pruski [ITSYS] stated that new student registrations are being enabled with the new CyMail (Gmail) email accounts (rather than the old ISU WebMail support). See: <http://www.it.iastate.edu/cymail/>
- TechNotes upgrade: Steve Kunz [ITSYS] stated that the ITS Technical Notes (“TechNotes”) have undergone a recent facelift. A consistent look and feel of both the web pages and published TechNotes documents is being strived for. ITS TechNotes are available here: <http://tech.ait.iastate.edu> The Windows Enterprise Domain Active Directory support ITS TechNotes are available here:
<http://tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin>

- BAYU: John Hascall [ITSYS] stated that the “Be Aware You are Uploading” (BAYU) warning system will start next week. This new network monitoring system watches for apparent peer-to-peer transfers and emails warning messages to the registered port owners. See: <http://bayu.its.iastate.edu>

Windows 7 and KMS servers (Windows 7 activation) [Beata Pruski - ITSYS]

Beata Pruski [ITSYS] talked about the Windows Activation Servers (KMS servers) provided by ITS and when they will begin activating Windows 7 operating systems. Currently only one of ITS’s three KMS servers can activate Windows 7 (due to KMS software limitations on a particular OS). However, a new version of the KMS software is to be released by Microsoft on August 25. After that point all of our KMS servers will activate Windows 7.

Granular Password Settings [Steve Kunz - ITSYS]

Steve Kunz [ITSYS] gave a presentation on the new granular password settings now available in the Windows Enterprise domain. You can view the basic presentation here:

http://www.tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/PSO_Planning.pdf

Kunz indicated the next step is to get more discussion on the “stock” Password Setting Objects to be provided. Some software work needs to be done on the ITS password synchronization software before we can implement the plan. If you have any feedback after reading the above document please contact Steve Kunz (skunz@iastate.edu). We would like to get the new capabilities available as soon as we can. Please participate on developing the stock password settings to be available.

Open Discussion

Nobody had any topics in the 2 ½ minutes that remained for open discussion.

Meeting Adjourned (10:00)

Next meeting is scheduled for September 11.