Lab: Managing User Desktops with Group Policy

**Scenario**

A. Datum Corporation is a global engineering and manufacturing company with its head office in London,

U.K. An IT office and a data center are located in London to support the London head office and other

locations. A. Datum has recently deployed a Windows Server 2012 server and client infrastructure.

A. Datum has just opened up a new branch office. Users in this office require an automated method for

mapping drives to shared server resources and you decide to use Group Policy preferences. Furthermore,

you have been asked to create a shortcut to the Notepad application for all users that belong to the IT

security group. To help minimize profile sizes, you have been asked to configure folder redirection to

redirect several profile folders to each user’s home drive.

**Objectives**

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

• Implement settings by using Group Policy preferences.

• Configure folder redirection.

**Lab Setup**

Estimated Time: 45 minutes

Virtual Machines 20411B-LON-DC1

20411B-LON-CL1

User Name **Adatum\Administrator**

Password **Pa$$w0rd**

For this lab, you will use the available virtual machine environment. Before you begin the lab, you must

complete the following steps:

1. On the host computer, click **Start**, point to **Administrative Tools**, and then click **Hyper-V Manager**.

2. In Hyper-V® Manager, click **DC1**, and in the Actions pane, click **Start**.

3. In the Actions pane, click **Connect**. Wait until the virtual machine starts.

4. Sign in using the following credentials:

o User name: **Administrator**

o Password: **Pa$$w0rd**

o Domain: **icsit**

5. Repeat steps 2 through 4 for **CL1**.

Exercise 1: Implementing Settings by Using Group Policy Preferences

**Scenario**

A. Datum has been using logon scripts to provide users with drive mappings to file shares. The

maintenance of these scripts is an ongoing problem because they are large and complex. Your manager

has asked you to implement the drive mappings by using Group Policy preferences so that logon scripts

can be removed. You also have been asked to place a shortcut to the Notepad application for all users

that belong to the IT security group.

The main tasks for this exercise are as follows:

1. Create the required logon script.

2. Create a new GPO, and link it to the Branch Office 1 organization unit (OU).

3. Edit the Default Domain Policy with the required Group Policy preferences.

4. Test the preferences.

 Task 1: Create the required logon script

1. Sign in to **LON-DC1** as **icsit\Administrator** with the password **Pa$$w0rd**.

2. Open **File Explorer** and create a folder, and then share it with **Specific people** by using the following

properties:

o Path: **C:\Branch1**

o Share name: **Branch1**

o Permissions: **Everyone, Read/Write**.

3. Launch **Notepad**, and then type the following command:

Net use S: \\LON-dc1\Branch1

4. Save the file to the desktop as **BranchScript.bat**.

5. On the desktop, copy the file to the Clipboard. You will paste the file into the appropriate folder later

in the lab.

 Task 2: Create a new GPO, and link it to the Branch Office 1 organization unit (OU)

1. On LON-DC1, open **Active Directory Users and Computers**, and then create an organizational unit

(OU) in the **Adatum.com** domain called **Branch Office 1**.

2. Move user **Holly Dickson** from the **IT** OU to the **Branch Office 1** OU.

3. Move the **LON-CL1** computer to the **Branch Office 1** OU.

4. Open the **Group Policy Management** console.

5. Create and link a new GPO named **Branch1** to the **Branch Office 1** organizational unit.

6. Open the **Branch1** GPO for editing.

7. Edit the GPO to configure a user logon script.

8. Paste the **BranchScript.bat** script into the **Netlogon** share.

9. Add the **BranchScript.bat** script to the logon scripts GPO setting.

 Task 3: Edit the Default Domain Policy with the required Group Policy preferences

1. On LON-DC1, open the **Default Domain Policy** for editing.

2. Navigate to **User Configuration**\**Preferences**\**Windows Settings**\**Shortcuts**.

3. Create a new shortcut to the **Notepad.exe** program:

o Name: **Notepad**

o Action: **Create**

o Location: **Desktop**

o Target path: **C:\Windows\notepad.exe**

4. Target the preference for members of the **IT** security group.

5. Close all open windows.

 Task 4: Test the preferences

1. Switch to **LON-CL1** and restart the computer.

2. Sign in as **Adatum\Administrator** with the password **Pa$$w0rd**.

3. Open the **Command Prompt** window, and then use the **gpupdate /force** command to refresh the

Group Policy.

4. Sign out of LON-CL1.

5. Sign in as **Adatum\Holly** with the password **Pa$$w0rd**.

6. Verify that a drive is mapped to **\\LON-DC1\Branch1**.

7. Verify that the shortcut to Notepad is on Holly’s desktop.

8. If the shortcut does not appear, repeat steps 2 through 5.

9. Sign out of LON-CL1.

**Results**: After this exercise, you should have created the required scripts and preference settings

successfully, and then assigned them by using GPOs.

Exercise 2: Configuring Folder Redirection

**Scenario**

In order to help minimize profile sizes, you have been asked to configure folder redirection for the branch

office users to redirect several profile folders to each user’s home drive.

The main tasks for this exercise are as follows:

1. Create a shared folder to store the redirected folders.

2. Create a new GPO and link it to the branch office OU.

3. Edit the folder redirection settings in the policy.

4. Test the folder redirection settings.

 Task 1: Create a shared folder to store the redirected folders

• On LON-DC1, open **File Explorer** and then create a folder and share it with **Specific people** by using

the following properties:

o Path: **C:\Branch1\Redirect**

o Share name: **Branch1Redirect**

o Permissions: **Everyone**, **Read/Write**

 Task 2: Create a new GPO and link it to the branch office OU

• On LON-DC1, open **Group Policy Management** and then create and link a new GPO named **Folder**

**Redirection** to the **Branch Office 1** OU.

 Task 3: Edit the folder redirection settings in the policy

1. Open the **Folder Redirection** GPO for editing.

2. Under **User Configuration**, browse to **Folder Redirection** and then configure the **Documents** folder

properties to use the **Basic-Redirect everyone’s folder to the same location** setting.

3. Ensure that the **Target folder** location is set to **Create a folder for each user under the root path**.

4. Specify the root path as **\\LON-DC1\Branch1Redirect**.

5. Close all open windows on LON-DC1.

 Task 4: Test the folder redirection settings

1. Switch to **LON-CL1**.

2. Sign in as **Adatum\Administrator** with the password **Pa$$w0rd**.

3. Open the **Command Prompt** window, and use the **gpupdate /force** command to refresh the

Group Policy.

4. Sign out and then sign in as **Adatum\Holly** with the password **Pa$$word**.

5. Browse to the desktop.

6. Right-click the desktop and use the **Personalize** menu to enable **User’s Files** on the desktop.

7. From the Desktop, open the **Holly Dickson** folder.

8. Right-click **My Documents**, and then click **Properties**.

9. In the **My Document Properties** dialog box, note that the location of the folder is now the network

share in a subfolder named for the user.

10. If the folder redirection is not evident, sign out, and then sign in as **Adatum\Holly** with the password

**Pa$$word**. Repeat steps 7 to 9.

11. Sign out of LON-CL1.

**Results**: After this exercise, you should have successfully configured folder redirection to a shared folder

on the LON-DC1 server.