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# Key Active Directory Vulnerabilities

2 valeraleontev · ① 25.08.2021 · ② active directory red team translated

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25.08.2021 New ⋄ □ #1

## Active Directory 1 Major Vulnerabilities Part

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Most organizations and enterprises around the world today use Active Directory in their infrastructure as a solution for centralized management of their resources. But like any other similar technology, Active Directory is very complex, and its protection requires considerable effort and many years of experience.

This list consists of 16 issues that are most often detected during internal infrastructure penetration tests and vulnerability assessments. There's nothing special or new about it, it's just a list of typical problems.

The list is randomly organized - so it looks more like a checklist than

an ordered ranking list: 1. Users who have the right to add computers to domain

- 2. The AdminCount attribute is set for standard users.
- 3. A large number of users in privileged groups.
- 4. Service accounts that are members of domain administrators.
- 5. Excessive privileges
- 6. Service accounts that are vulnerable to Kerberoasting.
- 7. Users with passwords that do not expire.
- 8. Users without password.

- 9. Storing passwords using reversible encryption..
- 10. Storing passwords using LM hashes.
- 11. Accounts vulnerable to AS-REP Roasting'y.
- 12.Weak domain

password policy 13. Inactive Domain

14 accounts. Privileged users with expired passwords.

15. Users with a

weak password 16. Credentials in SYSVOL and Group Policy Settings

(GPP) Let's get started.

### 1. Users who have the right to add computers to the domain.

When you install Active Directory by default, any domain user can add workstations to the domain. This is determined by the ms-DS-MachineAccountQuota attribute, which is set to 10 by default.

This means that any user in a low-privileged domain can join up to 10 computers to the domain. Not really, well, probably, but what's the big deal?

The problem is that these settings allow any user to join their own unmanaged computer to access the corporate domain with the following benefits:

- Antivirus software or EDR solutions will not be downloaded to their machine.
- No settings or GPO policies will apply to their system.
- Allows them to have administrator privileges on their system

In enterprise environments, users should never have local administrator privileges on their machines.

This is one of the fundamental security measures that should be applied everywhere.

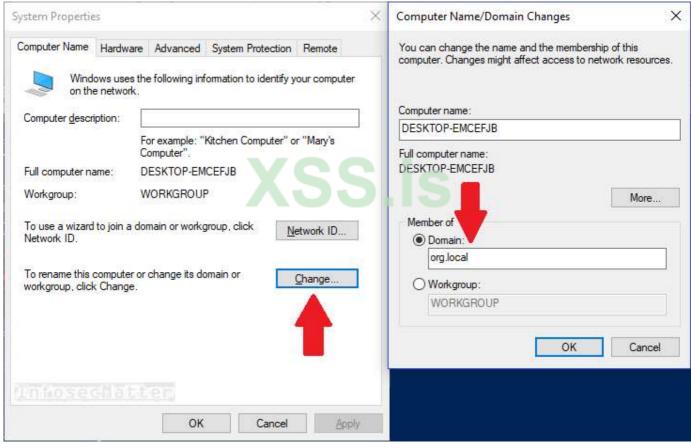
If users have administrative privileges on their machines, they can perform privileged operations on the network, such as creating raw network packets, performing network scans, running exploits from their machine to attack other systems on the network, and more.

Therefore, users should never be allowed to join computers to the domain.

#### How to check

The easiest way to test this is to connect the Windows test machine (physical or virtual) to the target corporate network so that it can connect to domain controllers.

1) Run sysdm.cpl to open "System Properties" -> click "Edit" and specify the name of the target domain:



#### Click OK.

2) We will now be prompted to enter our credentials.

Provide any credentials for a low-privileged domain user.

If successful, we should see the message "Welcome to the domain org.local!" message, and our test machine should be added to AD in the container  $\mathsf{CN} =$ 

#### Computers.

Alternatively, we can also attach our test machine to AD using the following PowerShell command:

```
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add-computer -domainname <FQDN-DOMAIN> -Credential <DOMAIN>\<USER> -restart -force

# Пример
add-computer -domainname org.local -Credential ORG\john -restart -force
```

After restarting our test machine, the machine must be fully joined to the domain.

3) Now we should be able to check whether our computer has actually been added to the domain by listing the domain

#### computers.

Note that if we had access to domain controllers, here's how we could list all the computers that were added by non-administrators:

Code:	Copy to clipboard

#### 2. The AdminCount attribute is set for standard users.

The AdminCount attribute in Active Directory is used to protect administrative users and members of a privileged group, for example:

- Domain Admins
- Enterprise Admins
- Schema Admins
- Backup Operators
- Server Operators
- Replicator
- and the like

The problem is that the AdminCount attribute is automatically set to 1 when a user is assigned to a privileged group, but it is never reset automatically when a user is removed from those groups.

#### How to check

To find users with an AdminCount attribute of 1, we can use the LDAPDomainDump tool. This tool collects important information about all users, groups, and computers in the domain. All we need is the credentials of any low-privileged domain user and the ability to access the LDAP port of any domain controller.

Here's what to

do.

1) First collect information from the domain controller:

```
Python:

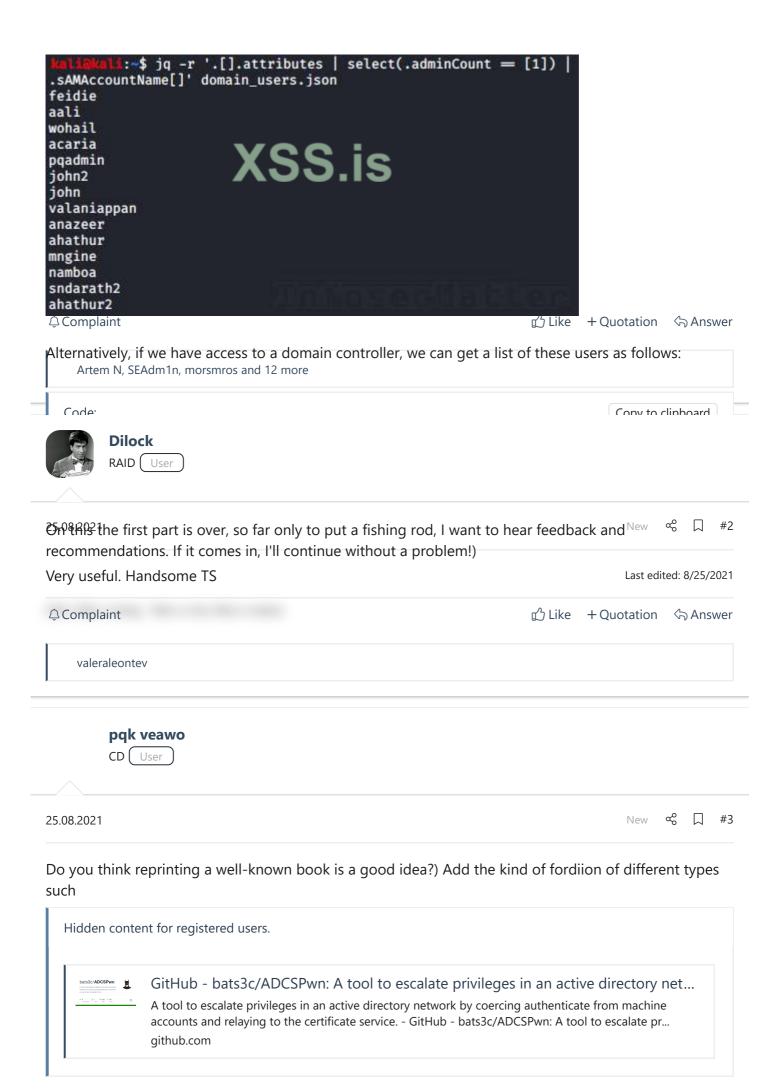
python ldapdomaindump.py -u <DOMAIN>\\<USER> -p <PASS> -d <DELIMITER> <DC-IP>
# Пример:
python ldapdomaindump.py -u example.com\\john -p pass123 -d ';' 10.100.20.1
```

(we could easily pass the password hash)

2) After the collection is complete, we can get a list of users with the AdminCount attribute equal to 1 by analyzing the domain\_users.json file:

```
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jq -r '.[].attributes | select(.adminCount == [1]) | .sAMAccountName[]' domain_users.json
```



CD ( User

valeraleontev said: ① Interesting, but there is an interesting thing. You can easily grab the hash of the admin with the responder, initiating a request for an antivirus scan to any file. I don't know how it is now, I've retired, but it has to work. If it takes and there is time, I can throw an article on the promotion of privileges Yeah, interesting. Its use fits well into the context. I suggest you take the video below as the basis for your next opus) success. Hidden content for users: valeraleontev. ☐ Like + Quotation ☐ Answer fordf2544 valeraleontev RAID (User **%** □ #7 25.08.2021 pqk veawo said: ① Yeah, interesting. Its use fits well into the context. I suggest you take the video below as the basis for your next opus) success.Hidden content Accepted, friend Hidden content for users: pqk veawo. ☐ Like + Quotation ☐ Answer valeraleontev RAID (User **%** □ #8 25.08.2021 Posted the second part - https://xss.is/threads/55849/



Scully Premium ( Premium

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valeraleontev said: ①



Interesting, but there is an interesting thing. You can easily grab the hash of the admin with the responder, initiating a request for an antivirus scan to any file. I don't know how it is now, I've retired, but it has to work. If it takes and there is time, I can throw an article on the promotion of privileges

Let's talk about raising privileges, thank you for wasting your time on this. It will be very useful for beginners and not only.

☐ Like + Quotation ☐ Answer



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valeraleontev RAID User

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Scully said: ①

Let's talk about raising privileges, thank you for wasting your time on this. It will be very useful for beginners and not only.

Okay, no problem. I'll also try to link privileges to hell, I'll throw a draft closer to the weekend and post next week.

Like + Quotation

♦ Answer



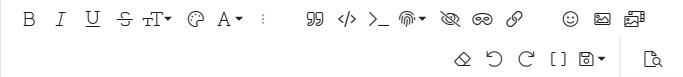
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third part, friends! https://xss.is/threads/55891/



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