Implementing DFS for Branch Offices/ Implementing BranchCache

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Lab Summary 9

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Implementing DFS for Branch Offices/ Implementing BranchCache

There are two parts of the lab: implementing DFS for the branch offices in multiple locations and implementing BranchCache. The administrators want to configure DFS to replicate a shared folder between a server from the head office and a server from the branch office. The users from the branch office consistently access the shared folders throughout the day.

The shared folder will be replicated with the branch office to quickly access the files and maintaining the files in the head office for centralized backup. Also, the head office users want to access the read-only files on the branch office in Sydney. The server in the head office should be configured with BranchCache in hosted cache mode so that they can share the file from the branch office and can take advantage of the hosted cache on the head office.

Distributed File System

The administrators determined to configure DFS for the branch offices because the DFS is usually implemented for sharing files across, data collection from, and data distribution to the branch offices. The head office and the branch office will share the files, and the head office will collect the data from the branch office; the branch office will get the data distribution from the head office. Also, there are two DFS namespaces: domain-based namespaces and standalone namespaces.

The domain-based namespace helps high availability of the namespace, which means it is useful when creating multiple namespace servers. For the standalone namespace option, it is useful when the organization does not implement AD DS; there are more than 5,000 DFS folders, or it is hosting the namespaces in a failover clustering. In this case, the domain-based namespace is used because the organization meets the requirement. Also, the head office administrators want to create multiple namespace servers.

DFS Replication

There are several reasons to use DFSR to deploy the DFS between servers from different locations. First of all, it provides the remote differential compression to update files over the limited bandwidth network efficiently. In the lab, it is limited to 100 KBps. Also, it can make the staging folder on each replicated folder. It can detect volume changes and be able to recover from the loss of database automatically. In the company, they do not want to lose any data as well as efficiency.

Implementing BranchCache

The administrators decided to implement BranchCache because it is a passive cache, which does not increase WAN use. It only caches the read requests so that it does not interfere with saving files. It also has the hosted cache mode and distributed cache mode. The distributed cache mode does not require a server; the contents will be distributed the contents throughout the clients. The hosted cache mode requires a hosted cache server so that they can retrieve content from the hosted cache. If it is not available, the content will be retrieved over a WAN link.



