Configuring Directory Synchronization

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Lab Summary 13

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The scenario is that a few user accounts are deleted by accident, and the administrator should recover the accounts. Fortunately, the backup as scheduled did not run so that the interactive backup should be performed. The Active Directory Recycle Bin feature is the tool the admins should utilize to recover from the incidents. The admin found out that the domain administrator accidentally deleted the IT OU, which needs to be recovered.

Directory Services Restore Mode (DSRM)

DSRM is the safe mode boot option for domain controllers. It allows the admins to recover to restore an AD database. Domain controllers have three states: AD DS started, AD DS stopped, and DRSM. The AD DS database is offline. When signing to the domain controllers, the admins should use the DSRM password to access and restart the domain controller to sign in with a domain account.

Active Directory Recycle Bin Feature

The Active Directory Recycle Bin allows the admins to restore deleted objects without Active Directory downtime. If the Active Directory does not have to go down, it is golden, and this feature can recover the accounts or any objects without any downtime in Active Directory. The deleted object usually goes to the Deleted Objects container, and it stays there until the duration of the deleted object lifetime is reached. Within the lifetime, the administrators find the object to recover. By default, the lifetime is usually null, which means its lifetime is 180 days. With the Windows PowerShell, the tombstoneLifetime can be set to 365 days or one year long. If using the Enable-ADOptionalFeature, the Active Directory Recycle Bin can be enabled with the PowerShell.

Windows Server Backup vs. Microsoft Azure Backup

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The Windows Server Backup feature has the MMC snap-in with Wbadmin. The full server selected volumes, and selected items can be backed up. Also, this backup feature can allow the admin to perform a bare-metal recovery, use system state, recover individual files and folders, exclude selected files or file types, select from more storage locations and use Microsoft Azure Backup. However, when the hardware failures occurred, the system recovery will take a long time to return to the regular operation. Azure Backup feature is one of the subscriptions to provide offsite protection from disasters. It provides simplified configuration and management, block-level incremental backups, data compression, data integrity, encryption, configurable retention policies.

