Step-by-Step Guide for the Distributed File System Solution in Windows Server 2003 R2

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In this article

Applies To: Windows Server 2003 R2

About This Guide

Welcome to the Step-by-Step Guide for the Distributed File System (DFS) solution in Microsoft® Windows Server™ 2003 R2. This guide provides system requirements, installation instructions, and step-by-step walkthroughs for deploying the DFS Namespaces and DFS Replication features in the Distributed File System solution in Windows Server 2003 R2 in a lab environment.

If you are not familiar with DFS Namespaces and DFS Replication in Windows Server 2003 R2, we recommend that you read the document titled "Overview of the Distributed File System Solution in Windows Server 2003 R2" on the Microsoft Web site (https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=46801). The overview describes the benefits of DFS Replication and the improvements it offers over File Replication service (FRS). It also describes the DFS Namespaces enhancements exposed in Windows Server 2003 R2. These enhancements, introduced as updated application programming interfaces (APIs) in Windows Server 2003 with Service Pack 1 (SP1), provide easier management and more flexibility for namespaces used in branch offices.

Lab Requirements

Two step-by-step sections are provided in this guide. The requirements for completing each of the step-by-step sections are as follows:

Lab Requirements for Completing the Step-by-Step Guide to Deploying a Namespace

To complete all tasks in this section, you need a minimum of two servers configured in the test lab as follows:

- One server must run Windows Server 2003 R2. This is the server on which you will install the DFS Management snap-in to perform the tasks in this guide.

- The second server must run Windows Server 2003 SP1 or Windows Server 2003 R2.

- To create domain-based namespaces in these tasks, you must have Active Directory® deployed in