

Re: Patch Management & Identifying Hosts

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.win2000.security/2003-03/0490.html>

From: Torgeir Bakken (MVP) (Torgeir.Bakken-spam@hydro.com)

Date: 02/27/03

From: "Torgeir Bakken (MVP)" <Torgeir.Bakken-spam@hydro.com>

Date: Thu, 27 Feb 2003 23:08:15 +0100

Ray wrote:

> *I'm working on building a patch management system for 500+ servers. In addition to hfnetchk (both MS & Shavlik) I've started to evaluate 3rd party tools. I've read Ch.5: Patch Management of the (MS) Security Operations Guide for Win2k Srv. The catchy part deals with identifying (OS, patch status & installed apps) all the hosts on the network. Other than logging into each server and going through Control Panel (brute force & ignorance) how can this be done? How can this info be gathered and put in a database?*

Hi

Some input:

(a)

Command line utility PsInfo.exe in the free PsTools suite can give you OS and patch status (but not installed apps):

> *From a script, make a loop of all the server names and redirect the output from PsInfo.exe to a file and then parse the file*

<http://www.sysinternals.com/ntw2k/freeware/pstools.shtml>

(b)

WMI is also an option (used from e.g. a vbscript).

For inventory to a csv file using WMI from vbscript (WMI comes default with WinME, Win2k and WinXP), in the quickFIND field, search for:

poor mans sms

at Win32 Scripting [Clarence Washington]

<http://cwashington.netreach.net>

for a good example of this written by Steve Pyatt.

You could also take a look at this project (WMI based):

<http://poormanssms.sourceforge.net>

Here is another one:

Using WMI for Inventory Management

<http://www.serverwatch.com/tutorials/article.php/1475601>

"A WSH script using VBScript is explained. The script uses WMI to query a computer for some predetermined information. The acquired information is written to a database using ADO."

If the "Add/Remove Programs" list in registry is good enough for a list of installed programs:

In the link below it is a script that gets all computer names defined in AD (easily rewritten to work in a NT 4.0 domain), pings them to see if they are online, and if they are, uses WMI to enumerate the "Add/Remove Programs" list in registry (Function InstalledApplications).

It also get information about the OS version and the IP configuration.

Two files are created, one with a list of offline computers, and the other with the result from the online computers.

The script can be run from any domain computer with a user that has access to the remote computers.

From: Torgeir Bakken (MVP) (Torgeir.Bakken-spam@hydro.com)

Subject: Re: Software inventory

Newsgroups: microsoft.public.scripting.wsh

<http://groups.google.com/groups?selm=3E45B735.4F5BB4D8%40hydro.com>

To make a loop that handles all the computers in the domain, there exists several ways to do this. See this articles for more on this:

From: Torgeir Bakken (MVP) (Torgeir.Bakken-spam@hydro.com)

Subject: Script that remotely moves local users from Administrators to Power Users group

Newsgroups: microsoft.public.scripting.wsh, microsoft.public.adsi.general

Date: 2003-02-18 20:22:06 PST

<http://groups.google.com/groups?selm=3E530599.8EF9AA2C%40hydro.com>

Inventory of Domain Users and Computers Using ADSI

<http://www.serverwatch.com/tutorials/article.php/1476791>

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torgeir

Microsoft MVP Scripting and WMI, Porsgrunn Norway

Administration scripting examples and an ONLINE version of the 1328 page

Re: Patch Management & Identifying Hosts

microsoft.public.win2000.security: Re: Patch Management & Identifying Hosts

Scripting Guide: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/scriptcenter>