Windows Administrators Meeting
January 11, 2002
Minutes (taken by Vince Oliver and Steve Kunz)

Meeting Started (9:03)

Announcements

- Status on "enterprise email virus detection scanning" project: Still working with the vendor (NAI) on software problems on the E500 (vendor supplied) systems. No date available as to when systems will be ready.
- Announced additional "OU Administrator Tips" (How to request an OU, enforced conventions, creating departmental sub-OU and OU delegation-of-control, mapping AFS with PCAFS, pointers to Microsoft Group Policy docs) at www.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin (in the "OU Administrator Tips" section). User Services support for Windows 2000 (via Solution Center) is underway. Questions relating to "how do I do <this> in Windows 2000?" should go to the Solution Center staff.
- Mentioned that AIT Users Services beginning Windows 2000 user support. Admins should contact Solutions Center for "OU management" type of questions. [Side-note: Contact Operations, 95 Durham Center, 515-294-2256, for general system trouble reporting for distributed campus systems, including the Windows 2000 domain outages).

Question about problems with Scout on Windows XP

Kunz mentioned there were a few known reports on problems using Scout on Windows XP. He asked if anyone in the audience had such problems. In general these problems surfaced as being able to install Scout and see a package list but not be able to install software.

A couple people indicated they had seen problems with the JMP installer. A failed JMP installation results in Scout "hangs" on the next Scout-launch. [Side-note: If this happens, kill Scout and before you launch it next time check to make sure "/Program Files/Scout/Package" folder is empty before launching Scout. Scout is having trouble cleaning up the remnants of a leftover JMP installation] Pruski indicated we know about this issue and are working on it.

One person indicated they had run into people who were getting old Scout software from other sources that would not function on Windows 2000/XP. Kunz indicated it would be a good idea to make sure you are running the latest version of Scout (5.2).

Jim Wellman requested list of ports used by AIT for FrontCar, SideCar. [Side-note: Native Kerberos uses 750/udp, Sidecar uses 913/tcp, Kpop uses 1109/tcp]

Paul Lustgraff mentioned Windows XP Home Edition and NetReg possible problems. Problem with releasing leases. Stay tuned for more info.

Greg Wilson mentioned that if Windows XP "offline files" is turned on, performance grinds to a halt.

Status report on Exchange 2000 project
Kevin DeRoos, ADP (kderoos@iastate.edu)

The last day for the MCS Exchange 2000 consultant to be here was Jan 10. ADP/AIT will continue with development and deployment.

The MS Exchange 2000 upgrade tools are based on a single Exchange 5.5 Organization. The tools do not upgrade an Exchange 5.5 Org environment to an Exchange 2000 Org environment.

Kevin outlined the first steps needed to move to Exchange 2000. The first step is to move all existing Exchange 5.5 to a single Exchange organization.

Example:
  ADP: Exchange 5.5 org is "IASTATE" with site of "A_D_P"
  Engineering: Exchange 5.5 org is "Iowa State University" with site "College of Engineering"

We need to first go to a single Exchange 5.5 organization and multiple sites.

Using the above example:
  ADP: Exchange 5.5 org is "IASTATE" with site of "A_D_P"
  Engineering: Exchange 5.5 org is "IASTATE" with site "College of Engineering"

This is accomplished with a Microsoft tool called "Move Server Wizard" and must be coordinated with ADP (for the existing "IASTATE" Exchange organization). Following this step all existing Exchange 5.5 sites have an expanded (common) directory (and "Global Address List", or "GAL").

The next step is to introduce the Exchange 5.5 tree into Active Directory (via "connectors"). The Exchange 2000 organization is now running is "mixed mode" for some period of time. During this "mixed mode" time all Exchange 5.5 admins will find it to be far less work to join the common Exchange organization. Once the enterprise Exchange 2000 organization is converted to "native mode" Exchange 5.5 admins will have MUCH increased work to join the organization (they will need to export all mailboxes to "pst" files and re-import).

It was noted that user profiles will need to be converted (after joining the new Exchange organization) with "profmod".

The next Exchange migration steps will be talked about in future WinAdmin meetings. A timeline will be announced when it is available.

User discussion included concerns about "user mail going to two places". This happens when a user is on a departmental Exchange server (user@dept.iastate.edu) and mail is sent to user@iastate.edu and no "redirection" is done by mail infrastructure (mailhub)? Mail goes to their Acropolis mailbox on the POP3 servers. [Side-note: This problem exists currently, not new to Exchange 2000]

Another question arose as to if it is possible to configure Outlook to supply the "@iastate.edu" when the mail address is just "user" (instead of "user@iastate.edu"). Eudora Pro can be configured this way. Exchange admins indicated an Exchange server could be configured to do this, but it appeared not to be possible if using Outlook via POP interfaces (non-Exchange).

Greg Wilson asked if Exchange 2000 and Exchange 5.5 can fully coexist after Exchange 2000 is introduced. The answer is "Yes", we successfully tested (in the lab) adding another Exchange 5.5 org/site to the common org after Exchange 2000 introduced. This is known as "Exchange 2000 in mixed mode".

Techniques to mount AFS home directories on Windows 2000

Kunz talked about techniques to mount AFS home directories on Windows 2000 and Windows XP systems. Two methods will exist.

First, PCAFS may be used. This technique is outlined in the following document:

www.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin/HomeDir.PCAFS.pdf

The main drawback with this approach is it requires "dual authentication". First users authenticate to get the Windows desktop and then they authenticate again (to PCAFS) to get AFS tokens to get to your AFS file space.

A second approach was outlined using Transarc's AFS client for Windows systems. The Transarc AFS client can be configured to do an "integrated login". Once this is set up the same username and password used to get the desktop is used to get AFS tokens (for AFS file access). This results in "one authentication". The next step for the user is then how to get the mount-point for the their AFS home directory and map a drive letter to it. New software (written by AIT Systems staff) will look up the AFS mount point (via Hesiod) and perform a Windows "drive map" function. This program (tentatively called "MountAFSHome.exe" will be placed in the "Startup" group for "All Users". Once AFS "integrated login" has acquired AFS tokens "MountAFSHome" will mount the users home directory on a drive letter for them automatically. This software is being finalized and documentation (and links to get the software installer) will be announced and appear in www.ait.iastate.edu/win2000/admin when ready.

Meeting Adjourned (shortly before 10:00)

Next meeting Jan 25.