

## Importing Profiles from Active Directory into SharePoint

This presentation is dedicated to the integration between Active Directory and SharePoint. I am going to show how profiles of individuals and resources can be imported into SharePoint from Active Directory and furthermore, how people that have been imported, now peoples' profiles can be searched through SharePoint. Lastly, I will also show you the place where you can put in a custom source for your profile database, so if you did not want to use Active Directory and decided on using LDAP, the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol, or a business data catalog, where to go to to make those connections.

The configuration of a profile database in this SharePoint version 2007 has become a feature that is accessible from the Central Administration Screen. So, to start of the Central Administration Screen, I would need to go to the Start Menu and here it is SharePoint 3.0 Central Administration. Now, when this window pulls up, I will have to go to the Application Management tab to configure my Shared Services in which the profiled database configuration resides. So here we go, first I am going to go to Application Management → from here Create or configure this farm's shared services, Shared Services is a required component now in this version of SharePoint. Here is the SharedServices1 (Default) and this one which is a default Shared Service, I am going to go ahead and configure this, when I click on it, it gives me this view, I am going to first click on User Profiles and Properties, within User Profiles and Properties the screen looks pretty familiar to the, if you are familiar with the last version of SharePoint 2003, the SharePoint portal 2003 gave us the same exact screen with a just a little bit of modification and here we can see the same thing as before, you can do the full import and the Full Import currently means that this domain, which this SharePoint portal server resides in, is going to pull all the Active Directory resources from that domain.

First thing to note here is that there is a 121 profiles already been imported, so the first step that must have happened when this portal was first implemented, someone went and did Start Full import. Now that it has imported all the profiles, you would of course need to set up a schedule for it to import regularly and that is done by clicking on Configure Profile Import, so currently it is showing me that it is importing data

from Current Domain. I can also do the Entire Forest, meaning that any child domains or parent domains, it would get all the data from everywhere. And lastly, I can do Custom Source as well, if I did do Custom Source and → clicked on OK it will take me to this screen, which shows me that I would need to make a new connection to the Custom Source that I am interested in. If I clicked on Create New Connection, it is showing me Active Directory as one of the options and also showing me the LDAP directory, the Lightweight Data Directory Access Protocol, and also the Business Data Catalog as two other options. If I click on any of these, the actual options below will change. Let me go ahead and click on LDAP and show you how the screen changes a little bit. And if I click on Business Data Catalog, it changes quite a bit and it gives me a different view altogether. In my future presentations, I will be talking about the LDAP directory and the Business Data Catalog and how you can import profiles from there, but right now let me stick to the Active Directory, so I am going to go ahead and click Cancel for right now. And I need to go ahead and reset the configuration, so it is pulling back from the Active Directory. So I am going to go to Configure Profile Import again and here set it back to Current Domain, okay. Now that it is set back to the Active Directory, I am going to go through same link again, Configure Profile Import, and show you that these two places right here, the Schedule Full Import and Schedule Incremental Import as well would set my configurations. So it would do the full import, let us say for example, every once week on a Sunday night and the incremental import and then would be happening every day. So, once I have set this schedule, I will hit OK, I am going to hit Cancel for right now.

Also if I wanted to force an import at this time for all the data that has changed incrementally, I can click on Start Incremental Import. Now having done all that, what it all translates into is profile database, the actual sequel database, which has all the profiles for my office SharePoint server will be populated and to get to those profiles from this front end, I would click on View User Profiles. Here it shows me all different profiles of members and also resources such as conference rooms, everything is here. If I want to search for somebody, I could do that by clicking, by just providing the name. Here it is and if I wanted to see the profile of the person, click on Edit from this drop down menu and this should show me all the different properties, the current properties and their values for this person. Okay,

so here it is. One thing that is different here from the SharePoint portal server 2003 is that this Show To column. It is telling me that this property, for example first name is going to be shown to everyone and it is not configurable by me. On the other hand, there are properties such as Skills, Past projects, Interests, these are configurable by the user, so you can set it, so yourself you can view it, your management can view it and so on.

Getting out of here, let me Cancel and Go Back. If I wanted to add other people to this database, let me go back to User Profile and Properties. From this page, I can Add User Profile as well, and this will let me manually add a person to this profile database, keeping in mind that this person will not get added to the back end database, so meaning that this will not get added to the original source like Active Directory. This information will go into the Sequel Database for SharePoint portal but it will not go back to the Active Directory.

Let us go back and now again from the page that will show up, one thing to note here is that the profile properties, all the different properties that are present for each profile, for each person are listed here. When I click on the View Profile Properties, it will show me list and also it is mapping to the Active Directory attribute. So for example the First Name in Active Directory is Given Name. These two are mapped. There are some fields like About Me, Personal site, Picture, which are not mapped to anything in Active Directory. They exist only in Office SharePoint server. Now, the only thing I could do here is make a new property, so let me go ahead and do that. In this property, I will name it Department, but I will just say Dept for right now make it a short name, String should be the type that is good, and now this is also new that this column can have 'multiple values' and it can also have 'choice list' that I can allow people to choose from. Another important thing to note here is that the Default Access could be set by me at this time and let us say if I did set Only Me but I did not set User Override that would mean that it would only be shown to myself and users when they go into the profile property for the person, they cannot change that. At this time, I am going to go ahead and leave it to Everyone for Default Access and go ahead and click OK. So, if I go down now, here it is, last Dept, Department. Now, the reason I picked Dept because there is a column here called Department, it is right here, so the Dept we

are going to treat it almost the same way but a little bit differently. The main difference here to note is that the Department, the original department column is mapped to the department in Active Directory. This one that I am making is not mapped to Active Directory. This has no mapping and it is going to be configured and set only in Office SharePoint server.

Let us go back now. I am going to go ahead and View User Profiles again, and this time, I am going to pull up a person, let us say Brian, and for Brian Burke, I am going to go ahead and edit his profile. The new column that I have created, the Dept should appear here. Here it is down at the bottom. As you can see, it is shown to everyone and is not configurable. In the Dept, I am going to say this is department called SAS. Let us go ahead and Save and Close. Now, this is a new field that I have added and a new value that I have provided for Brian Burke, so what I would need to do for this information to be compiled, to be gathered in Office SharePoint server, I would need to Start Incremental Import. Once this is done, then I should be able to search for this person, and once I am searching for it and I find Brian Burke, I should be able to see this new value, so let us wait first of all for it do get done. Okay, so it seems like it is all done now. The Import Status is Idle, meaning it should be all be completed. Let me go to a different window now for this Office SharePoint sever main site. This is the main page for the portal for Office SharePoint server. It comes with the Employee Lookup text box and the button here for searching and this goes directly to the profile database to search over there. I am going to go ahead and put in Brian's name, click on Search, let us see what it brings back. Alright, so it brought back two results, just as we suspected as we saw on the profile database, there are two Brian's. If I click on Brian Burke's name, that is the one I changed, here it is, I see department to be SAS.