Windows Enterprise Announcement

April 9, 2015 – Active Directory Domain Controller Upgrades

ITS will begin upgrading the operating system on the Active Directory domain controllers from Windows Server 2008 R2 to Windows Server 2012 R2 beginning May 13, 2015 (the Wednesday between Spring semester and Summer session). The upgrades will continue every two weeks until complete. Critical Event Log entries will be posted in advance of each upgrade. The current schedule is:

> May 13 -- WINDC1
> May 27 -- WINDC3
> June 10 -- WINDC5
> June 24 -- WINDC4
>
> (Each upgrade will commence at approximately 8:00 AM)

During an upgrade a domain controller will not be available for a few hours. This process should be generally transparent to most Windows users. However any systems, applications or processes configured to use a specific domain controller will be impacted during an upgrade outage. It is strongly advised that you do not hard code the name of a specific DC. The DNS round robin name 'windc.iastate.edu' should be used instead. The DC being upgraded will be removed from the round robin pool in advance.