

Lab - System Utilities

Introduction

In this lab, you will use Windows utilities to configure operating system settings.

Recommended Equipment

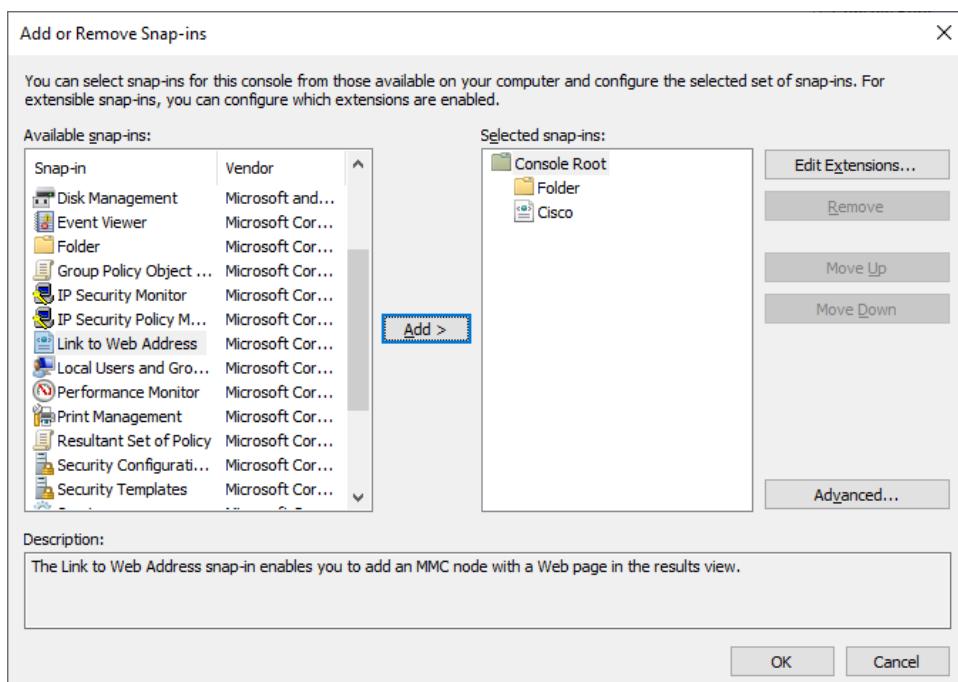
- A computer running Windows

Instructions

Part 1: Custom Management Console

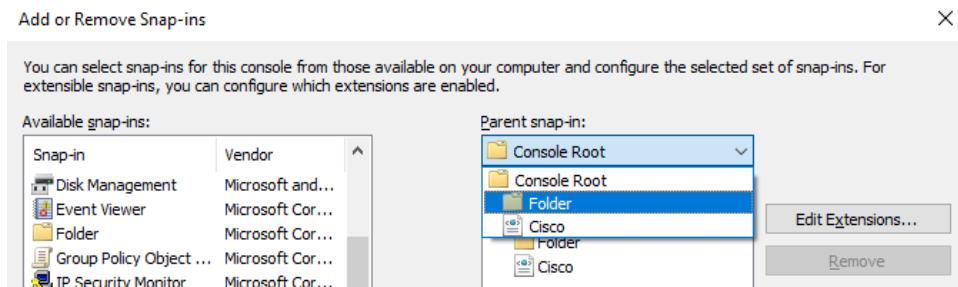
Step 1: Explore the management console.

- To open the Microsoft Management Console, click **Start**, and search for **mmc**. Click **Yes** to allow Microsoft Management Console to make changes to the computer.
- In the **Console1 - [Console Root]** window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.
- In the **Add or Remove Snap-ins** window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** and click **Add>**.
- To add the **Link to Web Address** snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the **Link to Web Address** wizard window, enter <http://www.cisco.com> in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.
- In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter Cisco and click **Finish** to continue.



Step 2: Create a custom management console.

- a. To add snap-ins to the folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.
- b. The Advanced window opens. Select Allow changing the parent snap-in. Click **OK**.
- c. A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.



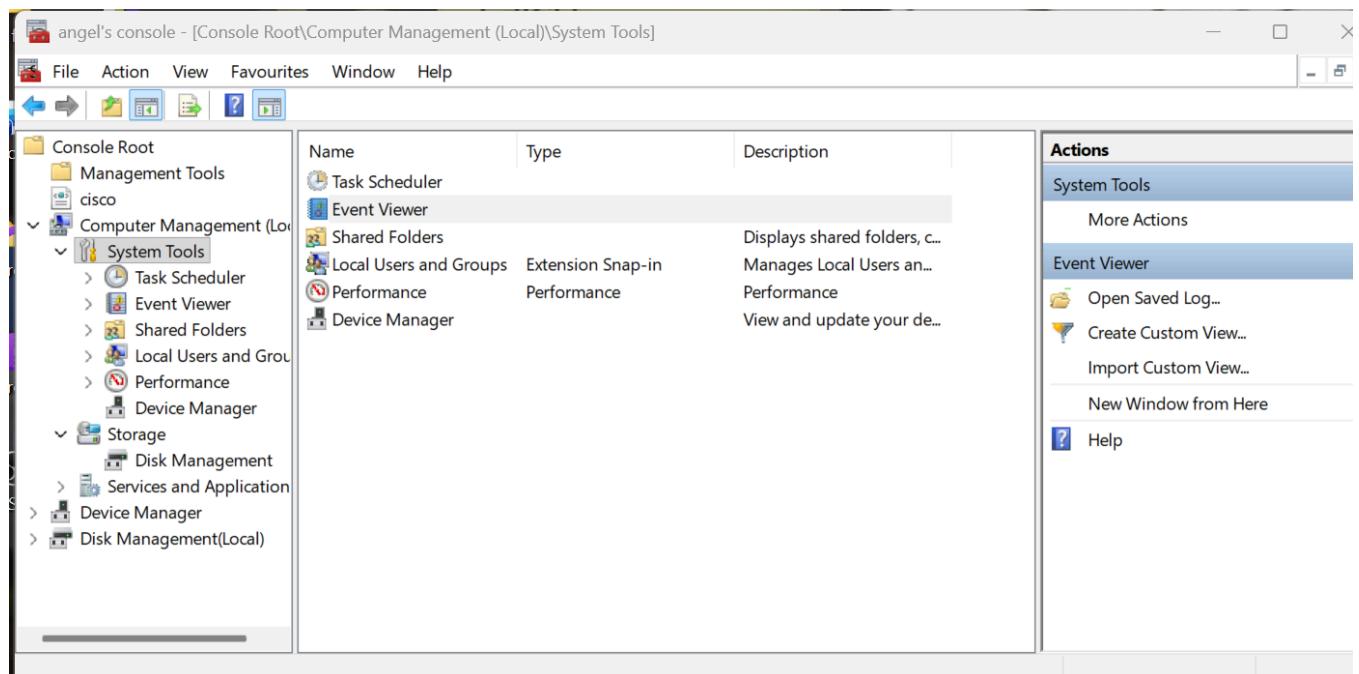
- d. Add the following snap-ins from the Available snap-in pane: **Computer Management**, **Device Manager**, and **Disk Management**. In each of the snap-in windows, click **Finish** to select to use the snap-in to manage the Local Computer or This computer.
- e. Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.
- f. In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.
- g. To save the custom console, click **File > Save As**. Change the file name to your name. Example: **John's Console**. Change the **Save in** box to **Desktop**. Click **Save**.
- h. Close all open windows.
- i. On the desktop, double-click the **Console** icon that contains your name to re-open the console with your snap-ins. Click **Yes** to allow this application to make changes to your device as necessary.
- j. Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.
- k. Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

Question:

What was the path you used to navigate to the Event Viewer?

The path I used to navigate to the Event Viewer was, Management Tools , Computer Management , System Tools, and Event Viewer.

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- I. Close the **Console** window when you finish your review. Click **No** when prompted to save the changes.

Part 2: Registry Editor

Step 1: Change your desktop background settings.

- a. Right-click the Desktop > select **Personalize**.

Question:

What is the background picture?



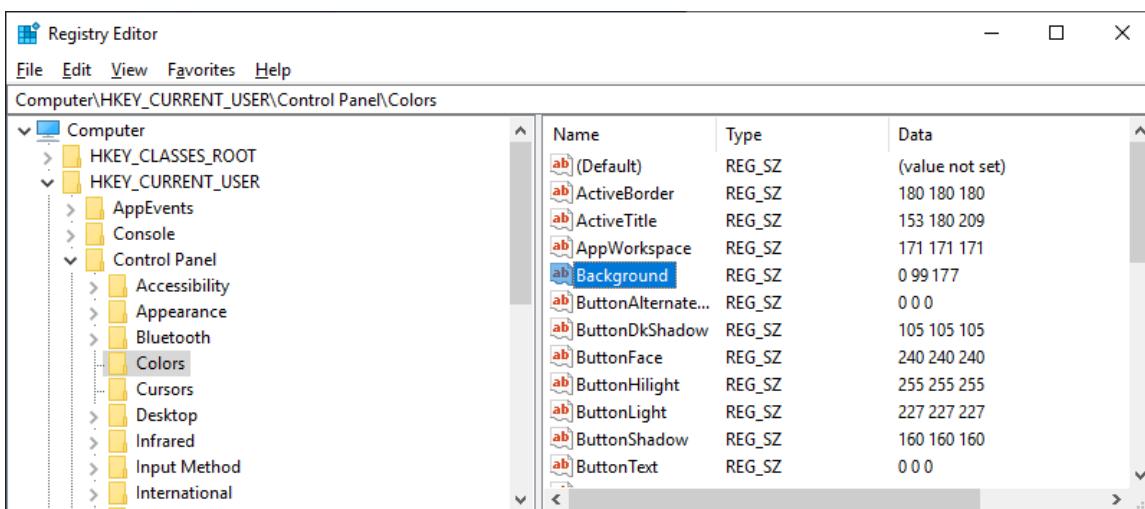
- b. In Windows 10, select **Solid color** in the Background drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.
In Windows 8.1 and 7, click **Desktop Background**. Select **Solid Colors** in the Picture Location drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.
- c. Click **Save changes**. The computer screen should now have a blue background. If not, ask the instructor for assistance.
- d. Close all open windows.

Step 2: Open the registry editor.

- a. To open the **Registry Editor**, click **Start** and type **regedit**. Click **Yes** to allow Registry Editor to make changes to the computer.

Note: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

- b. Select and expand the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER** entry.
- c. Expand **Control Panel**. Click **Colors**. Click **Background** in the right panel.



Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?

0 99 177

Background **REG_SZ** **0 99 177**

Step 3: Export a registry key.

You will export the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

- a. In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.
- b. Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**.
- c. At the desktop, right-click the **BlueBKG.reg** icon and select **Edit**.
- d. Notepad opens displaying the contents of **BlueBKG.reg**.

Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**?

```
Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors]
"ActiveBorder"="180 180 180"
"ActiveTitle"="153 180 209"
"AppWorkspace"="171 171 171"
"Background"="0 99 177" Yellow Box
"ButtonAlternateFace"="0 0 0"
"ButtonDkShadow"="105 105 105"
"ButtonFace"="240 240 240"
"...
```

- e. Close the **BlueBKG.reg – Notepad** window.
- f. Open the Personalization window by right-clicking the **Desktop > Personalize > Desktop Background**. Select a **red** background color.
- g. Click **Save** changes. Close the **Personalization** window.
- h. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
- i. On your keyboard, press **F5** to refresh the **Registry Editor** window.

Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**? Compare the new value in the Registry to the value saved in **BlueBKG.reg**.

The data value of the background now is 232 17 35 it is different compared to the first data value which is 0 99 177



 ActiveTitle	REG_SZ	153 180 209
 AppWorkspace	REG_SZ	171 171 171
 Background	REG_SZ	232 17 35
 ButtonAlternateF...	REG_SZ	0 0 0
 ButtonDkShadow	REG_SZ	105 105 105

Step 4: Import a registry file.

You will import the **BlueBKG.reg** file to change the Desktop ground back to blue.

- a. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
- b. Click **File > Import**. Locate and click the **BlueBKG.reg** file then click **Open**.
- c. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.
- d. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

It's now 0 99 177 just like before

What is the color of the desktop?

The color of the desktop changed to blue



- e. Restart the computer.

Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

Still blue



- f. Reset **Display Properties Background** to the original settings.
- g. Close all open windows.
- h. Delete the custom console and BlueBKG file on the desktop.

Reflection Question

1. Why would it be beneficial to add snap-ins to the mmc that are for other computers on the network?

It is beneficial because administrators can remotely manage, monitor, and troubleshoot other computers without physically accessing them. This saves time and allows centralized control over the network's devices.

2. After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed?

The desktop color changed because importing the BlueBKG.reg file rewrote the registry settings for the background color. Registry changes are persistent, so when Windows restarts, it loads and applies that saved registry value again..