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DFS Member Receiving Changes, But Not Sending Its Changes



by brgn

on Apr 7, 2017 at 11:15 PM

Solved Windows Server

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We run DFS across 4x Windows Server 2008 R2 instances. Each instance has multiple storage volumes, multiple DFS Namespaces (each with their own set of folders), and replication is in-place using DFS Replication with a Full Mesh topology.

We have noticed that one single DFS member (i.e. BAD1) is receiving changes from the other three members (i.e. GOOD1, GOOD2, GOOD3) - but changes against files/folders on the one member are not being sent to the other three members. For example - if a file is added on GOOD3 it is received by BAD1, but if a file is added on BAD1 it is not received by GOOD3.

This appears to be impacting all folders under a single Namespace - but is not impacting the other Namespaces on this instance.

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Best Answer



Mace

Mike400



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Apr 8, 2017 at 1:22 AM

Pull Bad 1 out of the namespace and replication. Reboot Bad 1 and then add it back to the replication set. Once you confirm replication in both directions then add it back to the namespace.

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Mace

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Apr 8, 2017 at 1:22 AM

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Habanero

Gregory for Microsoft



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Apr 11, 2017 at 12:41 PM

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Mike is correct removing, rebooting and adding back will usually fix replication challenges fast. If you want to monitor it I would look at this other post, towards the bottom is a PowerShell script to check the backlogs and allow you to quickly gauge the replication health of your DFS servers.

<https://community.spiceworks.com/topic/252067-dfs-replication-not-replicating-changes-from-one-membe...>



Mace

Mike400



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Apr 11, 2017 at 12:50 PM

The reason I go pretty much straight to the remove/reboot/re-add is that there are a lot of ways for DFS-R to get confused and stop working. The most common reasons are too many files, single files too big, and USN Journal overruns. The first is a soft limit and varies with the processor and disk speeds. The second is easy to fix - make sure the staging area is at least 25% larger than the largest file. The staging area needs to be set the same on every member of the replication set. The final, USN Journal overrun, indicates DFS-R is unable to keep up with changes to the file system.



Sonora

brgn Apr 18, 2017 at 2:00 AM

Thanks Mike400 - that did the trick!

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