

ITS Technical Notes

Iowa State University Windows Enterprise Announcement

May 21, 2007 – Unix Identity Management Attributes Now in Active Directory

The Enterprise changes to populate Active Directory with several Unix-oriented attributes have been completed. These changes were discussed in the April 13 WinAdmin meeting. Meeting notes are here: <http://tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/WinAdmin.04.13.07.pdf>

Microsoft refers to the new attributes as “Unix Identity Management”. The field names follow RFC 2307 standards. This support required Active Directory schema updates, which were performed May 12, 2007. Once the schema updates were installed, four new attributes were loaded as follows:

- uidNumber (from LDAP isuPersonUidNumber)
- gidNumber (from LDAP isuPersonGidNumber)
- unixHomeDirectory (from LDAP isuPersonHomeDirectory)
- loginShell (from LDAP isuPersonLoginShell)

Active Directory attribute loading for all NetID-based user objects was staged in over a period of days and was completed by noon on May 21, 2007.

IMPORTANT: Everyone should be aware that these are to be treated as “Read-only” fields, mastered at the Enterprise level just like the proper name and address fields. These fields will be re-synched on a regular basis to match the ITS UNIX values.

ITS hopes to upgrade the operating system on the four domain controllers from “Windows Server 2003” to “Windows Server 2003 R2” during the summer. Watch for future announcements.