Lab 4: Applying User Authentication and Access Controls

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During this lab, I encountered challenges while working with TrueNAS and specifically in gaining access to the employee folder. Despite ensuring that all Active Directory settings were configured correctly, as well as all the settings in TrueNAS (connecting active directory domains, and configuring the ACLS), I still faced obstacles in accessing the sub directories inside the employee folder. This situation highlighted my need to deepen my understanding of integrating NAS systems with Active Directory to ensure correct permissions flow between different services.

On the positive side, I excelled in configuring Active Directory by successfully creating users, security groups, and setting up access controls with ACLs (Access Control Lists). This reinforced my foundational skills in directory services, and I felt comfortable assigning permissions, testing access levels, and making adjustments as necessary. My experience with Active Directory and group policy management played a key role in successfully completing these portions of the lab.

In terms of lab design, I found the instructions for creating users and security groups in Active Directory to be clear and easy to follow. However, I struggled due to a lack of detailed guidance when troubleshooting TrueNAS settings, especially in verifying where access was being blocked. Including more specific steps for integrating external NAS systems with directory services could have significantly helped streamline my work.

In real-world scenarios, these skills are particularly applicable in managing secure access to shared resources. Proper ACL configuration helps ensure that employees can access the resources they need without compromising security. This lab reinforced the importance of understanding both Active Directory settings and third-party storage configurations for smooth integration.

To improve the lab design, I recommend adding a detailed troubleshooting guide for common issues that may arise while working with TrueNAS, particularly regarding integration with Active Directory. Additionally, expanding the lab to include a broader overview of logging and monitoring access issues would prepare participants better for real-world troubleshooting.

# References

Jones & Bartlett Learning. (2024, October 18). *Lab Access for Fundamentals of Information Systems Security*. Retrieved from Jones & Bartlett Learning: https://navigate2.jblearning.com/course/view.php?id=129690