Deploying and Administering AD DS

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Lab Summary 1

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Since the company is expanding its business with several new locations, the Active

Directory Domain Services administration team should evaluate the current methods available in

Windows Server 2016. At some point, the latency might become a problem so that the

administrators should have a rapid and remote domain controller deployment. Also, the team

should find a way to automate AD DS administrative tasks so that when the new locations deploy
the AD DS, they can save time to install.

AD DS Components

One of the goals achieved through this lab is to know AD DS components. There are two components in the AD DS in logical and physical aspects. The physical components include domain controllers, data stores, global catalog servers, and read-only domain controllers (RODCs); the RODCs are optional. The domain controllers exist to contain a copy of the AD DS database so that when they need replications to another domain controller, they can proceed to do it. Datastore also exists in each domain controller, and the global catalog server is the domain controller hosting the global catalog. On the logical side, there are components, such as partitions, schema, domains, domain trees, forests, sites, OUs, and containers. The partitions determine what can exist in AD; a schema is a group of definitions of the object types.

Domain Controller Cloning

There are two servers deployed as AD DS: LON-DC1 and LON-SVR1. Now, the administrators want to verify they can make clones of the domain controllers. It is a good option when they want to have a rapid deployment, private clouds, and recovery strategies. Cloning replicates the virtual hard disks with minor configuration changes in computer names and IP addresses to make one unique domain controller. This technology is also helpful in testing for the

environments. There is some requirement, in any case. The hypervisor should support it so that it should be Windows Server 2012 or later. The domain controllers as guest OS also should be based on Windows Server 2012 or later. The PDC emulator should be Windows Server 2012 or later as other requirements.

Active Directory Administrative Center

The Active Directory Administrative Center (ADAC) looks like the Server Manager but manages the Active Directory domain controllers. There are features in ADAC to manage the domain, computers container, builtin container, forest security principal container, managed service accounts container, users container, OU, LostAndFound, etc. It also allows the OU to delegate administrative control over the objects within OU and group objects together to make easier management with GPOs.

