Objectives:

* Get familiar with Group Policy terminology and processing by utilizing the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC).

Equipment List:

* Poweredge R710 Server

Notes and Observations:

* In the ‘Lab 6.txt’ file.

References:

* Mastering Windows Group Policy book.

Questions:

1. Why is it so important that IT administrators learn Group Policy in an Active Directory environment?
   1. If you’re the administrator of any more than maybe 2 or 3 people, it would quickly become very time-consuming and painstaking to make new rules.
2. What are the levels of hierarchy for Group Policy and how do they fit together?
   1. Local, Site, Domain, OU. That’s the order that they scale, as well.
3. By default, what is affected by the Default Domain Policy GPO?
   1. Everything in its domain.
4. Often you will find policy settings with three choices: Not Configured, Enabled, or Disabled. Explain why Not Configured and Disabled might not be the same. Give an example.
   1. Not Configured allows for the users you’re managing to set it up themselves. Password history is a good example that we actually messed with a bit.
5. Explain why creating new GPOs rather than modifying the Default Domain Policy is generally a better idea.
   1. It allows you to be more specific and meaningful in your creation of rules, as well as making them reusable.
6. Along the same line as the previous question, why is it best to keep minimal settings inside of each GPO and then have many more GPOs as opposed to one GPO that contains all the settings?
   1. When you make specific and meaningful GPOs, you can reuse them for several different groups – only carrying over the rules that you need. If you only have one policy per each then you have to recreate it for each group.
7. Describe the purpose of the commands gpupdate and gpresult.
   1. Gpupdate makes the chosen user/computer/group’s Group Policies immediately update. Gpresult tells you what was changed.
8. What might be an example where you would block GPO inheritance?
   1. Domain-wide you block access to the control panel because your employees are idiots, but a group in this domain is not idiots and also needs access to the control panel for their work.
9. How does enforcing GPOs affect GPO precedence?
   1. An enforced GPO will override a GPO of the same location with contradicting rules.
10. Why might you want to disable all User Configuration settings in a GPO?
    1. To keep the user from messing with your policies & possibly software.
11. When testing a new GPO why might you want to filter it to an individual user or computer?
    1. To limit collateral damage if something goes terribly wrong.
12. Why is it “dangerous” to block a GPO by using the Deny permission in the Delegation tab?
    1. One Deny overrides all other Allows, so it can be difficult to track down if it causes issues later.
13. What are some examples of using WMI filters for GPO filtering?
    1. WMI allows you to see what kind of device they’re using, so it allows you to be more specific in what rules affect who.

Conclusion and Reflection:

* Definitely one of my favorite labs. I’ve been looking forward to learning how IT did this for a long time. Eric and I tested a lot of different policies and we delved quite deep into all of the different policies that we could edit. The startup scripts seems like it could be really cool to learn how to do.