MIS 431 Project 7 Installing Active Directory

You are to install Microsoft’s Active Directory on your server and provide a report on each step you take and how it went. As you know, Active Directory will replace the Users and Groups feature in Computer Manager with its own active directory user manager service. After you install active directory, you will have to make user changes through the latter service.

First make sure you are logged in as an administrator.

1. To install active directory, go to Administrative Tools on the Start menu and choose Configure Your Server. **Hint: If you don’t see Administrative Tools on the Start menu, right click the tool bar and choose Properties and select the Advanced tab. Then click the box that says Display Administrative Tools.**

In Configure Your Server, scroll down and click the Active Directory Wizard and follow the instructions. In most cases you will accept the default choice for Active Directory. Your domain name is your server name with .net appended, as in mclaren.net. Your NetBIOS name is just your server name, as in MCLAREN. When you have finally entered all of your entries, the Wizard will display a box that shows your settings. Make a copy of this to include in your report.
2. When you click Next, your server will take up to several minutes to create the Active Directory information. You will have to restart the computer to have all of the settings take effect.

3. When you start the computer, you’ll see a slightly different authentication window, with the domain to log into. Log into this with an administrator user name, and then note the differences in the Start Menu. Be sure to include these in your report.

4. Go into the Active Directory Users and Computers console and Create a new domain user called Peachtree. Note that you have many additional settings and properties for your users when using Active Directory. Set login hours for that user to be only 8-5, M-F. Do a screen capture to verify you have completed this task. Make a list of the enhancements available in AD for the Users and Computers console. Which are particularly helpful to you?

5. Write a brief description of Active Directory in your own words, and explain why using active directory for your server is a good idea. You might refer back to the original project write-ups so that you incorporate the purpose of your server. You will need to list the advantages of active directory for your server’s purpose, not an enterprise purpose.

6. What disadvantages do you face in using active directory on your server? Feel free to make any assumptions that you feel are relevant in answering this question.