

Solution:

Step 1: Position Sam's Scoops' migration to AAD

Sam's Scoops has expanded its operations to more than one store. As more and more employees are being hired by the business it is very important for Sam's Scoops to secure its resources. Also, Sam needs to decide what level of access should be given to the employees. Moreover, they need to find a way to integrate cloud applications for more than one store. Azure Active Directory will allow Sam to manage all its resources from one central location. Sam can implement secure logins via Azure IAM solutions to improve security. Through AAD Sam can implement the level of access an employee or group can have. AAD will also allow Sam to seamlessly integrate cloud applications due to AAD's wide support for different platforms.

Step 2: Azure AD tools

Azure Active Directory Connect: AAD Connect will allow Sam's Scoops to migrate from on-premise AD to Azure AD. It can migrate all user accounts and passwords, network configurations, system configurations etc. Moreover, AAD Connect actively synchronizes any changes between AD and AAD i.e., any changes made on AAD, AAD Connect makes sure that change is reflected on the on-premises AD which can be used as failsafe backup option in case of unforeseen circumstances. Moreover, it also allows application integration over the cloud setup. A wide range of SaaS are supported on the AAD.

Active Directory Migration Tool: ADMT will allow Sam to extract passwords, group memberships, user attributes and properties, and contacts etc. and will help migrate these to the cloud.

Step 3: Azure AD benefits for security and access management

Azure AD allows Sam's to enable authentication and authorization for the employees from a centralized location making it easier to regulate identities securely. It also makes it easier for the administrator to grant different levels of access to the individual or group from one place. Sam can easily manage user access levels through different lifecycle the employee goes through i.e., onboarding, employment, role change and offboarding. It is very easy to add new users, grant a certain level of access, change the level of access and remove user accounts with Azure AD.

Step 4: Reaffirm the migration to AAD

Sam's Scoops made the right decision to migrate from on-premise AD to Azure AD. This way it reduces the responsibility of maintaining on-premise AD infrastructure to a large extent. Azure AD provides the feature of scalability as business continues to expand over time. Also, it enhances the security of AD and lessens the burden of administrators or Sam's as the infrastructure maintenance is regularly performed by Microsoft. Moreover, it is easier to integrate different stores into unified policy via AAD than over on-premise AD.