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Preface

Sometimes when you work in a large environment you need a snap tool or application to help in repeated tasks. Since Active directory GUI management tools don't offer the flexibility to search for a subnet when you have to, I developed Sfinder to help IT Pros to easily manage AD Subnetting, especially those who are working in a big environment with thousands of subnets.

Sfinder helps to find, add, modify site or location properties, and Delete subnets.

About the Author.

Mohamed Ali has been working in the IT industry for more than a decade. He has been dedicated to different domains of Microsoft technologies includes messaging and unified communication (Exchange servers, Lync and Skype for business) Microsoft Configuration manager (Windows Deployment, Servers patching, Application packaging, automation, etc...). Active Directory, group policy, web server administration, SQL server administration and windows server from Windows NT 4 to the latest version. He occupied different roles, System Engineer, System Administrator, Technology Consultant and Senior System Administrator in different multinational organizations with thousands of users and systems. He is focusing on automation and tools making to help in managing tasks and implementing solutions. Mohamed is a Microsoft certified MCDST Windows XP, MCSA, MCSA office 365, MCSE and Microsoft Azure Solution Architect.

System Requirements.

- Windows 2012, Windows 2012 R2, Windows 10 Pro, windows server 2016.
- Remote Server Administration Tool (RSAT).

Run as.

- "Run as administrator" is required when you use the tool on a client OS.

How it works?

Sfinder has an easy interface with different controllers to help to perform repeated tasks such as finding subnet, exporting a list of subnets, remove and add subnets. Modify subnet is limited to change the site and location but you can't change the subnet ID using the Modify button, more details will be in the examples section, shown in Figure 1.

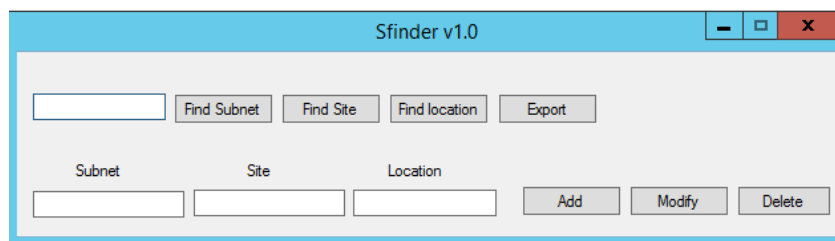


Figure 1

Examples:

Finding Subnet; Finding a subnet, you can use wildcard or enter the subnet ID in a CIDR notation, shown in figure 2.

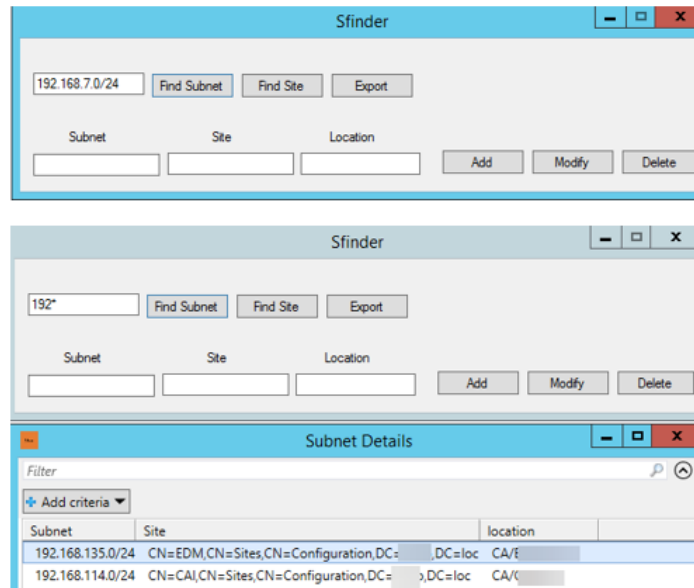


Figure 2.

Finding site; Finding a site, you have to use wildcard before and after the site ID, shown in figure 3.

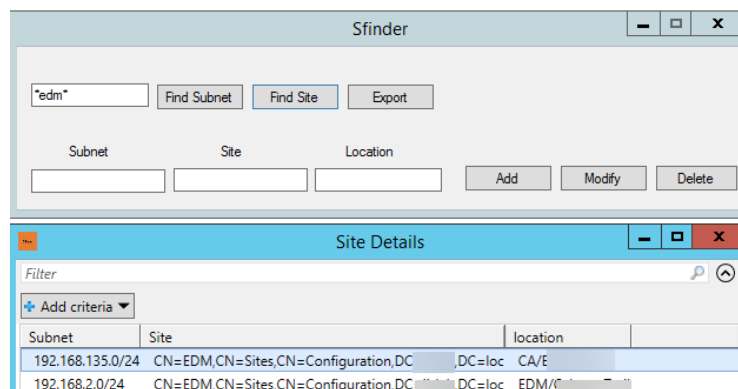


Figure 3

Finding Location; after entering the site location using wildcard click the find location button.

Export; after searching for a subnet, site or location and you want to export the results, click the export button. Data will be exported into a CSV file on the user desktop account who is running the tool. The file name will be the date and time of the exports' time.

Adding Subnet; Add subnet by entering the subnet in a CIDR notation format and click add, location is optional to add but it's recommended, if you want to have a neat AD infrastructure, shown in figure 4.

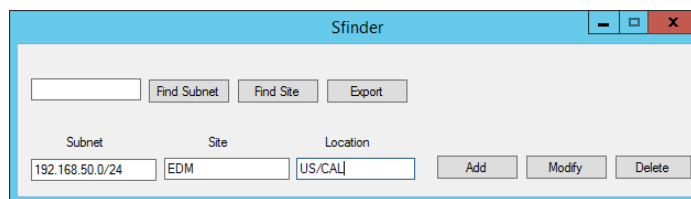


Figure 4

Modify Subnet; Modifying subnet is limited to modify the site or the location, not the site subnet ID. For modifying the subnet ID, delete the subnet and add the new one.

Delete Subnet; Type the subnet ID in a CIDR notation and click delete. You don't have to enter the site nor the location.

Filtering Results

You can filter more the results to eliminate extra data by using the Add criteria button or enter a keyword in the filter box, shown in figure 5

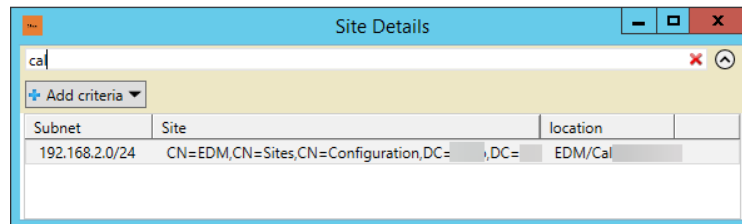


Figure 5

Error handling and information.

Sfinder is equipped with error and information messages to help to guide the user to perform the right action.

The requirement isn't installed; RSAT is a core component for the tool to work. If it isn't installed, you'll get a message that you need to install the RSAT and restart the application, shown in figure 6.

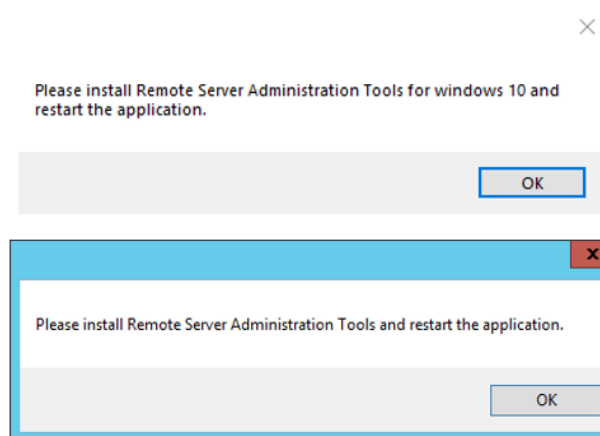


Figure 6

Subnet Not found; This error appears when you don't use a wildcard while searching for a subnet, typing incorrect subnet ID or subnet does not exist, shown in figure 7.

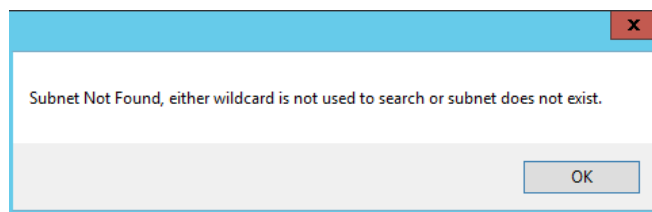


Figure 7

Site Not Found; This error appears when you don't use a wildcard while searching for a site, typing incorrect site or site does not exist, shown in figure 8.

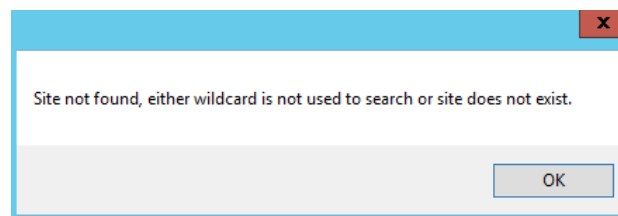


Figure 8

Location not found; If the site doesn't exist, you will receive this message, shown in figure 9.

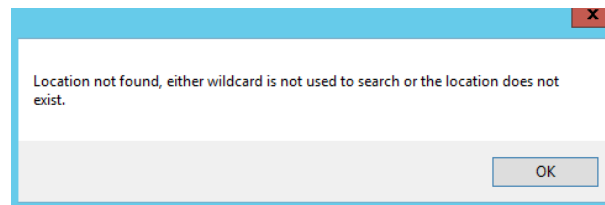


Figure 9

No Data has been exported; This error appears when there is no data was exported, shown in figure 10.

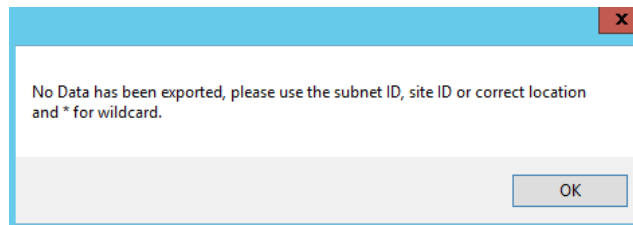


Figure 10

Bad syntax; This error happens if you have the site name correct and the subnet isn't entered in a CIDR notation format, shown in figure 11.

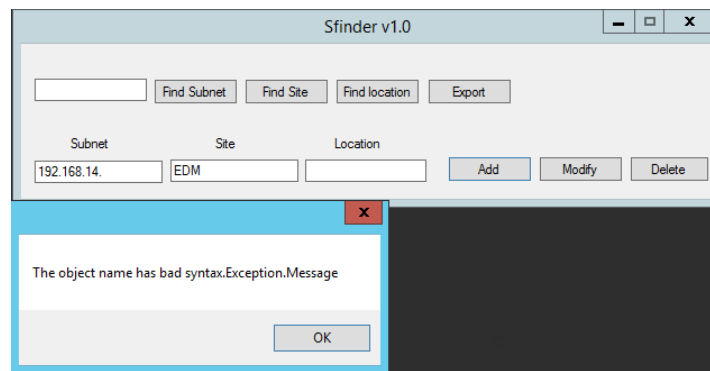


Figure 11

Site identity could not be resolved; If the site doesn't exist you will get this error, shown in figure 12.

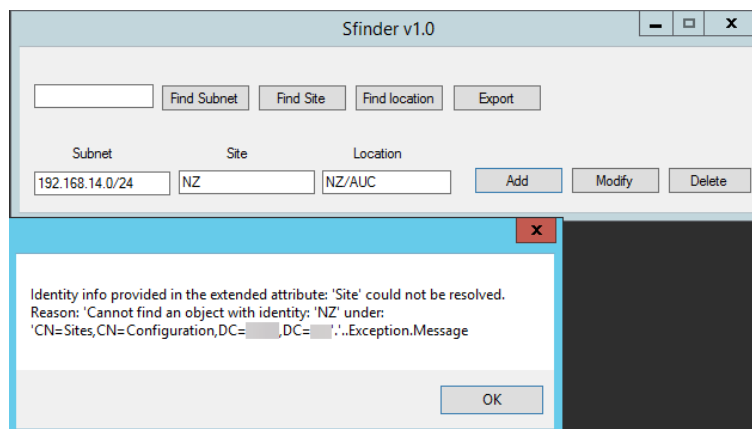


Figure 12

Cannot find an object with identity: If you try to delete or modify a subnet that doesn't exist, you will receive this error, shown in figure 13.

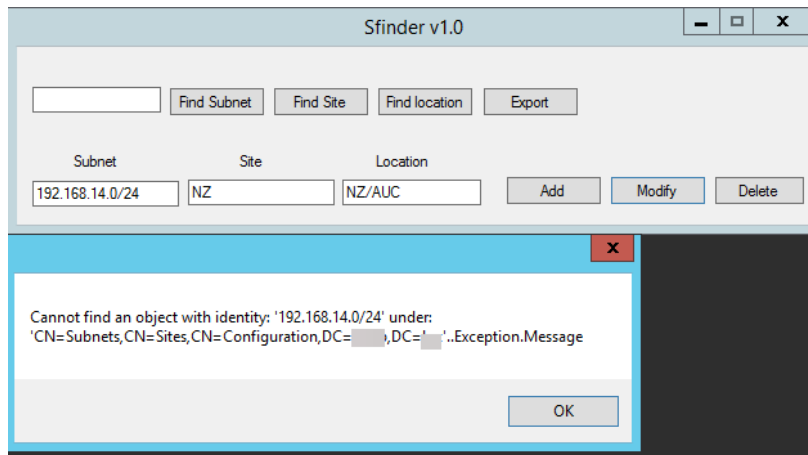


Figure 13