



Active Directory Manager Case Study

Cascade Engineering Services simplifies Active Directory Administration
with CionSystems Active Directory Manager

CIONSYSTEMS PRODUCTS

- Active Directory Manager
- Active Directory Self Service
- Active Directory Reporter
- Active Directory Change Notifier
- System Information and Comparison
- Remote Manger

Business Challenge

Cascade Engineering Services (CES), Inc. was established in 1994 and is a premier provider of engineering services to high-tech companies worldwide. They are experts with a broad range of experience in the telecommunications, avionics and biotechnology industries. Having a distributed workforce introduced many challenges for the IT Administrators at CES. With a constant rise in employee count, Cascade Engineering Services faced the challenge of creating new user accounts in Active Directory frequently. It was also imperative that complete privacy and security measures were implemented to correspond with corporate-wide initiatives.

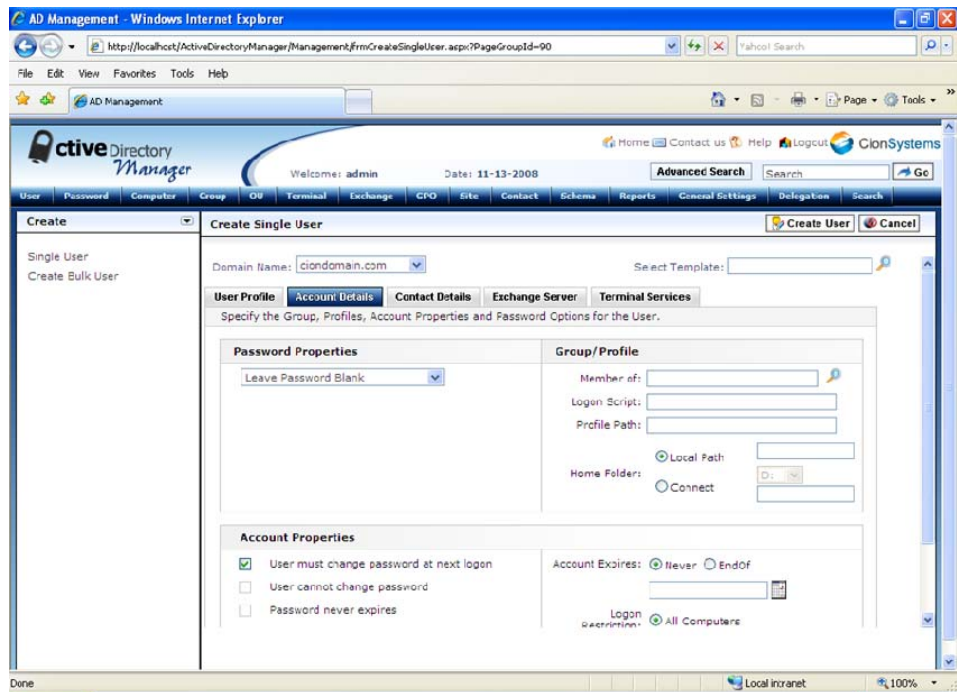
Because the native Active Directory tools are insufficient and offer limited support for bulk account creation and administration, it became quite tedious and time-consuming for the IT organization to manage the user accounts. Another key requirement for Cascade Engineering Services was automatic report generation that included servers, storage capacity, and usage data. Also important was creating bulk users for Exchange, resetting passwords, and managing dial-in privileges.

Cascade Engineering Services searched for a solution allowing easier management of their Active Directory. They needed an easy to use, intuitive solution that was also cost effective- something of a challenge since most products either have only a few features and require the deployment of several modules, or have an exorbitant price. Complying with Best Practices and corporate guidelines was a must, and CES narrowed its search to the most relevant solutions. Having a comprehensive list of features, the desired scalability combined with the low entry point, and the necessary reporting and audit capabilities compelled CES to choose the Active Directory Manager from CionSystems.

The Solution

Administrators at Cascade Engineering Services found it easy to use the Bulk Management options to create and modify multiple accounts in Active Directory in a short amount of time. The Active Directory Manager had significantly simplified the directory services administration activities across the board.

Additionally, according to the CES corporate guidelines, it was essential that complete privacy and security is present across the board, and only valid user accounts are prevalent. In order to ensure this, it is important for the IT staff to scan the Active Directory for inactive user accounts and disable or delete them. Having that efficient mechanism to identify and report on inactive user accounts is paramount. The Active Directory Manager presented CES with a reliable reporting solution that was easily accessible from anywhere at any time.



One of the many features that convinced Cascade Engineering Services to choose the CionSystems solution was its extensive list of reports. Many of these reports were essential for complying with the new corporate guidelines. Having the ability to schedule the reports and the option to send it to a customized email list is an added advantage that contributes to the overall efficiency of the IT organization. The browser-based user interface, lack of coding or scripting needed, and easy delegation improved the adoption rate even among the non-technical users.

CionSystems Active Directory Manager provided role-based delegation functions for CES, which allowed the administrators to give access to other users based on their role within the IT Organization. This increased the efficiency within the organization, and allowed them to delegate down responsibility throughout the department, thus freeing up time for other more tasks.

The Result

The Active Directory Manager helped reduce the problems associated with bulk user administration and inactive accounts. The application eliminated the burden on the administrators to use untested or inaccurate scripts. The IT organization is now able to proactively manage the Directory Services with just the click of a mouse. Being in control of their Active Directory enabled the administrators to save time and focus instead on other business-critical areas.

For more information on any of our products or services please visit us on the Web at: www.CionSystems.com

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