

Virtual Systems and Networking Concept Brief

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Network Configuration

The screenshot shows a GNS3 network simulation titled "Project One Scenario - GNS3". The network topology includes a "Server_Domain" containing three virtual machines (VMs) labeled "PC1_Admin", "PC1_Kiosk", and "PC2_Kiosk". These VMs are connected to a "Kiosk_Switch". Above the Kiosk_Switch is a "Network_Router". A separate "Admin_Switch" is also present. The "Topology Summary" pane on the right lists the nodes and their corresponding telnet addresses. The "Servers Summary" pane shows the status of the host machine and the GNS3 VM.

The screenshot shows a Windows 10 VM with the title "PC1_Admin - VMware Workstation 14 Player (Non-commercial use only)". A terminal window is open, displaying the command prompt and the output of the "ipconfig" command. The output shows network configuration details for the "Ethernet adapter Ethernet 2".

```

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.125]
(c) 2017 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

cmd C:\Windows\System32>ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet 2:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::99cd:dbe:b770:79f8%4
    IPv4 Address . . . . . : 192.168.2.100
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.2.1

C:\Windows\System32>
  
```

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of Windows 10 desktop environments, likely running in a VMware Workstation Player. Both screens show a PowerShell or Command Prompt window with network configuration information.

Top Window (VM 8.1.1):

- Operating System: Windows 10 (version 1909)
- User: Administrator
- Shell: Windows PowerShell
- Command: `ipconfig`
- Output:

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Windows\system32> ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0 2:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b8a2:c560:3241:f492%12
    IPv4 Address . . . . . : 192.168.1.101
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.1.1

PS C:\Windows\system32>
```

Bottom Window (VM 8.2.1):

- Operating System: Windows 10 (version 1909)
- User: Administrator
- Shell: Windows PowerShell
- Command: `ipconfig`
- Output:

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Windows\system32> ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0 2:

    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
    Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b8a2:c560:3241:f492%12
    IPv4 Address . . . . . : 192.168.1.101
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.1.1

PS C:\Windows\system32>
```

Common Environment:

- VMware Workstation Player interface visible at the top.
- Taskbar at the bottom with icons for File Explorer, Edge, Mail, and others.
- Date and time: 11/27/2025, 4:29 AM.

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of Windows 10 virtual machines running in VMware Workstation 14 Player.

Top VM (Windows 10 VM-V2v3-new):

- OS:** Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.125] (c) 2017 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
- Command Prompt Output:**

```
cmd - Shortcut
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.125]
(c) 2017 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\System32>ipconfig
Show
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0 2:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::5c3d:51b4:39b4:f624%8
IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.1.103
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.1.1

C:\Windows\System32>
```

Bottom VM (Windows 10 VM-V2v3-new):

- OS:** Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393] (c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
- Administrator Command Prompt Output:**

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>ipconfig
Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0 3:

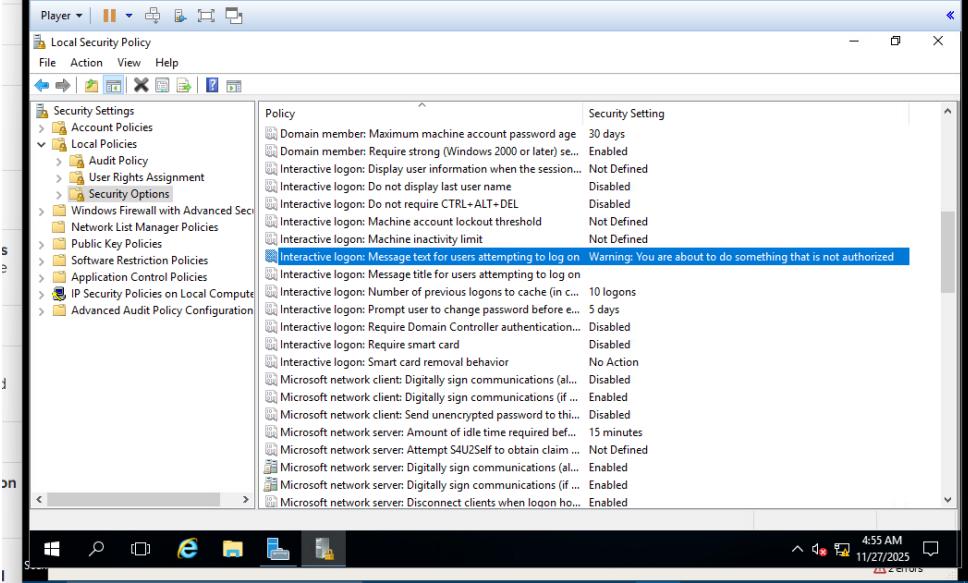
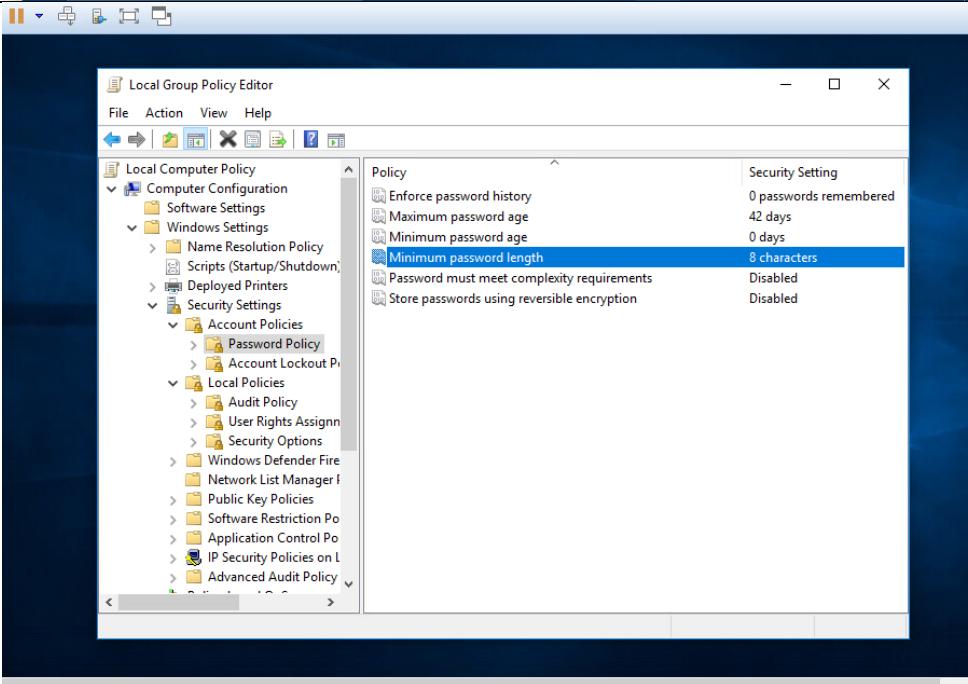
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::b56f:5dab:598a:5b2f%6
IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.2.101
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.2.1

Tunnel adapter isatap.{FCEBD5D7-3DD6-4B77-BCDC-9D39846C8AA2}:
    Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
    Connection-specific DNS Suffix . :
```

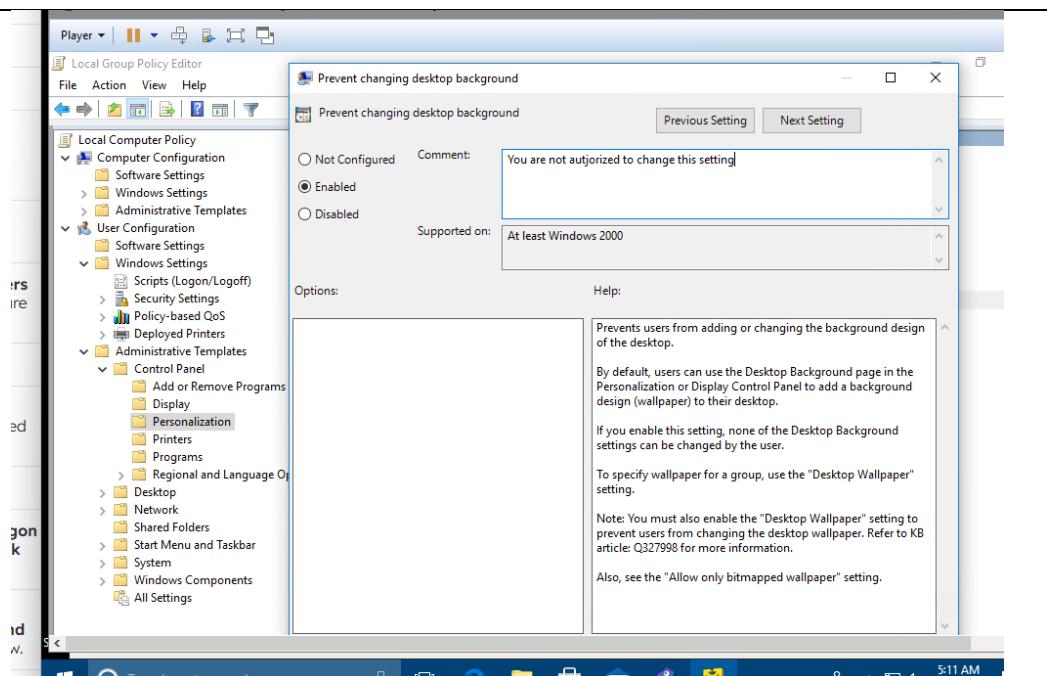
GNS3 Management Console (Visible at the bottom of the bottom VM window):

```
GNS3 management console.
Running GNS3 version 2.1.11 on Windows (64-bit) with Python 3.6.6 Qt 5.9.1 and PyQt 5.9.
Copyright (c) 2006-2025 GNS3 Technologies.
Use Help -> GNS3 Doctor to detect common issues.
```

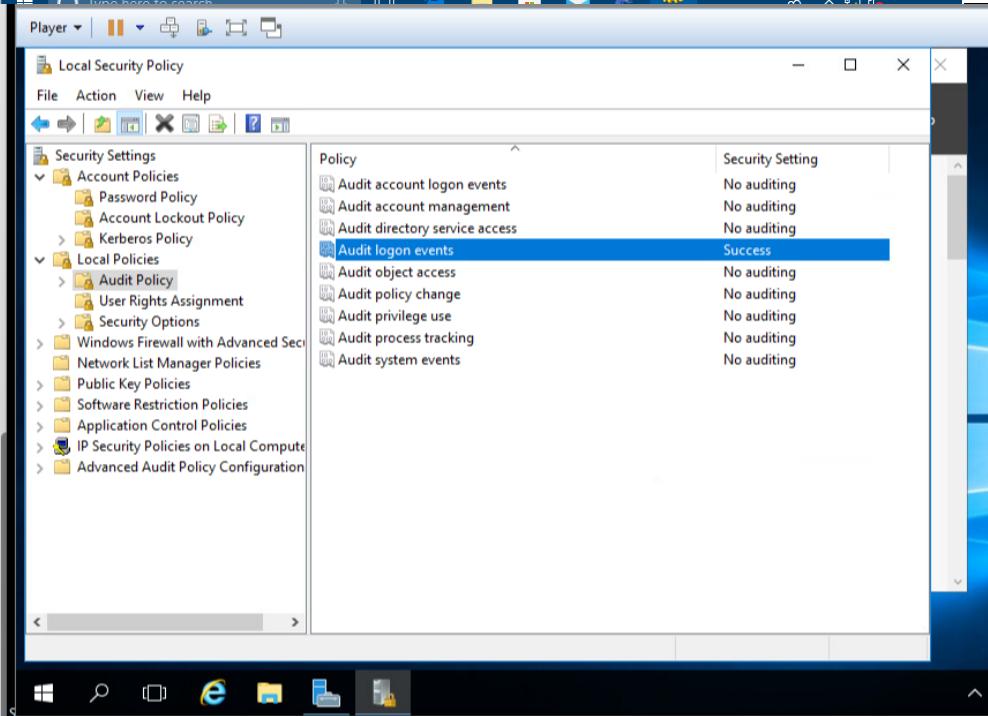
Group Policy Changes

<p>Change Windows User Account Control (UAC) prompt</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the Local Security Policy snap-in. The left pane displays a tree view of security settings under 'Security Settings'. The right pane lists policy entries with their corresponding security settings. One entry is highlighted:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Policy</th> <th>Security Setting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Interactive logon: Message text for users attempting to log on</td> <td>Warning: You are about to do something that is not authorized</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Policy	Security Setting	Interactive logon: Message text for users attempting to log on	Warning: You are about to do something that is not authorized
Policy	Security Setting				
Interactive logon: Message text for users attempting to log on	Warning: You are about to do something that is not authorized				
<p>Change local password policy setting.</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the Local Group Policy Editor. The left pane displays a tree view of policy settings under 'Computer Configuration'. The right pane lists policy entries with their corresponding security settings. One entry is highlighted:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Policy</th> <th>Security Setting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Minimum password length</td> <td>8 characters</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Policy	Security Setting	Minimum password length	8 characters
Policy	Security Setting				
Minimum password length	8 characters				

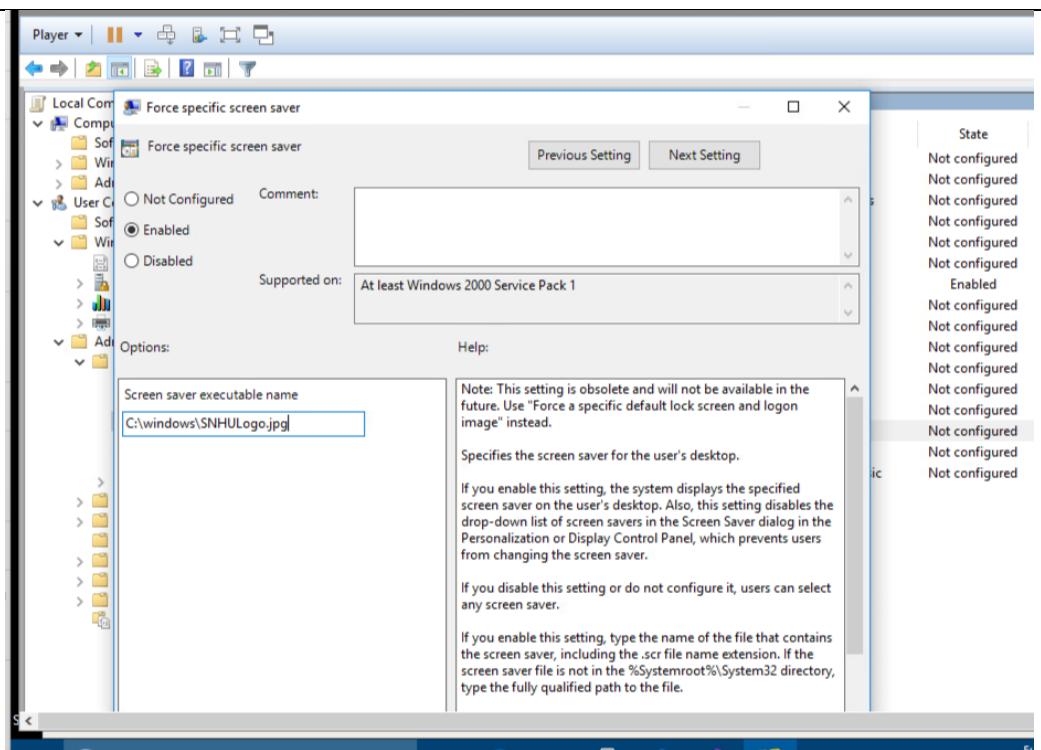
Change desktop background user rights assignment (disable non-admin change capability).



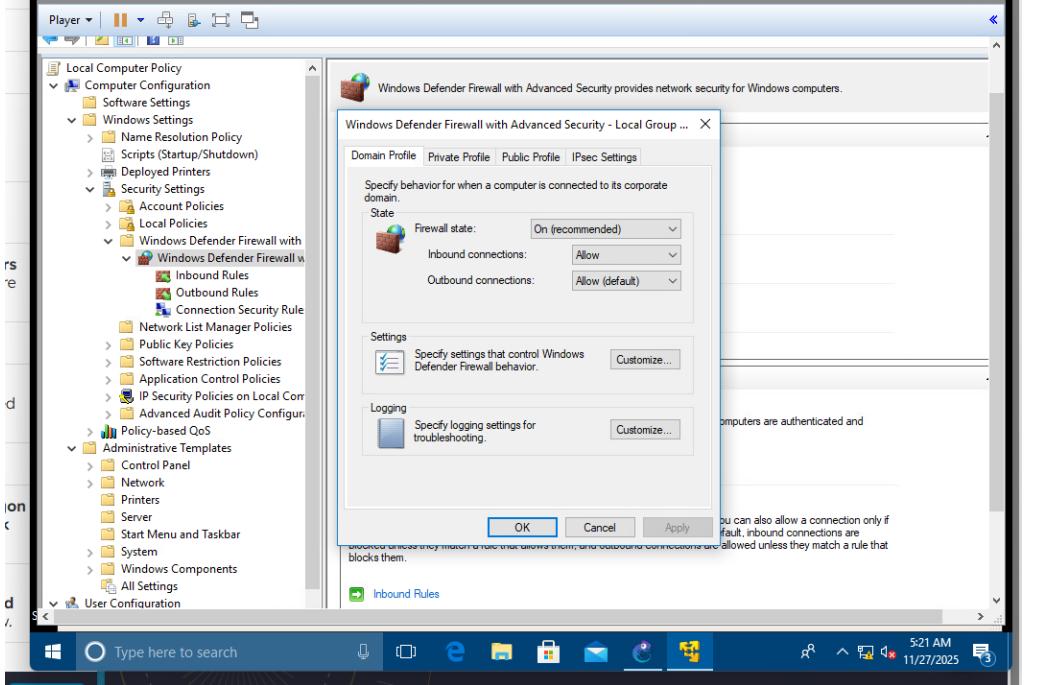
Configure local audit policy setting.



Configure default logon banner (warning that requires direct affirmation to continue).



Change default Windows firewall profile.



Justification for Virtual Systems

There are several benefits to using virtualization technology in sandboxing. One great benefit is that it can be an isolated system. If you are unsure if it will run properly or cause any issues you can separate it from the production environment while you conduct your testing. Once you have configured the way you need to have it you can make those changes in the production version. Another benefit is if it doesn't work right, you can easily scrap it. By not using your production version and changes that aren't up to the standards can be removed and started over. It is simple as rolling back to a clone of a well-known version. A third benefit is cross platform testing. You can create virtual machines of different operating systems to see how the program will run in different environments.

Along with benefits of using virtualization there are also drawbacks to using it as well. One of these is higher resource usage. You need to have more CPU, RAM and power to be able to run multiple sandboxes at a time. Another drawback is increased complexity. VM's add another layer of to an environment because they need to be configured properly in order to closely mimic production environments.

One way that virtualization can be used other than sandboxing is server virtualization. A company can consolidate multiple physical servers into a single physical machine, which improves hardware utilization and allows for flexible management of server resources. Another thing that can be used for is network virtualization. One can create virtual networks that are independent of the underlying physical hardware, enhancing cloud scalability and management.

References: