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| Steps | Activity |
| **1.** | Backup Everything of all existing Domain Controller |
| **2.** | Install Support tools in both 2000 domain controllers from windows 2003 media |
| **3.** | Run adprep /forestprep and adprep /domainprep command using Windows 2003 media on Windows 2000 DC to upgrade the schema version |
| **4.** | Install the new machine as a member server in your existing domain (mlinc.com) and configure a fixed IP address and set the preferred DNS server to the old DNS server only. Must be updated with windows update |
| **5.** | Install DNS services without configuration just let AD replication do it. |
| **6.** | Run dcpromo and follow the wizard to add the Windows server 2003 to an existing domain |
| **7.** | Make the new server Global Catalog server in ADSS |
| **8.** | Transfer, NOT seize the 5 FSMO roles to the new Domain controller |
| **9.** | Reconfigure the DNS configuration on your NIC of the 2003 server, preferred DNS itself, secondary the old DC. |
| **10.** | Uncheck as Global Catalog on second Windows 2000 DC and turn off for 3 days and proceed to demotion if no problem occur |
| **11.** | Run dcpromo in second Windows 2000 DC to demote |
| **12.** | Delete its DNS entries after demotion |
| **13.** | Delete in ADUC and ADSS |
| **14.** | Promote another updated windows 2003 to be a DC as stated in Step 4 |
| **15.** | Export the recovery agents EFS certificate private key from the Windows 2000 DC BEFORE you demote/retire it (if needed) |
| **16.** | Repeat Step 10 to 13 for the removal of the first windows 2000 DC |
| **17.** | Raise Domain Functional Level to Windows 2003 |
| **18.** | Add windows 2008 R2 installed in a physical server in your existing domain (mlinc.com) and configure a fixed IP address and set the preferred DNS server to the window 2003 DNS server. Must be updated with windows update |
| **19** | Repeat the scenario on how we upgrade to 2003, it is basically the same in 2008 R2. |
|  | a.       Run adprep at 2003 server  b.      Install DNS services at 2008 R2  c.       Run dcpromo at 2008 R2  d.      Transfer FSMO from 2003 to 2008 R2  e.      Demote the 2003 |