# Active Directory

Active Directory has long been the standard for governing IT resources within a Microsoft based infrastructure. The design and configuration of Active Directory is critical to maintaining reliability and performance of the whole IT estate. The senior team at BDS Solutions worked with directory and domain services long before Active Directory came into being. However, its release in 2000 was heralded as a major step forward for Windows estates and it has been at the core of the BDS portfolio ever since.

## Forest Options Appraisal

The decision as to where to place a new directory service will be impacted by business objectives, investment in networking initiatives, policies of the organisation and the user groups being supported. BDS work with business leaders and senior technical staff to identify requirements to determine which directory model will best satisfy the needs of the organisation; whether to join an existing forest, work collaboratively with partner organisations or establish a stand-alone forest.

## Design

The detailed design, defining how Active Directory will be implemented, is a crucial exercise. This will define how many servers are required, what the role of each server will be, how these servers will utilise the underlying network and the considerations required for governing the users and computers that will form the directory.

## Deployment & Migration

BDS consultants bring the experience to help pre-empt potential issues and to advise how best to ensure transformation projects run smoothly. Also, BDS provides it own Migration Toolkit that extends Microsoft's native toolkits to cater for scenarios often encountered in Enterprise migrations. These are provided licence-free to organisations engaging BDS migration services.

## Upgrades

Whether replacing physical domain controllers, migrating away from redundant operating systems such as Windows 2003 Server or introducing new features, BDS will implement your directory upgrade quickly with minimal disruption to services.

## Authentication & Synchronisation

Public and hybrid cloud solutions have introduced new challenges to Active Directory administrators and architects who need to enable their users to authenticate resources that do not exist within the organisations domain. Active Directory Federation Services can be used to authenticate systems that support Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML). BDS deploy and secure these services and also provide alternative solutions such as secure LDAP (LDAPS), AD LDS and directory and password synchronisation where other forms of authentication to external systems are required.

## Health-checks and Monitoring

The efficiency of the directory, and the network services that accompany it, have a significant impact on the performance and reliability of the service delivered to client computers. BDS provide health-check and review services, for Active Directory as a whole, or for discrete elements such site configuration and replication, DNS, group policy design and user profile management.

**Microsoft Partner**
Gold Datacenter
Silver Identity and Access
Silver Devices and Deployment
Silver Application Development
Silver Data Platform
Silver Hosting

**veeam** propartner

**vmware** PARTNER
ENTERPRISE SOLUTION PROVIDER

**CITRIX** PARTNER
Silver Solution Advisor

**DELL** REGISTERED PARTNER

ISO 9001 SGS

UKAS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS 005

**01884 33440 | info@bds-solutions.co.uk**          **bds-solutions.co.uk**