# GPOManager – Group Policy Object Manager

CionSystems GPOManager offers a mechanism to control this highly important component of Active Directory i.e Group Policies (GPOs). GPOs, Scope of Management links, and WMI filters are backed up in a secure, distributed manner and then placed under version control. GPO Manager offers following benefits and more:

GPOMANAGER – Simple, Easy
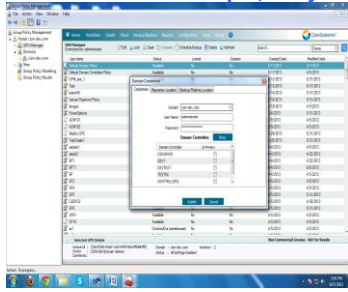
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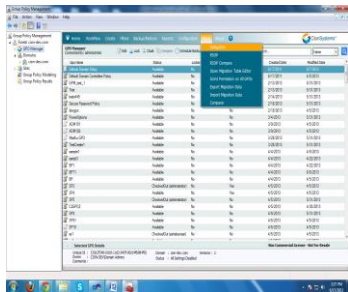
Delegation

Workflow

o Gives Active Directory administrators and security personnel control of GPO changes, to eliminate system outages and security exposures
o Allows administrators to edit and test GPOs and have them approved before they are deployed Provides a way to quickly roll back changes
o Archives all GPO settings
o Leverages, complements and extends native Microsoft technology, including Group Policy Management Console (GPMC), to strengthen infrastructure investments

Group Policy allows users administrators to implement specific configurations for users and computers. Group Policy settings are contained in Group Policy objects (GPOs), which are linked to the following Active Directory service containers: sites, domains, or organizational units (OUs). The settings within GPOs are then evaluated by the affected targets, using the hierarchical nature of Active Directory. By using Group Policy, users can define the state of someone's work environment once, and then rely on Windows Server 2000/2003/2008/2012 to continually force the Group Policy settings applied across an entire organization or to specific groups of people and computers.

As security issues are becoming paramount within any organizations. Within Active Directory (AD), the Group Policy Objects (GPOs) are at the forefront of an organization's ability to roll out and control functional security. Core aspects of user life cycle such as password policies, logon hours, software distribution, and other critical security settings are handled through GPOs. It is paramount for Organizations to have proper methods to control the settings of these GPOs and to deploy GPOs in a meaningful and safe manner with confidence, easily backup and restore GPOs when they are either incorrectly updated or corrupt.

Windows Group Policy is powerful and allows user centralized management. However, uncontrolled and unintentional changes can have disastrous consequences. For example, unintended effects of a GPO change could stop hundreds of users from logging on, exclude access to critical software applications, or expose system settings. The Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) from Microsoft is a useful tool for the individual administrator, but additional functionality—such as GPO workflow management, check in/check out, change control, backup/restore, reports and rollback—is needed to effectively manage GPOs across the enterprise.

Highlights of the product

- **Version Comparisons:** Quickly verify setting consistency and improve GPO auditing with advanced, side-by-side GPO version comparisons at different intervals.
- **Enhanced Group Policy Comparison** and side-by-side two distinct GPO'S , two Versions and with Existing GPO with a Checkout copy GPO comparisons to verify setting consistency.
- **GPO history and Compare:** to record all changes to GPO's
- **Delete version history:** to manage and reduce size of backup store
- **Undo GPO changes:** Rolled back to previous versions.
- **Approval-based workflow**: process to ensure that changes adhere to change management best practices before their deployment.
- **Configure workflow**: to enable organizational requirements and set for specified users or groups on edit settings, cloak and uncloak and lock and unlock.
- **Workflow Commenting:** Track the request, review and approval process with comments and e-mail notifications at any stage.
- **Scheduling:** Enable approved changes to be implemented immediately or on a schedule.
- **Microsoft Group Policy Management Console** (GPMC) for familiar look and feel.
- **Cloaking:** Hidden pre-production GPS from all but selected administrators.
- **GPO check-in** and check-out to prevent simultaneous editing conflicts.
- **GPO locking:** to prevent unwanted changes to product GPOs.
- **Backup and Restore:** Schedules the ALL GPO's Backup or selected GPO's to be taken at a specified date and time
- **Delegation and permissions management:** Delegates or provide Read, Edit, Apply Permissions on GPO to Users
- **Day to Day task :** Perform common GPO Actions/Tasks like Create , Edit, Delete, Link, Rename ,Backup, Import, Restore GPO, add comments to GPO, View, Enable, Disable
- **Manage security:** Apply Filters to GPO
- **Copy /Paste :** Create a duplicate GPO with same settings
- **Reports:** Creates Report of all GPO'S at a specified Location.
- **Advance Categorizing:** Easily find GPOS that are Linked, Unlinked, Orphaned, Disabled, Deleted etc.
- **Replication:** To replicate the data among the Available domain controllers
- **Delegation:** To grant Permission for Users to create GPO. To Apply WMI Filter.
- **Grant Permission on All GPO's:** To **grant** permission for users on all GPO's to read, Edit, delete.

CionSystems Inc. is a leader in Identity and access management solution for both on premise directories and cloud solutions. The company founders and staff have a vast Identity and security management industry experience with Microsoft and non-Microsoft platform. Our solutions are built on top of Microsoft stack.

Take the next step

Active Directory management is critical to your organization's productivity. Make sure you are in control of your network. CionSystems products can help you achieve maximum productivity and streamline your processes. Contact us today for an in-depth analysis of your Active Directory needs

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