

Query Active Directory for PCs Script

Overview

queryADforPCs.ps1 is a PowerShell script designed for network administrators to automatically query Active Directory for all computer objects within a specified Organizational Unit (OU) and export these details to a text file. This file can then be used for various administrative tasks, such as performing network-wide operations, audits, and security checks.

Prerequisites

- **Administrative Privileges:** Ensure you have the necessary administrative privileges to query Active Directory and write to the network location.
- **Active Directory PowerShell Module:** This script requires the **ActiveDirectory** module. It's typically pre-installed on Domain Controllers. For other systems, you may need to install the Remote Server Administration Tools (RSAT) package.
- **Elevated PowerShell Session:** The script should run in an elevated PowerShell session (Run as Administrator).

Instructions

1. Running with Elevated Permissions

This script requires elevated permissions to interact with Active Directory and access network locations.

Steps:

1. Search for 'PowerShell' in the start menu.
2. Right-click on 'Windows PowerShell' and choose 'Run as administrator'.

2. Bypassing Execution Policy

The default execution policy on Windows might prevent the script from running. You can bypass this policy for the current session.

Warning: Bypassing the execution policy can expose your system to risks. Only run scripts from trusted sources.

Steps:

1. In the elevated PowerShell session, use the following command:

powershellCopy code

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Scope Process -Force
```

2. Navigate to the directory containing **queryADforPCs.ps1** using **cd**:

powershellCopy code

```
cd "C:\path\to\script\directory"
```

3. Execute the script:

powershellCopy code

```
.\queryADforPCs.ps1
```

3. Script Configuration

Before running the script, ensure you've configured the **\$TargetOU** and **\$OutputPath** variables within the script to match your environment.

- **\$TargetOU** should reflect the distinguished name of the OU where your computers are located.
- **\$OutputPath** should be the network share or local directory where you want the output file to be saved.

4. Handling Potential Errors

If you encounter an error stating that the 'ActiveDirectory' module isn't loaded, you might not be running the script on a Domain Controller or a system with RSAT installed. Ensure you're on the right system or have the necessary tools installed.

An error regarding the network path might indicate issues with network permissions or availability of the network share.

Note: Always return your execution policy to a more secure setting after running your script. Review any changes you make to system or network configurations to maintain security and integrity.