

# Design and Implementation for Active Directory

## DIAD Solution

Proven expertise and best practices designed to reduce system complexity, simplify management, and streamline the adoption of integrated technologies.

- Optimize management of directory data and server infrastructure.
- Create a service topology based on network and security requirements.
- Develop a well-structured, highly available directory with security features.
- Achieve smooth integration with Microsoft Online Services.

The demands on IT groups have never been greater. Pressure to operate more efficiently, reduce costs, and increase employee productivity has led IT groups to seek solutions to very difficult problems. Central to the challenges facing IT is the management of directories, authentication, authorization, and identity rationalization.

Organizations have come to rely on more and more applications and systems, but as the number of applications and systems increases, so does the number of identities that IT must manage and employees must use. With this proliferation of users and devices in an organization, there is a greater need for a central place to store and manage information about users and their privileges. In addition, the central store must adapt to new scenarios, such as integrating with Microsoft® Online Services and adapting to new organizational security policies and compliance tracking.

The Microsoft Services Design and Implementation for Active Directory® Offering enables organizations to deploy and optimize Windows Server® 2008 R2 Active Directory services efficiently by implementing consistent, reproducible processes and configurations that help improve efficiency and require less effort to maintain.

Design and Implementation for Active Directory can help you:

- Establish a unified directory architecture.
- Implement Active Directory domain controllers and a replication architecture that meets the service continuity needs of the organization.
- Migrate to a unified Active Directory on the Windows Server 2008 R2 operating system together with the management and operational procedures required to help address directory security and availability.
- Integrate with Microsoft Business Productivity Online Suite – Dedicated environment.

The purpose of this Offering is to reduce system complexity, simplify management, and streamline the adoption of integrated technologies, resulting in lower total costs, higher productivity, and greater agility. Furthermore, existing Active Directory deployments can be calibrated to address more effectively the needs that have evolved since it was deployed.

## Establish a Unified Directory Architecture

As part of this Offering, Microsoft Services consultants provide a shared services platform for common services, such as authentication, collaboration, service, and object management. The unified Active Directory domain becomes the primary, user authentication directory for the entire organization, as well as for the Microsoft Online environment. Elements of the unified Active Directory architecture include:

- Organizational Unit and Delegation model
- Group policy and preferences
- Security group strategy
- Fine-grain password policy

## Implement Active Directory Domain Controllers and a Replication Architecture

Consolidated Active Directory domain controllers and a replication architecture are designed and implemented to provide an efficient physical access to the directory, taking into account network, data center, Microsoft Online data centers, and business continuity factors.

## Migrate to a Unified Active Directory on Windows Server 2008 R2

The Design and Implementation Offering structures and plans for the migration to a unified Active Directory on Windows Server 2008 R2 for the users and services currently contained in directory systems. Windows Server 2008 R2 includes improvements in Active Directory Domain Services that simplify the management, maintenance, and operation of domain services and provide administrators with a greater degree of flexibility to address the needs of the organization. A unified Active Directory also makes integration into the Business Productivity Online Suite Dedicated (BPOS-D) environment less complex.

## Implement Best Practices

This service Offering was developed in conjunction with the Windows Server and Active Directory product development teams and the Microsoft internal IT department. It was then tested and refined through multiple, successful service engagements with large organizations, and updated to include specific considerations for the BPOS-D scenario.

Microsoft Services consultants offer a high level of expertise in planning, deploying, and optimizing a directory services solution. With a deep understanding of Windows Server 2008 R2 and Active Directory, the Information Technology Infrastructure Library, and the Microsoft Operations Framework, Microsoft Services consultants are specially qualified to provide guidance and best practices to make your directory services solution a success.

## Engagement Overview

This engagement includes the following key deliverables:

- Implementation of Windows Server 2008 R2 Active Directory designed for the specific needs of your environment (product license not included).
- Deployment of read-only domain controllers (RODCs) for locations where physical security cannot be guaranteed.
- Operational guidance to help you get the most value out of the solution after it has been deployed.
- Architecture and design guidance detailing your implementation.