7 INTRODUCTION TO GROUP POLICY. pdf

1: Group Policy to Lock computer Windows 7

Type of Group Policy that enables administrators to configure a standard set of items that will be configured by default in any GPO that is derived from a starter GPO. Starter GPOs are a new feature in Windows Server

This series of articles focuses on AGPM 4. This lets you compare different versions of GPOs and roll back to a previous version if needed. AGPM roles include reviewers, editors, approvers and administrators. This role-based delegation model allows you to establish workflows for how GPOs will be managed in your environment. Search and filtering â€" AGPM provides enhanced search and filtering capabilities to help you quickly find the version of a particular GPO you are looking for in your archive. This means you can create a separate test environment that mirrors your production environment and use AGPM in your test environment to test GPOs you create. Then once your testing is completed, you can copy the GPOs from your test environment to your production environment and then use AGPM in your production environment to deploy the GPOs. If desired, the archive can be located on a different computer than the one on which the AGPM Server component is installed. The MDOP splash screen appears: MDOP R2 splash screen. Clicking the Advanced Group Policy Management option takes you to the following screen: Screen for installing AGPM components. In the AGPM 4. This launches the setup wizard shown next: After accepting the licensing agreement, you can accept the default path where the AGPM Server components will be stored: On the next screen you provide the path for where the AGPM archive will be located. This can be on the local server or somewhere on your network. On the next screen you specify the user account that will be the owner of the AGPM archive. You can download this from here. After the welcome and licensing screens, you specify an application path. Continue through the wizard until you click Install and then Finish. Expand the console tree until beneath your domain you see a Change Control node see Figure 15 below. Be sure to use the same admin-level user account for both walkthroughs above.

2: Introduction to Windows PowerShell Cmdlets in Windows 7 â€“ Group Policy Team Blog

Introduction to Group Policy. This lesson offers an introduction to group policy management for a particular need such as how to create a group policy management to show the last users who logged on or how to disable the Windows installer.

You configure the Group Policy item-level targeting rules by using the following settings: The operating system is Windows 7 bit Enterprise Edition OR the operating system is Windows 7 bit Business Edition OR the operating system is Windows 7 bit Ultimate Edition In the sample scenario, the bit versions of Windows 7 operating systems cannot correctly obtain the x Resolution Hotfix information A supported hotfix is available from Microsoft. However, this hotfix is intended to correct only the problem that is described in this article. Apply this hotfix only to systems that are experiencing the problem described in this article. This hotfix might receive additional testing. Therefore, if you are not severely affected by this problem, we recommend that you wait for the next software update that contains this hotfix. If the hotfix is available for download, there is a "Hotfix download available" section at the top of this Knowledge Base article. If this section does not appear, contact Microsoft Customer Service and Support to obtain the hotfix. Note If additional issues occur or if any troubleshooting is required, you might have to create a separate service request. The usual support costs will apply to additional support questions and issues that do not qualify for this specific hotfix. For a complete list of Microsoft Customer Service and Support telephone numbers or to create a separate service request, visit the following Microsoft website: Note The "Hotfix download available" form displays the languages for which the hotfix is available. If you do not see your language, it is because a hotfix is not available for that language. Prerequisites To apply this hotfix, you must be running the following operating system: Registry information To use the hotfix in this package, you do not have to make any changes to the registry. Restart requirement You do not have to restart the computer after you apply this hotfix. Hotfix replacement information This hotfix does not replace a previously released hotfix. File information The global version of this hotfix installs files that have the attributes that are listed in the following tables. The dates and the times for these files on your local computer are displayed in your local time together with your current daylight saving time DST bias. Additionally, the dates and the times may change when you perform certain operations on the files. Windows 7 file information notes Important Windows 7 hotfixes and Windows Server R2 hotfixes are included in the same packages. However, hotfixes on the Hotfix Request page are listed under both operating systems. Always refer to the "Applies To" section in articles to determine the actual operating system that each hotfix applies to.

3: Windows Server Platforms - Introduction to Group Policy - IS&T Contributions - Hermes

If a particular Group Policy settings require a particular client side extension and if that client side extension is not available, the Group policy settings will not be applied to that computer.

Operation[edit] Group Policy, in part, controls what users can and cannot do on a computer system: IntelliMirror technologies relate to the management of disconnected machines or roaming users and include roaming user profiles , folder redirection , and offline files. Enforcement[edit] To accomplish the goal of central management of a group of computers, machines should receive and enforce GPOs. A GPO that resides on a single machine only applies to that computer. By default, Microsoft Windows refreshes its policy settings every 90 minutes with a random 30 minutes offset. On domain controllers , Microsoft Windows does so every five minutes. During the refresh, it discovers, fetches and applies all GPOs that apply to the machine and to logged-on users. Some settings - such as those for automated software installation, drive mappings, startup scripts or logon scripts - only apply during startup or user logon. Since Windows XP , users can manually initiate a refresh of the group policy by using the gpupdate command from a command prompt. Prior to Windows Vista, there was only one local group policy stored per computer. Windows Vista and later Windows versions allow individual group policies per user accounts. An Active Directory site is a logical grouping of computers, intended to facilitate management of those computers based on their physical proximity. If multiple policies are linked to a site, they are processed in the order set by the administrator. Domain - Any Group Policies associated with the Windows domain in which the computer resides. If multiple policies are linked to a domain, they are processed in the order set by the administrator. Organizational Unit - Group policies assigned to the Active Directory organizational unit OU in which the computer or user are placed. OUs are logical units that help organizing and managing a group of users, computers or other Active Directory objects. If multiple policies are linked to an OU, they are processed in the order set by the administrator. RSoP information may be displayed for both computers and users using the gpresult command. This is termed inheritance. It can be blocked or enforced to control what policies are applied at each level. If a higher level administrator enterprise administrator creates a policy that has inheritance blocked by a lower level administrator domain administrator , this policy will still be processed. From Windows Vista onward, LGP allow Local Group Policy management for individual users and groups as well, [1] and also allows backup, importing and exporting of policies between standalone machines via "GPO Packs" â€” group policy containers which include the files needed to import the policy to the destination machine. There is a set of group policy setting extensions that were previously known as PolicyMaker. Microsoft bought PolicyMaker and then integrated them with Windows Server Microsoft has since released a migration tool that allows users to migrate PolicyMaker items to Group Policy Preferences. These items also have a number of additional targeting options that can be used to granularly control the application of these setting items. This tool is available for any organization that has licensed the Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack a. AGPM consists of two parts - server and client. The server is a Windows Service that stores its Group Policy Objects in an archive located on the same computer or a network share. Configuration of the client is performed via Group Policy. Security[edit] Group Policy settings are enforced voluntarily by the targeted applications. In many cases, this merely consists of disabling the user interface for a particular functions of accessing it. This feature allows an administrator to force a group policy update on all computers with accounts in a particular Organizational Unit. This creates a scheduled task on the computer which runs the gpupdate command within 10 minutes, adjusted by a random offset to avoid overloading the domain controller. Group Policy Infrastructure Status was introduced, which can report when any Group Policy Objects are not replicated correctly amongst domain controllers.

4: Managing Group Policy ADMX Files Step-by-Step Guide

Join Timothy Pintello for an introduction to creating and managing group policies on a Windows network. Timothy defines what the Group Policy feature and Group Policy objects (GPO) are: mechanisms.

Logging bugs and feedback Introduction This step-by-step guide describes how you can control device installation on the computers that you manage, including designating which devices users can and cannot install. Specifically, in Windows Server and Windows Vista you can apply computer policy to: Prevent users from installing any device. Allow users to install only devices that are on an "approved" list. If a device is not on the list, then the user cannot install it. Prevent users from installing devices that are on a "prohibited" list. If a device is not on the list, then the user can install it. Deny read or write access to users for devices that are themselves removable, or that use removable media, such as CD and DVD burners, floppy disk drives, external hard drives, and portable devices such as media players, smart phones, or Pocket PC devices. This guide describes the device installation process and introduces the identification strings that Windows uses to match a device with the device driver packages available on a computer. The guide also illustrates three methods of controlling device installation. Each scenario shows, step by step, one method you can use to allow or prevent the installation of a specific device or a class of devices. The fourth scenario shows how to deny read or write access to users for devices that are removable or that use removable media. The example device used in the scenarios is a USB storage device. You can perform the steps in this guide using a different device. However, if you use a different device, then the instructions in the guide will not exactly match the user interface that appears on the computer. This step-by-step guide is not meant to be used to deploy Windows Server features without accompanying documentation and should be used with discretion as a stand-alone document. Who Should Use This Guide? This guide is targeted at the following audiences: Information technology planners and analysts who are evaluating Windows Vista and Windows Server Enterprise information technology planners and designers Security architects who are responsible for implementing trustworthy computing in their organization Administrators who want to become familiar with the technology Benefits of Controlling Device Installation Using Group Policy Restricting the devices that users can install provides the following benefits: For example, if users cannot install a CD-R device, they cannot burn copies of company data onto a recordable CD. This benefit cannot eliminate data theft, but it creates another barrier to unauthorized removal of data. You can also reduce the risk of data theft by using Group Policy to deny write access to users for devices that are removable or that use removable media. You can grant access on a per-group basis when you use Group Policy. Reduce support costs You can ensure that users install only those devices that your help desk is trained and equipped to support. This benefit reduces support costs and user confusion. Scenario Overview The scenarios presented in this guide illustrate how you can control device installation and usage on the computers that you manage. The scenarios use Group Policy on a local computer to simplify using the procedures in a lab environment. In an environment where you manage multiple client computers, you should apply these settings using Group Policy deployed by Active Directory. With Group Policy deployed by Active Directory, you can apply settings to all computers that are members of a domain or an organizational unit in a domain. For more information about how to use Group Policy to manage your client computers, see Group Policy at the Microsoft Web site. Following are descriptions of the scenarios presented in this guide: Prevent installation of all devices In this scenario, the administrator wants to prevent standard users from installing any device, but allow administrators to install or update devices. To complete this scenario, you configure two computer policies. The first computer policy prevents all users from installing devices, and the second policy exempts administrators from the restrictions. Allow users to install only authorized devices In this scenario, the administrator wants to allow users to install only the devices included on a list of authorized devices. This scenario builds on the first scenario and therefore you must complete the first scenario before attempting this scenario. To complete this scenario, you create a list of authorized devices so that users can install only those devices that you specify. Prevent installation of only prohibited devices In this scenario, the administrator wants to allow standard users to install most devices but prevent them from installing devices included on a list of prohibited devices. To complete this scenario, you must remove the policies that you created in the first two scenarios. After you have removed those policies, you create a list of prohibited devices so that users can install any device except those that you specify. Control the use of removable media storage devices In this scenario, the administrator wants to prevent standard users from writing data to removable storage devices, or devices with removable media, such as a USB memory drive or a CD or DVD burner. To complete this scenario, you configure a computer policy to allow read access, but deny write access to your sample device and to any CD or DVD burner device on your computer. Technology Review The following sections provide a brief overview of the core technologies discussed in this guide. Device Installation in Windows A device is a piece of hardware with which Windows interacts to perform some function. Windows can communicate with a device only through a piece of software called a device driver. To install a device driver, Windows detects the device, recognizes its type, and then finds the device driver that matches that type. Windows uses two types of identifiers to control device installation and configuration. The two types of identifiers are: Device identification strings Device setup classes Device identification strings When Windows detects a device that has never been installed on the computer, the operating system queries the device to retrieve its list of device identification strings. A device usually has multiple device identification strings, which the device manufacturer assigns. The same device identification strings are included in the. Windows chooses which device driver package to install by matching the device identification strings retrieved from the device to those included with the driver packages. Windows can use each string to match a device to a driver package. The strings range from the very specific, matching a single make and model of a device, to the very general, possibly applying to an entire class of devices. There are two types of device identification strings: Hardware IDs Hardware IDs are the identifiers that provide the most exact match between a device and a driver package. The first string in the list of hardware IDs is referred to as the device ID, because it matches the exact make, model, and revision of the device. The other hardware IDs in the list match the details of the device less exactly. For example, a hardware ID might identify the make and model of the device but not the specific revision. This scheme allows Windows to use a driver for a different revision of the device, if the driver for the correct revision is not available. Compatible IDs Windows uses these identifiers to select a device driver if the operating system cannot find a match with the device ID or any of the other hardware IDs. Compatible IDs are listed in the order of decreasing suitability. These strings are optional, and, when provided, they are very generic, such as Disk. When a match is made using a compatible ID, you can typically use only the most basic functions of the device. When you install a device, such as a printer, a USB storage device, or a keyboard, Windows searches for driver packages that match the device you are attempting to install. During this search, Windows assigns a "rank" to each driver package it discovers with at least one match to a hardware or compatible ID. The rank indicates how well the driver matches the device. Lower rank numbers indicate better matches between the driver and the device. A rank of zero represents the best possible match. A match with the device ID to one in the driver package results in a lower better rank than a match to one of the other hardware IDs. Similarly, a match to a hardware ID results in a better rank than a match to any of the compatible IDs. After Windows ranks all of the driver packages, it installs the one with the lowest overall rank. Some physical devices create one or more logical devices when they are installed. Each logical device might handle part of the functionality of the physical device. When you use DMI to allow or prevent the installation of a device that uses logical devices, you must allow or prevent all of the device identification strings for that device. For example, if a user attempts to install a multifunction device and you did not allow or prevent all of the identification strings for both physical and logical devices, you could get unexpected results from the installation attempt. Device setup classes Device setup classes are another type of identification string. The manufacturer assigns the device setup class to a device in the device driver package. The device setup class groups devices that are installed and configured in the same way. A long number called a globally unique identifier GUID represents each device setup class. When Windows starts, it builds an in-memory tree structure with the GUIDs for all of the detected devices. Along with the GUID for the device setup class of the device itself, Windows may need to insert into the tree the GUID for the device setup class of the bus to which the device is attached. The installation might fail if you want it to succeed or it might succeed if you want it to fail. To install a child node, Windows must also be able to install the parent node. You must allow installation of the device setup class of the parent GUID for the multi-function device in addition to any child GUIDs for the printer and scanner functions. This guide does not depict any scenarios that use device setup classes. However, the basic principles demonstrated with device identification strings in this guide also apply to device setup classes. After you discover the device setup class for a specific device, you can then use it in a policy to either allow or prevent installation of device drivers for that class of devices. You can configure these policy settings individually on a single computer, or you can apply them to a large number of computers through the use of Group Policy in an Active Directory domain. For more information about how to use Group Policy to manage your client computers, see Group Policy. Whether you want to apply the settings to a stand-alone computer or to many computers in an Active Directory domain, you use the Group Policy Object Editor to configure and apply the policy settings. The following is a brief description of the DMI policy settings that are used in this guide. You cannot apply these policies to specific users or groups except for the policy Allow administrators to override device installation policy. This policy exempts members of the local Administrators group from any of the device installation restrictions that you apply to the computer by configuring other policy settings as described in this section. Prevent installation of devices not described by other policy settings. This policy setting controls the installation of devices that are not specifically described by any other policy setting. If you enable this policy setting, users cannot install or update the driver for devices unless they are described by either the Allow installation of devices that match these device IDs policy setting or the Allow installation of devices for these device classes policy setting. If you disable or do not configure this policy setting, users can install and update the driver for any device that is not described by the Prevent installation of devices that match these device IDs policy setting, the Prevent installation of devices for these device classes policy setting, or the Prevent installation of removable devices policy setting. Allow administrators to override device installation policy.

5: Step-By-Step Guide to Controlling Device Installation Using Group Policy

Windows Server Platforms - Introduction to Group Policy Introduction. Group policies are collections of user and computer configuration settings that can be linked to computers, sites, domains, and organizational units (OUs) to specify the behavior of users' desktops.

Consider the following scenario: You configure Group Policy preference settings in a Group Policy object. You use a security group filter in these Group Policy preference settings. This filter checks whether the current computer belongs to a security group that is not empty. This computer does not belong to the security group that is specified in the security group filter. In this scenario, the Group Policy applying process stops, and Group Policy preference settings and other Group Policy settings cannot be applied. When this issue occurs, the following event descriptions are added to the Application log: Resolution Hotfix information A supported hotfix is available from Microsoft. However, this hotfix is intended to correct only the problem that is described in this article. Apply this hotfix only to systems that are experiencing the problem described in this article. This hotfix might receive additional testing. Therefore, if you are not severely affected by this problem, we recommend that you wait for the next software update that contains this hotfix. If the hotfix is available for download, there is a "Hotfix download available" section at the top of this Knowledge Base article. If this section does not appear, contact Microsoft Customer Service and Support to obtain the hotfix. Note If additional issues occur or if any troubleshooting is required, you might have to create a separate service request. The usual support costs will apply to additional support questions and issues that do not qualify for this specific hotfix. For a complete list of Microsoft Customer Service and Support telephone numbers or to create a separate service request, visit the following Microsoft Web site: Note The "Hotfix download available" form displays the languages for which the hotfix is available. If you do not see your language, it is because a hotfix is not available for that language. Prerequisites To apply this hotfix, your computer must be running one of the following Windows operating systems:

6: Group Policy - Wikipedia

Here's a quick look at creating a new GPO using the Group Policy cmdlets in Windows 7. To create a new GPO from scratch using PowerShell cmdlets: 1. Open an elevated PowerShell console session (clicks) 2.

Many Built-in roles grant permission to Azure Policy resources. Both Contributor and Reader can read all details regarding Policy, but Contributor can also trigger remediation. If none of the Built-in roles have the permissions required, create a custom role. Policy definition The journey of creating and implementing a policy in Azure Policy begins with creating a policy definition. Every policy definition has conditions under which it is enforced. And, it has an accompanying effect that takes place if the conditions are met. In Azure Policy, we offer some built-in policies that are available to you by default. Require SQL Server Its effect is to deny all servers that do not meet these criteria. Its effect is to deny all storage accounts that do not adhere to the set of defined SKU sizes. Its effect is to deny all resources that are not part of this defined list. This policy enables you to restrict the locations that your organization can specify when deploying resources. Its effect is used to enforce your geo-compliance requirements. This policy enables you to specify a set of virtual machine SKUs that your organization can deploy. Apply tag and its default value: This policy applies a required tag and its default value, if it is not specified by the user. Enforce tag and its value: This policy enforces a required tag and its value to a resource. Not allowed resource types: This policy enables you to specify the resource types that your organization cannot deploy. In order to implement these policy definitions both built-in and custom definitions , you will need to assign them. Keep in mind that a policy re-evaluation happens about once an hour, which means that if you make changes to your policy definition after implementing the policy creating a policy assignment it will be re-evaluated over your resources within the hour. To learn more about the structures of policy definitions, review Policy Definition Structure. Policy assignment A policy assignment is a policy definition that has been assigned to take place within a specific scope. This scope could range from a management group to a resource group. The term scope refers to all the resource groups, subscriptions, or management groups that the policy definition is assigned to. Policy assignments are inherited by all child resources. This means that if a policy is applied to a resource group, it is applied to all the resources in that resource group. However, you can exclude a subscope from the policy assignment. For example, at the subscription scope, you can assign a policy that prevents the creation of networking resources. However, you exclude one resource group within the subscription that is intended for networking infrastructure. You grant access to this networking resource group to users that you trust with creating networking resources. In another example, you might want to assign a resource type whitelist policy at the management group level. And then assign a more permissive policy allowing more resource types on a child management group or even directly on subscriptions. Instead, you need to exclude the child management group or subscription from the management group-level policy assignment. Then, assign the more permissive policy on the child management group or subscription level. To summarize, if any policy results in a resource getting denied, then the only way to allow the resource is to modify the denying policy. For more information on setting policy definitions and assignments through the portal, see Create a policy assignment to identify non-compliant resources in your Azure environment. Policy parameters Policy parameters help simplify your policy management by reducing the number of policy definitions you must create. You can define parameters when creating a policy definition to make it more generic. Then you can reuse that policy definition for different scenarios. You do so by passing in different values when assigning the policy definition. For example, specifying one set of locations for a subscription. When a parameter is defined, it is given a name and optionally given a value. For example, you could define a parameter for a policy titled location. For more information about policy parameters, see Resource Policy Overview - Parameters. Initiative definition An initiative definition is a collection of policy definitions that are tailored towards achieving a singular overarching goal. Initiative definitions simplify managing and assigning policy definitions. They simplify by grouping a set of policies as one single item. For example, you could create an initiative titled Enable Monitoring in Azure Security Center, with a goal to monitor all the available security recommendations in your Azure Security Center. Under this initiative, you would have policy definitions such as: Monitor OS vulnerabilities in Security Center â€” For monitoring servers that do not satisfy the configured baseline. Monitor missing Endpoint Protection in Security Center â€” For monitoring servers without an installed endpoint protection agent. Initiative assignment Like a policy assignment, an initiative assignment is an initiative definition assigned to a specific scope. Initiative assignments reduce the need to make several initiative definitions for each scope. This scope could also range from a management group to a resource group. From the preceding example, the Enable Monitoring in Azure Security Center initiative can be assigned to different scopes. For example, one assignment can be assigned to subscriptionA. Another can be assigned to subscriptionB. Initiative parameters Like policy parameters, initiative parameters help simplify initiative management by reducing redundancy. Initiative parameters are essentially the list of parameters being used by the policy definitions within the initiative. For example, take a scenario where you have an initiative definition - initiativeC, with policy definitions policyA and policyB each expecting a different type of parameter:

7: Local Group Policy Editor - Open - Windows 7 Help Forums

The Windows Vista or Windows Server versions of Group Policy Object Editor and Group Policy Management Console can be used to manage all operating systems that support Group Policy (Windows Vista and Windows Server , Windows Server , Windows XP, and Windows).

GPOs are collections of group policy settings. One local GPO is stored on each computer whether or not the computer is part of an Active Directory environment or a networked environment. Following the properties of Active Directory, nonlocal GPOs are applied hierarchically from the least restrictive group site to the most restrictive group OU and are cumulative. This lesson discusses nonlocal GPOs unless otherwise specified. You can open the Group Policy snap-in in several ways, depending on what action you want to perform. To open the local Group Policy snap-in: Open Microsoft Management Console. The Group Policy snap-in for the local computer is now available. Open Active Directory Users and Computers dsa. Be careful to make sure you use the right snap-in for the right OS. They are not compatible and using the wrong one may possibly corrupt the Active Directory. In the console tree, right-click the domain or OU for which you want to set policy for, then click Properties. The Group Policy snap-in for the domain or OU is now available. Open AD Container Management adcontmgr. In the console tree, right-click the domain root or OU you want to set group policy for, then click Properties. Computer and User Configuration Settings Computer configuration settings are used to set group policies applied to computers, regardless of who logs on to them. Computer configuration settings are applied when the operating system initializes. Container Administrators for the WIN domain will use only these settings. User configuration settings are used to set group policies applied to users, regardless of which computer the user logs on to. User configuration settings are applied when users log on to a computer. Both computer configuration settings and user configuration settings include Software Settings, Windows Settings, and Administrative Templates. Software Settings For both the computer configuration and user configuration, Software Settings contains only Software Installation settings by default. Software Installation settings help you specify how applications are installed and maintained within your organization. Software Installation settings also provide a place for independent software vendors to add settings. You manage an application within a GPO that, in turn, is associated with a particular Active Directory container--a site, domain, or OU. Applications can be managed in one of two modes: You assign an application to a computer when you want computers or people managed by the GPO to have the application. You publish an application when you want the application to be available to people managed by the GPO, should a person want the application. You cannot publish an application to computers. In the WIN domain, we assign software only to computers; we do not publish software to users. Scripts allow you to specify two types of scripts: You can determine the order of execution for multiple scripts in the Properties dialog box. When a computer is shut down, Windows first processes logoff scripts followed by shutdown scripts. Administrators can use any ActiveX scripting language they are comfortable with. Security Settings allows a security administrator to manually configure security levels assigned to a local or nonlocal GPO. This can be done after, or instead of, using a security template to set system security. Folder Redirection allows you to redirect Windows special folders My Documents, Application Data, Desktop, and Start menu from their default user profile location to an alternate location on the network, where they can be centrally managed. Administrative Templates For both the computer and user configurations, Administrative Templates contains all registry-based group policy settings, including settings for Windows Components, System, and Network. System is used to control logon and logoff functions and group policy itself. For the computer configuration only, Administrative Templates contains additional group policy settings for Printers. Control Panel settings determine the Control Panel options available to a user. In Administrative Templates there are more than of these settings available for configuring the user environment. You can display administrative template settings by clicking the Administrative Templates node, clicking View, then unchecking Show Policies Only to show all settings. You never want to select "Show Policies Only". This will hide "preferences", which really are policies, for all intents and purposes. You can also check Show Configured Policies Only to show only those settings that have been configured. How Group Policy Affects Startup and Logon The following sequence shows the order in which computer configuration and user configuration settings are applied when a computer starts and a user logs on: An ordered list of GPOs is obtained for the computer. The list contents may depend on these factors: Whether the computer is part of a Windows domain, and is therefore subject to group policy through Active Directory. The location of the computer in Active Directory. If the list of GPOs has not changed, then no processing is done. You can use a group policy setting to change this behavior. And we do so in the WIN domain. We process folder redirection, registry, scripts, and security policy, even if the policies are unchanged. Computer configuration settings are processed. This occurs synchronously by default, and in the following order: No user interface is displayed while computer configuration settings are being processed. This is hidden and synchronous by default; each script must complete or time out before the next one starts. You can use several group policy settings to modify this behavior. After the user is validated, the user profile is loaded, governed by the group policy settings in effect. An ordered list of GPOs is obtained for the user. Whether the user is part of a Windows domain, and is therefore subject to group policy through Active Directory. Whether loopback is enabled, and the state Merge or Replace of the loopback policy setting. The location of the user in Active Directory. If the list of GPOs to be applied has not changed, then no processing is done. You can use a policy setting to change this behavior. User configuration settings are processed. No user interface is displayed while user policies are being processed. Unlike Windows NT 4. The user object script runs last. The operating system user interface prescribed by group policy appears. Each Windows computer has exactly one GPO stored locally. Any GPOs that have been linked to the site are processed next. Processing is synchronous; the administrator specifies the order of GPOs linked to a site. We do not use this in the WIN domain. If several group policies are linked to an OU, then they are processed synchronously in an order specified by the administrator. For example, you set up a domain GPO to allow anyone to log on interactively. Exceptions to the Processing Order The default order of processing group policy settings is subject to the following exceptions: A computer that is a member of a workgroup processes only the local GPO. When more than one GPO has been set to No Override, the one highest in the Active Directory hierarchy or higher in the hierarchy specified by the administrator at each fixed level in Active Directory takes precedence. No Override is applied to the GPO link. At any site, domain, or OU, group policy inheritance can be selectively marked as Block Policy Inheritance. Block Policy Inheritance is applied directly to the site, domain, or OU. Thus, Block Policy Inheritance deflects all group policy settings that reach the site, domain, or OU from above by way of linkage to parents in the Active Directory hierarchy no matter from what GPOs those settings originate. Loopback is an advanced group policy setting that is useful on computers in certain closely managed environments such as kiosks, laboratories, classrooms, and reception areas. This can be dangerous! Loopback provides alternatives to the default method of obtaining the ordered list of GPOs whose user configuration settings affect a user. The ordered list goes from site-linked to domain-linked to OU-linked GPOs, with inheritance determined by the location of the user in Active Directory and in an order specified by the administrator at each level. Loopback can be Not Configured, Enabled, or Disabled, as can any other group policy setting. In the Enabled state, loopback can be set to Merge or Replace mode. In this case, the GPO list is concatenated. In this case, the GPO list for the user is replaced in its entirety by the GPO list already obtained for the computer at computer. Group Policy Inheritance In general, group policy is passed down from parent to child containers. If you have assigned a separate group policy to a parent container, that group policy applies to all containers beneath the parent container, including the user and computer objects in the container. Policy settings that are disabled are inherited as disabled. Policies are inherited as long as they are compatible. If a policy configured for a parent OU is incompatible with the same policy configured for a child OU, the child does not inherit the policy setting from the parent. The setting in the child is applied.

8: Advanced Group Policy Management (Part 1) - Introduction

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Policy in a changing context. What can policy 5. Practical aspects of keeping policy 6. Policy debate and development 7. Criteria for good policy 1. When a group of people working in the human services area are asked What is policy? The many approaches to answering the question what is policy suggests that the word is used in many different ways. There is not one answer to the question what is policy. Different writers use the word in different ways. A multidimensional term In practice in human service organisations it is useful to think of policy as having a range of elements all of which are part of the answer to the question what is policy but any one or more of which may be getting emphasis when the word policy is used in particular situations. These elements of policy include: Policy creates a framework for action within your organisation Policy is a decision Policy is grounded in legitimate authority Policy is a written product Policy is in the hearts and minds of people it needs to be known to be acted on. Policy creation is an ongoing process Policy is a wider framework within which your organisation operate awards, legislation, Government policy etc. Some people talk about policy meaning a policy and procedures manual. Others talk about policy meaning the implicit framework that guides our day to day actions on the job. Others emphasise that policy is made by Boards or other legitimate authorities within an organisation. Some people want to distinguish between policies and procedures. An Umbrella Term Some people use the word "policy" as an umbrella concept that covers mission, philosophy, goals, etc as all these provide a framework for action. Others use the term in a narrower sense, eg, some people would exclude mission and philosophy. Contrasting Policy and Procedures Some people use the term policy to contrast policy and procedures. Whether something is a policy or a procedure can often depend on your point of view, eg. Is "Our organisation is a smoke free workplace" a policy, or a procedure of a broader policy of "All staff have a right to a safe and healthy working environment"? Different policy words for different levels of sanction We use different words for policies that have different levels of sanction, eg, E. Some of the reasons we have policy are: So people working in an organisation can have a framework for action that helps them get on with the job they need to do. So legal and other requirements can be met. A tool in quality improvement To comply with accreditation standards 3. Policy in a Changing Context We are part of a changing social context. Some of the changes in organisational thinking are changes in the way we maintain and improve quality. We have moved through:

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The new Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) makes Group Policy much easier to manage Group Policy implementations. The GPMC provides a unified view of GPOs, sites, domains, and OUs across an enterprise and can be used to manage either Windows Server or Windows domains.

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