Automated System Scripts

It can be a very time consuming and an error prone problem constantly manually entering commands used on a daily basis. When you log onto a computer, sometimes you would like some commonly done features (such as connecting to the printer and network drives) to be done all at once, and even better, automatically.

Groups of command can be stored in either a BATCH file (BAT) or a Command list file (CMD). These programs can be used to create system scripts. A script is a list of commands that you would normally type into the command line. These scripts can when executed, can control commands that alter the flow of the program.

For our programs, we are going to create Command files using notepad. For example, say that I wanted to create a command list file named helloworld.CMD that prints out my name and then a list of all the current network connections, I would follow the instructions below:

- At the command prompt, issue the following command to create a new file and edit it in Notepad

```
C:\> Notepad helloword.CMD
helloworld.CMD does not exist, Would you like to create it (Y/N)
C:\> Y
```

- In the Notepad windows that opens, type the following lines. These are commands to print our the name and list the network connections.

- Save the file.

You will now have a command file saved. You can then run the file by typing **helloworld** or **helloworld.CMD** into the command line.

You can also make scripts that will call other scripts. To do so:
1. Create a script that will run
2. Create a second script. Inside of the second script, type the name of the first script where you would like it to run.

For example: We have already created the script **helloworld.** Let's create a second script in notepad called **HelloSolarSystem**

If we run this file by typing **HelloSolarSystem** at the command prompt, we will have the following behavior:

- It will print the lines Hello Sun, and then Hello Planets
- It will run the Helloworld script from above. This script
  - Prints My name is Computer DiFede
  - Displays current network connections
- It will print Goodbye!