

Windows Administrators Meeting

November 11, 2005

Updated November 14, 2005

Notes (taken by Steve Kunz)

Meeting Started (9:00)

Announcements

- The two Enterprise “WINS” servers were successfully upgraded the last week of October. This upgrade brings that service to new hardware running Windows Server 2003. Other core services (domain controllers, SUS, and upcoming WSUS) are also at Windows Server 2003 OS.

Software and Windows XP x64 (Kunz and Pruski [ITS])

Steve Kunz [ITS] and Beata Pruski [ITS] presented a status report on ITS-supported software running on the Windows XP 64-bit OS. Considerable progress has been made in the last month.

The following products are working (in our testing environment) and have Scout-Kit installers for the 64-bit OS:

Scout (upcoming new version 7.0)
KFW (Kerberos for Windows, bundled with Scout 7.0)
HostExplorer
FileZilla
JMP
VirusScan (but Windows Security Center doesn't see it)
Eudora Pro
PCLPR
Spybot Search and Destroy

The following products don't work (yet):

OpenAFS
PCAFS
KerbLogon
WinZephyr

The following products are as yet untested:

SSH
VPN

Pruski highlighted the fact that PCLPR has a considerable amount of “lab usage support” written into it at this point, thanks to work with the ITS lab-support staff. This product can be configured in a lab environment to handle “public lab” printing. Contact Beata Pruski (bapruski@iastate.edu) or Al Day (alday@iastate.edu) for more information.

Jim Wellman [AER E] commented that he had tested earlier version of KFW and found it had problems on systems where remote desktop was used. More details are needed on

this, but it probably relates to the move from “tickets stored in files” to “tickets stored in memory”. ITS will follow up on this.

Student User Objects

Steve Kunz [ITS] talked about the upcoming movement of student user objects from the general “Users” container into a new “Students” OU, broken down by college sub-OU as needed. Kunz cautioned anyone who had scripts or other processes that relied on student user objects being in the “Users” contain to examine and modify the code to be more “flexible”. No date on performing this movement is set, but it will be coming. This action is in preparation for the “ACL setting” of certain “service oriented” user attributes to college IT admins. This may include college control of attributes for home directory, roaming profile, logon script, and Exchange services.

The question was asked about how a student with a double major would be positioned in the new student OU structure. Kunz indicated that details about such issues had not been addressed yet. An initial guess is that they would be placed in the first college encountered, with moves between OUs supported (via some future policy) on request. This is a similar situation to the “dual-appointed staff” issues we have now.

Postal Addresses in Active Directory

Steve Kunz [ITS] talked about the likelihood that in the near future the Active Directory “postal address” fields will be populated from official university information. The “campus address” will be mastered into the postal address fields from the public LDAP data. This data source honors all requests for “non-disclosure of information” (just like all other data mastered to AD). Several people voiced approval for this change (the sooner the better).

Open Discussion

- Wayne Hauber [ITS] encouraged participation in the Security SIG (meets monthly, 2nd Tuesday, 2:00 PM, Durham 144). He discussed briefly the topic of this month’s meeting of “server security standards” that are being developed for university servers holding sensitive information (such as Social Security numbers or other personal data used in identity theft, FERPA and HIPPA sensitive data, etc). Input into this process by departmental IT admins is encouraged.
- Jim Wellman [AER E] asked about when “Patch 11” would be available for VirusScan. This patch is needed to fix errors in the event log generated by VirusScan. Kunz indicated he would ask Jeff Balvanz [ITS] about this issue. [Note since the meeting: Patch 11 is already available on www.sitelicensed.iastate.edu in the “Windows/VirusScan/VirusScan Patches” area]

Meeting Adjourned (about 10:00)

Next meeting is scheduled December 9