How GPOs are updated on the SMB server

ONTAP 9

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How GPOs are updated on the SMB server

How GPOs are updated on the CIFS server overview

By default, ONTAP retrieves and applies Group Policy Object (GPO) changes every 90 minutes. Security settings are refreshed every 16 hours. If you want to update GPOs to apply new GPO policy settings before ONTAP automatically updates them, you can trigger a manual update on a CIFS server with an ONTAP command.

- By default, all GPOs are verified and updated as needed every 90 minutes.

  This interval is configurable and can be set using the `Refresh interval` and `Random offset` GPO settings.

  ONTAP queries Active Directory for changes to GPOs. If the GPO version numbers recorded in Active Directory are higher than those on the CIFS server, ONTAP retrieves and applies the new GPOs. If the version numbers are the same, GPOs on the CIFS server are not updated.

- Security Settings GPOs are refreshed every 16 hours.

  ONTAP retrieves and applies Security Settings GPOs every 16 hours, whether or not these GPOs have changed.

  > The 16-hour default value cannot be changed in the current ONTAP version. It is a Windows client default setting.

- All GPOs can be updated manually with an ONTAP command.

  This command simulates the Windows `gpupdate.exe`/force` command.

Related information

Manually updating GPO settings on the CIFS server

What to do if GPO updates are failing

Under some circumstances, Group Policy Object (GPO) updates from Windows 2012 domain controllers might fail, which leads to nothing being visible under the `Central Access Policy Settings` section of the output for the `vserver cifs group-policy show-defined` command. You should know how to correct this issue if it occurs.

Underlying cause	Remedy
When ONTAP attempts to connect to the Windows 2012 domain controller to perform the GPO update, the connection might fail with the error `error 0xc00000bd (NT STATUS_DUPLICATE_NAME).` This error occurs when the server name used to make the connection is different from the NetBIOS name of the CIFS server. There are various reasons this might occur, including the use of aliases. Additionally, ONTAP pads the NetBIOS name used when connecting to the domain controller to make the name length equal to 15 characters. This can make it appear that the CIFS server name and the NetBIOS name are different.	1. Disable NetBIOS name checking on the Windows server by adding the following registry key with the value set to `1`: `"HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\LanmanServer\Parameters\DisableStrictNameChecking"` To learn more about this registry key, contact Microsoft Support. Microsoft Support 2. Reboot the domain controller.

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