

## Windows Administrators Meeting

March 10, 2006

Notes (taken by Steve Kunz)

### Meeting Started (9:00)

#### Announcements

- A “mass account suspension” occurred this week. 4,974 NetIDs were suspended at the master level (which caused a corresponding suspension of the NetID-based accounts in Windows Active Directory). This process is outlined in chapter 7 of the following document:

<http://www.ait.iastate.edu/pubs/ggs317/ggs317.pdf>

OU managers are reminded once again they should NOT simply re-enable a Windows NetID-based account that gets suspended. This is covered in the following document:

<http://tech.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/UserMgmtInOUs.pdf>

Contact the Solution Center to find out what you need to do to get the account re-enabled at the master level (it will then be automatically re-enabled within Windows AD). Suspended accounts will eventually be deleted if not re-enabled/renewed at the master level. One common cause of “affiliate” (sponsored) accounts being disabled is that they have not been renewed by the sponsor.

- Microsoft will offer presentations at next month’s meeting (April 14) on selected topics. “Windows Vista” and “Windows Server 2003 R2” will have overviews given. If time is available “Office12” and “Exchange12” may be discussed (we will probably have to shift those to another future WinAdmin meeting).

#### WSUS Server

Kunz talked about the conversion of the Enterprise “SUS” server to “WSUS” service. Kunz has been testing the WSUS service and is ready to perform the conversion on the Enterprise SUS/WSUS server.

It is anticipated (and documented by Microsoft) that the cutover should be seamless and require no actions by IT admins. Existing systems connecting to the current SUS service should require no manual changes. When a “SUS” client connects to a “WSUS” server the WSUS server will trigger a “client self-update”, which will allow the client system to communicate with the new WSUS server protocols. Once the automatic conversion happens, the client can communicate with either SUS or WSUS servers. The IP address and hostname of the Enterprise SUS/WSUS server (sus.iastate.edu) will not change.

The following Microsoft document discusses the “client self-update” process and how to resolve any problems:

<http://technet2.microsoft.com/WindowsServer/en/Library/b23562a8-1a97-45c0-833e-084cd463d0371033.msp?pf=true>

Discussion of a “cut-over” date (from SUS to WSUS) resulted in the date “April 4, 2004”. This is about a week before the April “Microsoft standard patch release” but before people begin to “leave for the summer”. This date will be widely broadcast as the date “sus.iastate.edu” will turn into a “WSUS” server. IT managers will be responsible for checking their systems for proper update activity after the conversion takes place.

Kunz talked about the types of updates that the Enterprise WSUS server will support. Updates for ALL Microsoft products will be distributed and “approved for install”. This is exactly the same as the configuration of the “SUS” server, but now more updates (for more products, such as “Office”) will be available.

Jim Wellman [AER E] raised the issue as to whether or not “Office Service Pack 2” should be available for installs the same day as the conversion. The issue is the sheer size of the update, combined with all the other traffic that may be generated on that day. Everyone at the meeting agreed it would be best to “wait 2-3 days” before releasing “Office Service Pack 2”.

Department IT managers should be aware that once the SUS to WSUS cutover happens you will have any system with Microsoft Office installed wanting to perform necessary updates. If you did not install Office with a local cache of installed components the update process will begin asking for CD-ROMs. Be prepared for this!

## **Open Discussion**

Chris Thach (CIRAS) asked about a problem he was seeing with the Windows VPN client on a “dual screen” system. The problem is that when the client starts on the dual-screen system the VPN client Window is “off-screen” and cannot be accessed. Jim Wellman (AER E) commented that other applications have the same problem on dual-screen systems, and that sometimes a “registry manipulation” of the location of the initial window can be tweaked to solve it. Kunz commented that we are running a back-leveled version of the Windows client. Kunz will try to get a current version for testing. If this version also exhibits the problem about all we can do it report it to the manufacturer (Cisco).

Web Wilke (RES H) asked if anything is being done with Microsoft “Live Communication Server”. Kunz commented that considerable work had been done by one unit on campus, but time constraints had stopped recent progress. There are currently three groups interested in this product. Kunz will contact the original group to see what can be done with completing the testing/documentation to offer Live Communication Server within the Enterprise domain.

Jim Wellman (AER E) asked when Kerberos 4 was going away. He would like to convert to a “totally Kerberos 5” environment. Bill Frazier (ITS) and Beata Pruski (ITS) answered by saying that there were many services (network printing, zephyr, Scout, etc.) that have not been converted to use Kerberos 5, so a shutdown of Kerberos 4 authentication is not immediate.

Steven Spencer (PSYCH) asked about an issue seen with the new “Kerberos for

Windows” (KFW) package and Eudora Pro. The problem seen is when Eudora Pro is configured to use Kerberos 5 SideCar will not prompt for the username/password. Beata Pruski (ITS) indicated this is “normal operation” since the Eudora Pro “Kerberos 5” support does not activate SideCar (as it did for Kerberos version 4). The recommended solution is to acquire Kerberos 5 credentials BEFORE starting Eudora Pro (when Eudora Pro is configured to use Kerberos 5 credentials). One easy way of doing this is to install the Scout “Kerberos Login” package (and “Advanced” Scout-kit). This acquires both Kerberos 4 and Kerberos 5 credentials when the user logs into the Windows system. Since the required credentials are now available as soon as the user gets the desktop, the Eudora Pro problem is fixed.

**Meeting Adjourned (10:05)**

Next meeting is scheduled April 14, 2006