

TECHMENTOR
CONFERENCES

WINDOWS SERVERS
SECURITY
VIRTUALIZATION
MICROSOFT R2 TECHNOLOGY
POWERSHELL
SHAREPOINT

ORLANDO 2010

MARCH 8-12, 2010

HILTON
WALT DISNEY WORLD

TECHMENTOR—
**YOUR
SOURCE**
FOR INDEPENDENT
**REAL-WORLD
SOLUTIONS**

“

The quality was excellent. Practical solutions
AND low cost solutions provided & demonstrated.

—Dan Turner, Park Hill School District
[TechMentor, Orlando]

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JOIN US IN ORLANDO MARCH 8-12
TO LEARN THE TIPS, TRICKS AND STRATEGIES TO
HELP YOU BUILD A MORE PRODUCTIVE IT ENVIRONMENT.

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A MESSAGE FROM GREG SHIELDS

No matter what your training budget says, attending an annual conference is a major part of an IT Pro's job. In an industry that changes constantly, only by getting out of the office and focusing on training for a few days a year will you get the information you need to do your job best. The hardest part is usually convincing your "powers that be" to fund the trip.

My name is Greg shields, and I'm one of the Conference Chairs for TechMentor. I want to see you there too! We have spent much of the last year putting together what we think is the best TechMentor yet. So, in the interest of helping you out, I've put together a list of the top ten justifications you can use to convince your boss and your business to let you come.

Good luck convincing the boss. I hope to see you there!
TechMentor Orlando Conference Co-Chair




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“Found all speakers to have a level of expertise above my expectations.”

—John A. O'Neill Sr., Molded Fiber Glass Companies [TechMentor New York]

TOP 10 JUSTIFICATIONS TO ATTEND TECHMENTOR

- 1 By attending Bruce Rougeau's *Mastering System Recovery—How to Recover from Any System Failure* session you'll be able to fix a blue screened server rather than have to rebuild it from scratch. Time saved is money saved, yes?
- 2 Learning what you need to know from Greg Shields' *How to Automatically & Rapidly Deploy Software in a Small Environment* session will significantly speed up your software installations, giving you the much-needed time to...say...attend this conference!
- 3 Orlando is the home of *Universal Studios and Disney World*, where on your day off you'll learn new skills in customer service while waiting for that next roller coaster ride. Heck, bring the kids and family. You and they both deserve a mini-vacation!
- 4 For a ridiculously low price, you'll get six extra hours of hi-energy Prep School and Grad School training on *SQL Server, Windows 7, Exchange Server, and PowerShell* from speakers like PowerShell Guru Don Jones or Exchange Server Top Trainer Peter Bruzzese!
- 5 The best sights in Orlando are often good distances from each other, and walking them is good for your health. Being in better health means fewer *sick days* and *better productivity* over the next year.
- 6 *TechMentor's Evening Activities* are one of the rare places where you can get one-on-one with vendors for the technologies you need. (Don't mention the free beer...)
- 7 If you've been afraid of migrating to Windows 7, world renowned instructor Rhonda Layfield has got the beginning-of-the-week Grad School session *Moving to Windows 7: From Vista or XP, Quickly, and Using FREE Tools*
- 8 Virtualization is today a mission-critical part of every business, and it's your job to keep it running. But you can't do that without the best tips, like you'll get with Virtualization Review columnist Rick Vanover's session *Virtualization Saves Money on Datacenter Facilities, Right?*
- 9 Unlike a lot of other conferences out there, *TechMentor is completely independent*. That means you'll get the straight scoop on today's tech, without the party line.
- 10 Lastly, if none of these work, remind your boss that TechMentor isn't like the other conferences. Our attendees number in the hundreds, not the tens of thousands, so you're up close with the instructors and your fellow attendees. We focus on the *immediately useable* information *you can use in your network today*. There's no focus on technologies you won't see for two years at our show. How's that for an immediate return on your training investment?

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

PREP SCHOOL Sessions • Monday, March 8, 2010

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	PS1 - PREP SCHOOL: The Windows PowerShell v2 No-Scripting Crash Course - <i>Don Jones</i>	PS2 - PREP SCHOOL: Securely Connecting to Applications over the Internet using RDS - <i>Greg Shields</i>	PS3 - PREP SCHOOL: Moving to Windows 7: From Vista or XP, Quickly, and Using FREE Tools! - <i>Rhonda Layfield</i>
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CONFERENCE DAY 1 • Tuesday, March 9, 2010

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	KEYNOTE: Windows 7 – Life Without Walls • Stephen L. Rose			
9:45 - 11:00 a.m.	TU1 - Designing Your Virtual Infrastructure + Hypervisor Deep Dive - <i>Don Jones</i>	TU2 - How to Configure Your ESX Hosts to Successfully Pass an Audit...Guaranteed! - <i>Greg Shields</i>	TU3 - Virtualizing Your Exchange Environment—and Then Making it Disaster-Proof - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>	TU4 - SharePoint Administration Tasks for the Reluctant DBA - <i>Todd Klindt</i>
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	TU5 - Finally! Full-On Remote Computer Management (with PowerShell v2) - <i>Don Jones</i>	TU6 - Eliminating Malware, Inappropriate Software, and Most IT Problems with AppLocker - <i>Greg Shields</i>	TU7 - Your LAN Everywhere—with DirectAccess! - <i>Eric Beehler</i>	TU8 - Take back Your File Servers! - <i>Jeff Hicks</i>
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	LUNCH			
1:45 - 3:00 p.m.	TU9 - Windows 7 Virtual Deployment Solutions - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>	TU10 - Active Directory Disasters and How to Prevent Them - <i>Greg Shields</i>	TU11 - Stop Working Nights and Weekends: 10 Tips You Can Immediately Implement - <i>Eric Beehler</i>	TU12 - Upgrading SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2010 - <i>Todd Klindt</i>
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	TU13 - Transitioning from Exchange 2003 to 2007 or 2010 - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>	TU14 - DNSSEC and Windows: What it is, Why You Care, and How To Do It - <i>Mark Minasi</i>	TU15 - Realizing the Risks of Bad Network Design on Virtual Machines - <i>Eric Beehler</i>	TU16 - Top Ten Non-PowerShell Command—Line Tools You MUST Know - <i>Jeff Hicks</i>

CONFERENCE DAY 2 • Wednesday, March 10, 2010

8:30 - 11:15 a.m.	WE1 - DEEP DIVE: Automating Active Directory Management in Windows PowerShell - <i>Don Jones</i>	WE2 - DEEP DIVE: Mastering High Availability with Microsoft Hyper-V R2 - <i>Greg Shields</i>	WE3 - DEEP DIVE: Network Monitor: What's On Your Wire? - <i>Rhonda Layfield</i>	WE4 - DEEP DIVE: Solving the Problem of Slow Logons Due to Group Policy - <i>Todd Klindt</i>
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	WE5 - Scripting, Error Handling, and Debugging in Windows PowerShell v1/v2 - <i>Jeff Hicks</i>	WE6 - Speed Up Branch Office Access with BranchCache - <i>Greg Shields</i>	WE7 - Volume Activation Planning, Deployment, and Administration - <i>James Conrad</i>	WE8 - Inside MDOP: Are Its 5 Apps Right for Your Company? - <i>Jeremy Moskowitz</i>
12:45 - 2:00 p.m.	GENERAL SESSION LUNCH - The Windows 7/R2 Report Card: What They Got Right, What Got Left Out • Mark Minasi			
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.	WE9 - Cracking Open Kerberos: Understanding How AD Knows Who You Are - <i>Mark Minasi</i>	WE10 - When and Where to Use Virtualization: DISCUSSION - <i>Greg Shields</i>	WE11 - What the Cloud Means for the System Administrator: DISCUSSION - <i>Eric Beehler</i>	WE12 - Mastering RDS / Terminal Services Applications and Profiles - <i>Bruce Rougeau</i>
3:30 - 4:45 p.m.	WE13 - Understanding User Account Control - <i>Mark Minasi</i>	WE14 - Virtualization Saves Money on Datacenter Facilities, Right? - <i>Rick Vanover</i>	WE15 - Best Practices and New Technologies in Windows Server Backups - <i>James Conrad</i>	WE16 - Mastering System Recovery—How to Recover from any System Failure - <i>Bruce Rougeau</i>

Deep Dive Sessions – Exclusively at TechMentor, these extra-length sessions bring you expertise from the world's leading IT experts—at no additional cost!

CONFERENCE DAY 3 • Thursday, March 11, 2010

8:30 - 9:45 a.m.	TH1 - Implementing, Securing, and Supporting IIS 7.x—A Concentrated Guide - <i>Don Jones</i>	TH2 - P2V—The Tips, Tricks, & Gotchas You'd Better Know - <i>Rick Vanover</i>	TH3 - Alphabet Soup: Which Deployment Tool is Right for Your Environment? - <i>Rhonda Layfield</i>	TH4 - Group Policy for Modern Desktops: What You Need to Know - <i>Jeremy Moskowitz</i>
10:00 - 11:15 a.m.	TH5 - Building, Deploying, and Supporting Server Core—in an R2 World - <i>Don Jones</i>	TH6 - The Best Free Tools for Windows Server Administration - <i>Greg Shields</i>	TH7 - Keeping Your SharePoint Alive: Backup and Recovery - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>	TH8 - Group Policy for Modern Desktops: Troubleshooting - <i>Jeremy Moskowitz</i>
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Reserved for late-breaking content	TH10 - How to Automatically and Rapidly Deploy Software in a Small Environment - <i>Greg Shields</i>	TH11 - High Availability in the Exchange World - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>	TH12 - Transforming your Print Environment with a Highly-Available Print Cluster - <i>Bruce Rougeau</i>
12:45 - 1:45 p.m.	LUNCH			
1:45 - 3:00 p.m.	Reserved for late-breaking content	TH14 - Top Tips and Tricks for Guaranteed—Successful Virtual Backup & Restore - <i>Rick Vanover</i>	TH15 - Free Security! Implementing a Certificate Authority - <i>James Conrad</i>	TH16 - Solving the Branch Office Nightmare with RODCs - <i>Bruce Rougeau</i>
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	TH17 - Using Windows 7/R2's Virtual Storage Technologies - <i>Mark Minasi</i>	TH18 - Disaster Recovery in a Virtualized World—It's More Than Just Backups! - <i>Rick Vanover</i>	TH19 - Super-Easy Full-Drive Encryption with Windows BitLocker - <i>James Conrad</i>	TH20 - Protecting your Wireless Networks with NAP - <i>Bruce Rougeau</i>

GRAD SCHOOL Sessions • Friday, March 12, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	GS1 - GRAD SCHOOL: Supporting SQL Server—When You'd Really Rather Not - <i>Don Jones</i>	GS2 - GRAD SCHOOL: Exchange 2010—Are You Ready? - <i>J. Peter Bruzzese</i>
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“This was my first TechMentor conference and has been the best conference I have ever attended. A variety of topics at a variety of levels. Each session filled the time allotted without being too much at once... Simply excellent.”

—Mich Kobylarz, City of Rosenberg [TechMentor, Orlando]



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS BY FOCUS TOPIC

Deploying & Managing Windows Servers and Clients

PS3 • PREP SCHOOL: Moving to Windows 7: From Vista or XP, Quickly, and Using FREE Tools!

Rhonda Layfield

Monday, March 8, 2010: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Upgrades from Vista? Migrations from XP? Clean installs on bare metal? No problem: Deployment rockstar Rhonda Layfield helps you do it all safely, quickly, and effectively using FREE tools. Microsoft's deployment toolset can seem like a can of alphabet soup, but Rhonda not only guides you through the mess, she helps you make sense of it, understand how it all works under the hood, and best of all shows you exactly what you'll need to do to make Windows 7 deployment WORK. You'll learn insider tricks, see practical demonstrations, and put yourself on an immediate path to better client operating system management for the long-haul.

TU4 • SharePoint Administration Tasks for the Reluctant DBA

Todd Klindt

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Are you a SharePoint administrator that has been thrust into the role of managing SQL servers? These days, who isn't? DBs are everywhere, making us all reluctant DBAs. Being smart with SharePoint means being smart with its SQL database. In this session SQL expert and SharePoint MVP Todd Klindt will share his deep experience on how SharePoint uses SQL. He'll cover critical SQL server and database maintenance that you might have otherwise neglected. He'll show you important techniques to keep your SQL server running better. In 75 minutes, you'll no longer be afraid of your SQL server; instead, you and your DB will look at each other with mutual respect.

TU8 • Take back Your File Servers!

Jeff Hicks

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Do you hate the part of your job that involves managing files? Are you struggling to keep on top of what files you have, how old they are, or who they belong to? Are you constantly trying to remove unwanted file types from your network? If so, then the file resource management feature of Windows 2008 has the answer. In this demo-packed session you'll learn how to build effective file management reports, set up screening rules to block unwanted files and much more. After this session you'll be eager to get back to work and take your file management skills to the next level.

TU9 • Windows 7 Virtual Deployment Solutions

J. Peter Bruzzese

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

There are a lot of ways to deploy Windows 7. More than a few of them involve virtualizing the desktop. In this session, Peter Bruzzese explores the gamut of solutions available today for getting Windows 7 into your network...virtually! The story begins with deploying applications using Windows XP Mode, virtually eliminating the problems of application compatibility. It carries on through to VDI solutions to deploy entire thin-client Windows 7 operating systems. And it culminates with the revolutionary client-side hypervisor for Windows 7 deployment at its best. Avoid all the stress of deployment by getting it done fast, smoothly, and virtually!

TU10 • Active Directory Disasters and How to Prevent Them

Greg Shields

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Your Active Directory these days is...what...10 years old now? It's been around since the dawn of time, that being Windows 2000, and you really haven't looked at it much for years. But there's evil lurking within the settings of its always-on services. That evil comes with latent settings and bad configurations that you didn't know you had. Active Directory expert Greg Shields has helped dozens of organizations with their IT infrastructures, and in the process has seen the bad and the really ugly. He'll share his top 25 biggest disasters and how you can prevent them today by just clicking the right buttons.

TU11 • Stop Working Nights and Weekends: 10 Tips You Can Immediately Implement

Eric Beehler

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Doing more with less is our new economy's corporate mantra and you know it. In your case, it means long hours, lack of sleep, and a lack of focus on those projects that bring real value to your business. If you're putting in double time because you need to take servers offline in the off hours, you need to step back and re-evaluate your approach. You don't need fancy tools, just a solid implementation of technology you already have and processes you should implement. From badly-written custom applications to monthly security updates, there is always something setting off your cell phone. You need to find a way to push that night and weekend work to your work day. Come learn just those ways with 40-hour-a-week worker Eric Beehler. He'll share with you his secrets on how to use server farms, clustering, and good old business processes to limit your need to put in those long nights, see your friends and family again, and get your life back.

TU12 • Upgrading SharePoint 2007 to SharePoint 2010

Todd Klindt

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

You're mostly happy with your SharePoint 2007 installation, but you've still got those nagging feature needs that won't get met until its next version releases. With SharePoint upgrades often requiring extra effort, the time to prepare is now. In this not-too-forward-looking session, SharePoint MVP and long-time guru Todd Klindt covers SharePoint 2010's installation considerations. He'll prepare you for the successes and gotchas associated with upgrading your existing SharePoint 2007 installation. You'll learn how to mitigate downtime during upgrade, as well as prepare yourself early for this version's dramatic feature improvements. Less downtime means happier users, so start your preparations now.

WE4 • DEEP DIVE: Mastering SharePoint 2007 Administration

Todd Klindt

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 8:30 – 11:15 a.m.

SharePoint 2007 can be a scary critter, no matter if you're new to the product or already have a bit of experience. Just getting it set up and configured correctly can be a daunting task, and administering it correctly after the install requires some special tips and tricks. In this session SharePoint MVP Todd Klindt will share his very best SharePoint 2007 administration tips, beginning with installation gotchas all the way through scaling and keep it running. You'll learn about the different types of installs, which accounts to use, how to properly scale your databases, partition users, and other administration tricks you won't get elsewhere. At the end of this session you will be able to install and manage SharePoint 2007 with the confidence that you're doing it in the smartest way possible.

WE7 • Volume Activation Planning, Deployment, and Administration

James Conrad

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Thousands of desktops. Hundreds of servers. How are you going to license and activate them? Should you visit each one and activate it over the internet? Sounds a little impractical unless you can hire a fleet of summer interns. This session will show you how to plan for proper activation without additional expense, headache, or complicated bookkeeping. In fact, even though you might have thousands of required activations, you will see how you can get by with only ONE activation—and it's perfectly legal and even encouraged by Microsoft!

WE8 • Inside MDOP: Are Its 5 Apps Right for Your Company?

Jeremy Moskowitz

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Get "Two T-shirts for the price of one." Not really, but you get 5 awesome applications for one fixed price with Microsoft's new MDOP (the "Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack.") Inside the pack, you'll get Microsoft Softgrid, Microsoft AGPM, Microsoft Asset Inventory Service, Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset and Microsoft System Center Desktop Error Monitoring. We'll do a "quickstart" through all these products to see what they offer and how they fit in to your enterprise. If you've not paid for MDOP, come find out what the awesomeness is all about to "see before you buy."

WE15 • Best Practices and New Technologies in Windows Server Backups

James Conrad

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Car keys, reading glasses, and the TV remote control. All are things that get lost, yet none of them are as devastating as losing important files. And certainly you won't find those files stuck between the couch cushions. But if you've planned your backup strategy in advance, then you will be well-prepared to recover those files. In this session, you will learn how to maximize the backup technologies that are already available to you within Windows Server 2008. This includes automating regular backups, rotating media offsite, conserving space, maximizing backup performance, restoring in minutes instead of hours, and recovering entire failed servers. Admins already live with a great deal of pressure and worry—Windows Server Backup can help put your mind at ease, knowing that data files and servers are backed up and ready for recovery at all times.

WE16 • Mastering System Recovery—How to Recover from any System Failure

Bruce Rougeau

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Bruce Rougeau has fixed many computers in his career. Whether Windows NT, Vista, 7, or 2008, Bruce knows the exact steps you must follow to recover from virtually any system failure. He'll be sharing those steps in this powerful session. Come learn the new tricks that are built right into Microsoft's OS that help troubleshoot and resolve many common recovery problems. You'll be impressed at how these new technologies will make your otherwise-painful recovery problems go completely away.

TH1 • Implementing, Securing, and Supporting IIS 7.x—A Concentrated Guide

Don Jones

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Almost every environment has an IIS running on at least a couple of servers—are you comfortable supporting them? IIS 7 not only introduced an all-new (and more complicated) management GUI, it also adds PowerShell cmdlets and extensive new functionality. Join MVP Award recipient, columnist, and author Don Jones for a deep look at what IIS does, how it does it, how to administer it, how to secure it, and how to monitor and troubleshoot it—all with plenty of demonstrations and expert advice. Make “Webmaster” a legitimate part of your resume and take the pain out of supporting IIS in your environment!

TH3 • Alphabet Soup: Which Deployment Tool is Right for Your Environment?

Rhonda Layfield

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Learn them all in one day and then make an informed decision for which tool is best for your environment. Find out which of your existing machines can install W7 and which cannot. Applications can be a bit of a mess when moving from XP to Windows 7 - Microsoft's Application Compatibility 5.5 will help you get your applications running in W7. Learn the difference between the Microsoft Deployment Toolkit 2010 (MDT rocks!) and Windows Deployment Services (WDS is the new RIS). This full day session is heavily demo driven so you can see how the tools work their magic...all for free. Yes that's right all the Microsoft tools discussed in this session are FREE. Join 28 year IT veteran and Microsoft Deployment Specialist Rhonda Layfield for this information-packed deployment session to learn it all.

TH4 • Group Policy for Modern Desktops: What You Need to Know

Jeremy Moskowitz

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Short answer: lots. So come hear the essential “What every admin absolutely needs to know” about Group Policy. Learn why you need a “geat shift” to make sure you're doing it right. Learn how to get out of burning 5MB per GPO on each DC. Learn about the new things you can do (like power management and USB port management—only for the modern client). If you've got even one Windows Vista or w7 client that you're going to deploy, you positively must come to this session to learn the updated ropes from Jeremy Moskowitz, Group Policy MVP.

TH5 • Building, Deploying, and Supporting Server Core—in an R2 World

Don Jones

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Windows' Server Core installation option offers a small-footprint, lower-maintenance operating system for your critical infrastructure servers: Virtualization hosts, domain controllers, file and print servers, DHCP and DNS servers, and more. In Win2008R2, you can even deploy fully-functional Web servers and employ powerful remote management through Windows PowerShell v2! In this session, you'll learn the ins and outs of building and configuring Server Core computers, including all the capabilities and caveats. R2-specific information is clearly identified, so if you're still living with Win2008 you'll know exactly what applies. You'll also learn details of supporting Server Core.

TH6 • The Best Free Tools for Windows Server Administration

Greg Shields

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

TechMentor's must-see event for five years running, Master Toolsmith Greg Shields runs down the very best free, gratis, pro bono, and no cost tools that he's collected over the years. Come laugh and learn while you discover over 40 tools that cost nothing and make your job easier as a Windows Administrator. You'll see tools that assist with server and security issues, those that improve your file and disk management, and a whole set for network monitoring and troubleshooting. Head home with a newly-expanded quiver of great solutions that don't require begging the boss for money.

TH8 • Group Policy for Modern Desktops: Troubleshooting

Jeremy Moskowitz

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

In Part II we'll discover how the beauty of Group Policy changes is not skin deep. There are some basic and detailed changes lying under the hood. This is a mini-troubleshooting “crash course” (take it from Jeremy, author of Group Policy: Management, Troubleshooting and Security). In this session, you'll some “gpresult” troubleshooting magic, discover how to ensure those “sales guys” get your latest wishes, and learn what's new in the event logs. We'll explore how to troubleshoot “Group Policy” delivery areas like Offline Files and Group Policy Software Installation. If your Group Policy is sick (or if you're afraid of it becoming sick) this is the session for you.

TH10 • How to Automatically and Rapidly Deploy Software in a Small Environment

Greg Shields

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Next, Next, Finish. It's the bane of every IT professional. Next, Next, Finish, Repeat: The only way to get software installed on computers, right? Wrong. With just a few free tools you can learn the tips and tricks of software “repackaging.” Then, using nothing more than Group Policy, you can rapidly deploy those software packages to any computers you want all around your network. If you've got a big software upgrade coming up, don't miss this session. You'll finish that upgrade in hours rather than days with Greg's useful tricks.

TH12 • Transforming Your Print Environment with a Highly-Available Print Cluster

Bruce Rougeau

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Why is it that failed print servers are second to only failed email servers when it comes to managers breathing down your neck? Being able to print is easily the second-most important thing you must keep running in your environment today. Make that job easier by creating a highly-available print cluster, a task that with Windows Server 2008 is easier than ever. This session will show you the architecture, the best practices, and the common pitfalls of migrating an existing print server into a powerful print cluster. You'll appreciate how your printing never goes down as a result.

GS1 • GRAD SCHOOL: Supporting SQL Server—When You'd Really Rather Not

Don Jones

Friday, March 11, 2010: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Are you stuck supporting one or more SQL Server instances—even the pervasive Express Edition—just because you're the “Microsoft Guy/Gal?” This is the perfect session for you: Don Jones, a self-proclaimed “Jack of All Tech,” explains how SQL Server works, offers advice for critical tasks like setting up a disaster recovery plan, and shows you how to analyze and optimize database performance—even with the databases from third-party enterprise apps! Bring all of your tough SQL Server administration questions, too, for personal advice and tips that will make supporting SQL Server less painful and more gainful! In addition, Don will teach you the industry-standard SQL language that will serve you in Oracle, MySQL, SQL Server, PostgreSQL, and numerous other database platforms. You'll learn key Data Manipulation Language (DML) queries as well as standardized Data Definition Language (DDL) statements used

to build and modify databases. Don't underestimate the boost that SQL can give to your resume—and don't overestimate the difficulty! Bring a laptop with a database engine, query tool, and sample database and practice right along with Don as you master the SQL language more quickly and easily than you thought possible.

Exchange, SharePoint, & Unified Communications

TU3 • Virtualizing Your Exchange Environment—and Then Making it Disaster-Proof

J. Peter Bruzzese

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

You can virtualize every aspect of Exchange. The big question is...should you? Peter Bruzzese has the answers. In this session he will talk honestly about the need to be reasonable when planning out Exchange virtualization. You'll learn how to avoid the caveats of over-virtualization (Yes, there is such a thing!) and support-loss-virtualization (Which occurs when your Microsoft support slips because you don't follow their explicit guidelines). Even getting that physical Exchange box to the virtual world has its own gotchas, with Peter explaining the pro's and con's of P2V. If you're considering virtualized Exchange, or if you're experiencing problems because you already did, get the assistance you need in this session.

TU13 • Transitioning from Exchange 2003 to 2007 or 2010

J. Peter Bruzzese

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Exchange transitioning between release platforms is not a simple in-place upgrade. There are stages to a transition move that must be delicately executed, and Exchange expert Peter Bruzzese has your answers. In this session, Peter will walk you through the entire process from beginning to end. You'll start with an understanding of whether you should upgrade vs. coexist vs. transition. Then, you'll learn the steps involved with upgrading the Schema, which roles to install, migrate your mailboxes and remove legacy Exchange servers with a guarantee of success.

TH7 • Keeping Your SharePoint Alive: Backup and Recovery

J. Peter Bruzzese

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Backing up SharePoint is easy. Restoring it isn't. Has your company put the effort into setting up SharePoint, only to walk away after a major failure. Don't be that company. This session will focus on the best practices known today to protect your SharePoint investment. SharePoint guru Peter Bruzzese will explore SharePoint's free options for backup and restore, its System Center-integrated option in Data Protection Manager, as well as the mega tools that cost money but save jobs. It's all about price vs. restoration pain in this high stakes game of keeping your SharePoint alive.

TH11 • High Availability in the Exchange World

J. Peter Bruzzese

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

One of the most widely used buzzwords in today's IT marketing is High Availability. Yet, with Exchange, HA is more than just a term, it's a reality. This advanced session takes you beyond the hype and into the highly available messaging infrastructure that's already integrated into Exchange. No matter what version you're using, you'll stand to gain from this session. In this quick-and-deep session, Exchange and HA guru Peter Bruzzese sweeps you through Exchange HA's beginnings in 2003, presents you its updated options in 2007, and ends with the brand new features in 2010. You'll hear full explanations of Exchange's continuous replication and replay as well as its acronym soup of HA options: LCR, CCR, SCR, DAG and SCC. A high level session with the information you need, take the journey through this fast paced exploration of messaging resiliency.

GS2 • GRAD SCHOOL: Exchange 2010—Are You Ready?

J. Peter Bruzzese

Friday, March 11, 2010: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Exchange's storage architecture has changed! Its high availability options are revamped! Its Unified Messaging features are enhanced! ARE you READY? DO you CARE? You should, because Exchange 2010 is Microsoft's most robust messaging environment to date! Watch from the sideline or bring your own laptop at this Grad School Session. With world-renown Exchange expert Peter Bruzzese as your guide, you'll work with a prepared .VHD of Exchange 2010. You'll experience the many new features waiting for your organization. This three-hour end-of-the-week session will walk through its new capabilities, explore its interface, and give you plenty of time to answer all your questions. You'll leave with Exchange 2010 in your heart, mind, and laptop.

Remote Users and Offices

PS2 • PREP SCHOOL: Securely Connecting to Applications over the Internet using RDS

Greg Shields

Monday, March 8, 2010: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Your job as IT administrator is all about applications and data. You need to protect your users' data, and you need to ensure access to it via applications. But today's workforce requires us to make our applications available from everywhere. Connecting to corporate applications through Internet connections is quickly becoming a need for every environment, both large and small. You can make exactly this possible today for very little cost using Microsoft's Terminal Services\Remote Desktop Services. RDS Guru and Microsoft MVP Greg Shields has been working with Terminal Services since its introduction in Windows NT 4.0 Terminal Services Edition, and in three hours he'll present you a step-by-step approach to building a remote applications infrastructure with enough industrial-grade security that even the most secure of networks will allow it. TS and RDS have for too long been relegated to the sidelines. Attend this session and make secure, scalable, and inexpensive telecommuting a reality for your company.

TU7 • Your LAN Everywhere—with DirectAccess!

Eric Beehler

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

VPNs have always been a difficult to use for the end user. At the same time, the rise of Internet applications has made full-on direct connection to internal-only resources a necessity. The number of daily Help Desk calls alone makes the good old VPN a usability headache that needs a replacement. You can get that today with DirectAccess in Windows 7. This no-cost solution promises to give your users an automatic connection to internal IT, without needing to understand how they access those resources. But this super-cool tech isn't without some not-so-cool hurdles. Implementing it correctly involves new protocols, new gateways, new security, and a new approach. Learn exactly what to do with Eric Beehler, master of the always-on. You'll learn what you need to get started implementing a DirectAccess remote connectivity solution. You'll end up with no-hassle access for any users to any network resource, inside and out.

WE6 • Speed Up Branch Office Access with BranchCache

Greg Shields

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

If you have branch offices, or really any offices that are connected by slow network lines, then you probably have network problems. Or, at least network slowness from time to time. One day, the network's working fine, and then Stan from Accounting downloads his 300 MB spreadsheet, and the whole connection dies for 45 minutes. Solve all these problems with one fell swoop using Microsoft's new BranchCache technology in Windows 7. Using this technology you can cache documents right at your remote offices, eliminating the download time, improving your user efficiency, and keeping people happy. It's not hard, and doesn't even require a server. Learn to use it in 75 minutes or less.

WE12 • Mastering RDS / Terminal Services Applications and Profiles

Bruce Rougeau

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Terminal Services and Remote Desktop Services make easy work of distributing applications to users over the network; but only when the application is TS- or RDS-friendly. Easily the hardest part of running a TS/RDS infrastructure is dealing with those apps and the profiles of your users. Until now. Bruce Rougeau has been working with TS/RDS since its very first days, and brings a lifetime of experience to solving common application and profile problems. Learn about how to "unstuck" bad applications, protect against profile bloat, and choose the right app combination for complete success.

TH16 • Solving the Branch Office Nightmare with RODCs

Bruce Rougeau

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Do you have branch offices? Do you hate having DCs in those branch offices? If you do, you do, but not with RODCs. These special-purpose servers eliminate the risk of replicating your entire Active Directory to parts unknown, while enabling local semi-trusted people to handle their daily maintenance. Come learn about RODCs, their impact on WAN replication, their substantially stronger security, and how they'll lessen the miles on your car with RODC guru Bruce Rougeau.

Security

TU6 • Eliminating Malware, Inappropriate Software, and Most IT Problems with AppLocker

Greg Shields

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

You know the old saying, "In IT there is no panacea." But it is entirely possible that AppLocker may be IT's first in terms of security. A free feature that may be Windows 7's greatest reason to upgrade, AppLocker enables you to create lists of applications which you have specifically allowed to run. Those not on your list—bad apps, inappropriate apps, even many forms of malware—simply aren't allowed to run by the OS itself. Come to this session, implement AppLocker, and watch the threat of all forms of bad software go completely away.

TU14 • DNSSEC and Windows: What it is, Why You Care, and How To Do It

Mark Minasi

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Once considered to be the safe, secure bedrock of the Internet, DNS has come under attack in recent years, and that's highlighted the perceived need for establishing that the DNS data you're getting is indeed what you want. That way appears to be DNSSEC, a set of technologies first outlined in 2000, but that many folks still aren't using. That may change, however, as the US government, the .org, and other big top-level domains have already secured their root domains. Private roots like .com and .net will soon follow. In order to play in this secure new world, Microsoft's DNS needs to support DNSSEC, and 2008 R2's DNS server finally does. Join uber-DNS-geek Mark Minasi in a look at the exact problem DNSSEC tries to solve, how it does it, and how Windows Server 2008 R2 succeeds (and sometimes fails) to implement that solution. DNSSEC is one of those "gotta learn it" technologies of the next couple of years, so don't miss this talk from the only guy who can explain DNS things and still keep you awake!

The volume of knowledge available from the caliber of presenters was incredible.

—Maury Hoskins, Flight Safety International
[TechMentor, Orlando]

WE3 • DEEP DIVE: Network Monitor: What's On Your Wire?*

Rhonda Layfield

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 8:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Know what's on your wire—and it's easier than ever with the newest version of Network Monitor 3.3. If you've ever wanted to troubleshoot at the packet level but thought "it's too hard" or "I don't know where to begin" this session is for you. BUT WAIT—network sniffing experts there is something here for you too. From novice to pro Rhonda's tips and tricks will help you get results quickly and easily. Networks can get really busy fast so finding the packet/packets you're looking for can be a little like finding a needle in a haystack. Rhonda will show you how to find the packets you're looking for in a snap. Sit this session and you'll be ready to use Netmon 3.3 the day you get back to work!

WE9 • Cracking Open Kerberos: Understanding How AD Knows Who You Are

Mark Minasi

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

When used for simple authentication, then Active Directory's authenticator-of-choice Kerberos is trouble-free: Set up an AD, Kerberos just works, and that's it. But start to add AD-aware servers and services, or try to understand how a read-only domain controller differs from a full DC, and all of sudden there's a lot to know. Ticket granting tickets, pre-authenticators, and session keys are just the start. What's this about "delegation", or Server 2008's "CONSTRAINED delegation"? And what's an "SPN", the thing that the invaluable "setspn" utility assists with? You may also find that some of your users seem to be logged onto AD but aren't really, due to the frightening-sounding "token bloat." Find out the answers when Mark resumes the mantle of Revealer of Windows Logons, explaining all this—and more—while keeping that trademark Minasi energy and humor.

WE13 • Understanding User Account Control

Mark Minasi

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Vista, Windows 7, and Server 2008 (with or without the R2) are more than just new pretty faces. Their security innards have been ripped out and replaced with a new and almost completely different security engine. But it's not just security geek internals, its whole new paradigms. For example, what's going on with those User Access Control dialog boxes behind the scenes? Think you know what's in a token? Not any more... and do you know that the last few Windows have a whole new layer of security, the Windows Integrity Level (WIL). WIL is the thing that could make it nearly impossible for you to delete any file in System32, even if you're an administrator, and might one

day enable a bad guy to install a rootkit that you can't delete... unless you know how the tricks. Have we got your attention now? Then don't miss this session presented by Mark Minasi, author of "Administering Windows Vista Security: The Big Surprises!"

TH15 • Free Security! Implementing a Certificate Authority

James Conrad

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Wanna' go on a blind date? You might already have if you don't have a certificate authority. Without a proper certificate authority your users must place "blind date" trust in you, because there's no way to verify who you are and if you are trustworthy. Implementing a certificate authority is great way to ensure identity as well as provide encryption of network traffic, data files, email, financial transactions, and more. In this session, you will learn critical why you need a certificate authority and how to install one. You'll discover how to quickly and easily deploy certificates to users and computers, as well as what to do if a critical CA fails or becomes compromised.

TH19 • Super-Easy Full-Drive Encryption with Windows BitLocker

James Conrad

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

You just made it through airport security. But wait, where's your laptop? It's been stolen! Now what? If the thief has the least bit of technical knowledge, it's a trivial matter to lift your sensitive data off its hard drive. That could result in personal and/or professional security compromise and embarrassment. Not so with Windows BitLocker. In this session, learn how to fully encrypt not only a few files, but your entire hard drive! Discover how this applies to not only laptops, but also critical servers, particularly in areas where it is not possible to maximize physical security.

TH20 • Protecting your Wireless Networks with NAP

Bruce Rougeau

Thursday, March 11, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

The world's most powerful firewall can't protect you against the laptop that walks in your front door. If you've got wireless, then you're broadcasting out that connection to anyone nearby. To protect your now-open network, you need powerful enforcement of your network policies. Using 802.1x wireless, Bruce Rougeau will show you how to isolate laptops who haven't been patched or have the wrong configurations, automatically fix them, and protect your network against all manner of threats with Microsoft's no-cost Network Access Protocol. If you have wireless, then you mustn't miss this session.

Virtualization

TU1 • Designing Your Virtual Infrastructure + Hypervisor Deep Dive

Don Jones

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Almost half of all virtualization deployments fail—is yours next? Learn what it takes to plan a successful virtual infrastructure, including which workloads are suitable for virtualization and which ones aren't (including performance assessment tips), how to select a virtualization technology, and how to execute P2V migrations. We'll discard marketing dogma and analyze the actual technical differences between leading hypervisors to see which—if any—can be called the "best," and examine exactly which types of workloads each hypervisor excels at. You'll also learn how supporting technologies—like backup and restore—need to adapt to support your new v-infrastructure.

TU2 • How to Configure Your ESX Hosts to Successfully Pass an Audit...Guaranteed!

Greg Shields

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Do you hate audits? Greg does. That's why he cheats when it comes to prepping for them. Greg's got the goods that'll guarantee you pass your next ESX audit, because those goods come from the auditors themselves. Come learn the exact steps you can implement now that'll ensure a pass, because they come right off the auditor's checklist. You'll leave with the info to be successful, as well as your own copy of Greg's study guide to make it happen.

TU15 • Realizing the Risks of Bad Network Design on Virtual Machines

Eric Beehler

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

How much thought have you given to the virtual network devices inside your virtual servers? Not much? Not at all? As a completely new frontier of security, availability, and management, these virtual devices can bite you if you're not careful. The vSwitch is not just an extension of your network interfaces, it's a completely new device that must be managed and configured differently than you'd think. Without a clear understanding and a plan to address them, you'll be left with increased downtime, confusion during troubleshooting, and unsecure configurations, not to mention a turf battle with the network admins. Join virtual network guru Eric Beehler to learn what settings matter, how to extend the network policies your network administrators need, and be more secure, reliable, and functional in your virtual environment.

“The quality of the presentations was very high. Speakers really seemed to know the products and had valuable implementation insights.”

—Matt Fulghum, University of Alabama
[TechMentor, Orlando]

WE2 • DEEP DIVE: Mastering High Availability with Microsoft Hyper-V R2*

Greg Shields

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 8:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Hyper-V is ridiculously easy to install and use. Just add its role to your R2 server and you're off to the races. But turning that single Hyper-V server into a highly-available cluster is another thing entirely. Did you know about the memory limitations of Hyper-V clusters? Were you aware about the problems with failback mode? Have you heard of the gotcha's with Cluster Shared Volumes? Renowned expert in Hyper-V and clustering Greg Shields goes deep with you on Microsoft's no-added-cost virtualization solution. You'll learn the exact steps you must follow to correctly create a cluster. You'll learn how to take that cluster's high-availability and make it even more highly-available. And you'll avoid the pitfalls that most admins make in first implementing it. Stick around for a full three hours with Greg and leave with the knowledge you need to be successful with Hyper-V and Windows Failover Clustering.

WE10 • When and Where to Use Virtualization: DISCUSSION

Greg Shields

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

TechMentor is all about learning, but sometimes there just isn't the time to really get your questions answered. This session is a unique opportunity to sit down with virtualization guru Greg Shields and hear about other people's virtualization problems while getting your own questions answered. With a slightly-structured format that ensures no one person takes up all the time, Greg will answer your questions, help you with your architectures, and generally give out free consulting advice that others pay big bucks for. Don't miss this opportunity, because... well...it only happens at TechMentor!

WE11 • What the Cloud Means for the System Administrator: DISCUSSION

Eric Beehler
Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Clouds: Cumulus, Nimbus, Google, Amazon... and now Microsoft, which makes “the cloud” officially mainstream, and officially something you need to worry about. “The Cloud” isn’t just an interesting marketing term—they’re a disruptor for any system administrator. Just because the server lives in the cloud doesn’t make it any less your problem when it comes to management—and management can actually become more complex. You’re dealing with less-secure default server images, unknown utilization patterns, and now extensions of your private network into the cloud—and the old ways of managing and monitoring just won’t work. In this session, we’ll outline the problems, and then discuss what makes up the brave new world of gaining visibility and control over the cloud.

WE14 • Virtualization Saves Money on Datacenter Facilities, Right?

Rick Vanover
Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Facilities costs are high, virtualization saves money—right? This session provides strategies and information related to the facilities side of virtualization. Topics such as power, racks, cabling and HVAC system management can all be fundamentally changed in a virtualized datacenter. Will your organization save money? That depends—you’ll need to do some detailed analysis, and this session will prepare you to do so.

TH2 • P2V - The Tips, Tricks, & Gotchas You’d Better Know

Rick Vanover
Thursday, March 11, 2010: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.

So most of your servers have been gone through a successful P2V, what about the difficult ones? The most difficult servers may still be P2V candidates with the right insight. You need to know the tricks that can minimize downtime during the conversion, accommodate easy transitions and avoid surprises during your opportunity to deliver. In this sharp-shooting session on virtualization conversion technologies, you will be equipped to tackle additional systems that you may not have thought possible to migrate to your virtual environment. You will have tricks on synchronization, service management, installation and guest operating system preparation that go beyond the conversion tool.

TH14 • Top Tips and Tricks for Guaranteed-Successful Virtual Backup & Restore

Rick Vanover
Thursday, March 11, 2010: 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

For virtualized environments, there are important differences in backup and recovery than a strictly physical world. This session will outline various virtualization-specific backup solutions and how they work compared to traditional agent backups. You need to know what architecture you need for virtualized backup technologies as well as what to expect in terms of recovery time and what functionality is available. Further, databases and other transactional systems introduce additional considerations that you need to know about before architecting a solution that meets all requirements.

TH17 • Using Windows 7/R2’s Virtual Storage Technologies

Mark Minasi
Thursday, March 11, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Load Windows 7 or Server 2008 R2 on a system, and you’ll notice something strange: There’s no boot record or BCD folder. Look at other Win7/R2 systems, and you may notice something even stranger: There’s only one file on the hard disk. What’s going on here? Windows 7 now includes the native support for booting from VHD files (that’s how a one-file system boots) as well as a new default disk structure, direct-to-disk ISO burning, and more. Whether you’re going to Windows 7 sometime soon or five years from now, you’ll want to be prepared for what Win 7 brings to storage—and who better to prepare you than veteran Windows explainer Mark Minasi? Join Mark for this quick look at Win 7/R2 storage and save yourself having to read a small mountain of white papers!

TH18 • Disaster Recovery in a Virtualized World—It’s More Than Just Backups!

Rick Vanover
Thursday, March 11, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

One of the strongest selling points of virtualization is that disaster recovery comes easier in a virtualized world. There are still issues and obstacles to get there, and your mileage will vary. This session will determine what disaster recovery is for a virtualized environment and how that can be applied for specific situations. Attendees will be presented with a number of strategies to protect virtualized workloads along with the pros and cons associated with each disaster recovery management solution or storage replication solution available in the space. The nuances of disaster recovery will also be presented, such as “How do I recover from a disaster?” for the current offerings.

Windows PowerShell

PS1 • PREP SCHOOL: The Windows PowerShell v2 No-Scripting Crash Course

Don Jones
Monday, March 8, 2010: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

You want to learn to automate administrative tasks... but you’re not interested in becoming a programmer? No problem: Windows PowerShell isn’t a “VBScript replacement,” it’s a powerful interactive shell that delivers immediate results using a set of powerful command-line utilities. Join Windows PowerShell author, columnist, and MVP Don Jones—one of the world’s most sought-after and experienced Windows PowerShell instructors—and start putting PowerShell to practical use right away. You’ll learn how to inventory remote computer management information, manage Active Directory users and groups, perform what used to be tough admin tasks (like resetting service accounts’ login passwords), and more—all without writing a single line of “code.” This is not a hands-on workshop, but Don does make all sample scripts and a complete demo transcript available via e-mail after the conference. If you’ve never used PowerShell before, this is the perfect place to start—this session will prepare you to take maximum advantage of the other PowerShell-related sessions offered at TechMentor! If you’re already familiar with Windows PowerShell v1, this is still a great session—you’ll learn new, easier techniques offered in v2 along with brand-new capabilities!

TU5 • Finally! Full-On Remote Computer Management (with PowerShell v2)

Don Jones
Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

It’s THE reason to move to PowerShell v2 (available all the way back to WinXP)—single-seat, multi-computer remote administration! Windows PowerShell expert Don Jones explains the underlying WinRM and WS-MAN technologies, shows you how to configure them, and offers advice and best practices for using them properly and securely in your environment. Then, you’ll put them to work with 1-to-1 and 1-to-many management of remote computers using Windows PowerShell. No previous PowerShell experience is needed (although it doesn’t hurt), and everything you learn will apply to WinXP, Win2003, Vista, Win2008, Win7, and Win2008R2.

TU16 • Top Ten Non-PowerShell Command-Line Tools You MUST Know

Jeff Hicks
Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Even though Windows PowerShell is getting all the publicity, there is still plenty of life left in the old C: prompt. Mr. Roboto, Jeffery Hicks will guide you through the top 10 command line tools every Windows administrator should know how to use. These are tools that ship with Windows or are freely downloadable from Microsoft. The emphasis is on tool mastery not scripting so that you can go back to the office and begin using them immediately.

WE1 • DEEP DIVE: Automating Active Directory Management in Windows PowerShell*

Don Jones
Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 8:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Ready to start making Active Directory administration less tedious, and more automated? With Windows PowerShell v2, you can! This Deep Dive applies to Win2003 and Win2008 domains, and assumes you have at least one Win7 workstation in your environment. Windows PowerShell expert and MVP Don Jones will show you how to operate the Microsoft Active Directory cmdlets: You’ll learn to create new users, update group memberships, manage computer accounts, work with organizational units, and much, much more. You’ll learn how to do all of this in a multi-domain environment, how to persist alternate credentials within a session, and other tricks and tips. Did you know that you can use a simple CSV file and two commands to import hundreds of users into your directory, or to update thousands? You can—and this is where you’ll learn how.

WE5 • Scripting, Error Handling, and Debugging in Windows PowerShell v1/v2

Jeff Hicks
Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Start automating complex, multi-step administrative processes by building full-fledged Windows PowerShell scripts. In addition to teaching you PowerShell’s simple scripting languages (fewer than 25 keywords!), you’ll learn to make scripts that are more robust and less frustrating. Windows PowerShell guru Don Jones demonstrates how to build scripts that efficiently deal with errors like timeouts, insufficient permissions, and so on, and provides you with simple directions for quickly debugging a PowerShell script. This powerful session takes you from being a command-line jockey into the rarified company of expert scripters, and Don makes all of his sample code available via e-mail after the conference.

KEYNOTE & GENERAL SESSION LUNCH

KEYNOTE • Windows 7 – Life Without Walls

Stephen L. Rose

Tuesday, March 9, 2010: 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Users want the same experience and access from their homes and coffee shops that they get in the office. IT pros want to be able to manage and support remote users the same way they support their local users. This discussion keynote will look at the key features that allow end users to work from anywhere, seamlessly while allowing IT managers to better support these remote users. We will deep dive into the new, scriptable Windows troubleshooting platform, the enhanced Windows security platform, DirectAccess, BranchCache and the many desktop virtualization paths available to help standardize your infrastructure, support legacy applications all while reducing IT cost.

GENERAL SESSION LUNCH • The Windows 7/R2 Report Card: What They Got Right, What Got Left Out

Mark Minasi

Wednesday, March 10, 2010: 12:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Well, Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2 are finally here, so it's time again to ask: is it time to upgrade? Vista didn't entice many to leave XP behind, and Server 2008 can't be found in most IT shops, so are Win 7 and R2 good enough to make you leave behind XP and Server 2003 or, for some Vista and Server 2008? Join veteran Windows watcher Mark Minasi in a fun, insightful look at what's good, what's bad, what's missing and what's just plain incomprehensible about Microsoft's latest OS offerings.

“The quality was excellent. Practical solutions AND low cost solutions provided and demonstrated. Didn't push a particular commercial product.”

—Dan Turner, Park Hill School District
[TechMentor, Orlando]

CONFERENCE CHAIRS



Don Jones, MVP

TechMentor Conference Chair

Don Jones has more than a decade of professional experience in the IT industry. He's the author of more than 30 IT books, including Windows PowerShell: TFM; VBScript, WMI, and ADSI Unleashed; Managing Windows with VBScript and WMI; and many more. He's a top-rated and in-demand speaker at conferences such as Microsoft TechEd and TechMentor, and writes the monthly Windows PowerShell column for Microsoft TechNet Magazine. Don is a multiple-year recipient of Microsoft's "Most Valuable Professional" (MVP) Award with a specialization in Windows PowerShell. Don's broad IT experience includes work in the financial, telecommunications, software, manufacturing, consulting, training, and retail industries and he's one of the rare IT professionals who can not only "cross the line" between administration and software development, but also between IT workers and IT management.



Greg Shields, MVP, vExpert

TechMentor Conference Chair

Greg is an independent author, speaker, and IT consultant, as well as a Founding Partner with Concentrated Technology (www.concentratedtech.com). With nearly 15 years in information technology, Greg has developed extensive experience in systems administration, engineering, and architecture specializing in Microsoft OS, remote application, and virtualization technologies. Greg is a Contributing Editor and columnist for TechNet Magazine, a former columnist for Redmond Magazine and Virtualization Review Magazine, and has authored or contributed to ten books and countless white papers and webcasts. His writing is regularly seen in publications like TechTarget online, e-books from Realtime Publishers, and the UK-based IT EXPERT Magazine. He has also produced numerous video training series for CBT Nuggets.

SPEAKERS



Eric Beehler

Eric Beehler has been working in the IT industry since the mid-90's, and has been playing with computer technology well before that. From help desk technician to solutions provider; he has been involved at many layers of enterprise solutions from the desktop to the network to the server and the SAN. He currently has certifications from CompTIA (A+, N+, Server+), and Microsoft (MCITP: Enterprise Support Technician and Consumer Support Technician, MCTS: Windows Vista Configuration, MCDBA SQL Server 2000, MCSE+I Windows NT 4.0, MCSE Windows 2000, and MCSE Windows 2003). He also holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. His experience includes over nine years with Hewlett-Packard's Managed Services division, working with Fortune 500 companies to deliver network and server solutions and, most recently, I.T. experience in the insurance industry working on highly-available solutions and disaster recovery. He has authored books, including MCITP: Microsoft Windows Vista Desktop Support Enterprise Study Guide from Sybex/Wiley Publishing, authored several white papers, and co-hosts CS Techcast, a podcast aimed at IT professionals. He provides consulting, managed services, and training through his co-ownership in Consortio Services, LLC.



J. Peter Bruzzese

J. Peter Bruzzese (Triple-MCSE/MCT/MCITP:Messaging) is Co-Founder of ClipTraining, provider of screencast video Learning Management Systems. In addition, Peter works for InfoWorld as their Enterprise Windows column blogger, has a monthly column with Realtime Publishers called 'Exclusively Exchange' (with a corresponding site www.exclusivelyexchange.com), and contributes regularly to Redmond Magazine and WindowsITPro. His latest book is 'Exchange 2007 How-To' (Sams, January 2009) with other titles to his credit over the past 10 years that continue to sell worldwide. He welcomes email at jpb@cliptraining.com or visit his website for both free and subscription based training videos at www.cliptraining.com



James Conrad

MCSE, Server+, A+, Certified Ethical Hacker is a sought-after consultant and trainer including those within the Fortune 500. James has been an official contributor to the MCP program and was a key contributor in determining MCSE exam objectives in the Microsoft Certification and Skills Assessment division. James has trained and consulted for Intel, UCLA, Raytheon, Compaq, Hewlett-Packard, MCI Worldcom, Sprint, Exxon-Mobil, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, State Farm, US Department of Justice, Bureau of Land Management, many others. James also wrote the CompTIA Server+ college curriculum for Thomson Learning. James also served as the technical editor for Thomson Learning's Network+ college curriculum. James is currently the lead recruiter and instructor for CBT Nuggets, a leading Microsoft, Cisco, and Linux video training source.



Jeff Hicks

Jeffery Hicks, MCSE, MCSA, MCT, is a Scripting Guru for SAPIEN Technologies. He is the co-author of Advanced VBScript for Microsoft Windows Administrators (Microsoft Press 2006), Windows PowerShell:TFM (SAPIEN Press 2006) as well as several training videos on administrative scripting. He is currently a columnist for Redmond magazine and MCPMag.com. Jeff is a frequent contributor to several online IT community web sites as well as an invited speaker at computer conferences and seminars. He is currently a Contributing Editor for ScriptingAnswers.com. He welcomes email at jhicks@SAPIEN.com or visit his blog at <http://jdhitsolutions.blogspot.com>.

SPEAKERS



Todd Klindt

Todd has been a professional computer nerd for 15 years, specializing in SharePoint for the last five years. His love affair with SharePoint began one slow day at the office when he discovered SharePoint Team Services 1.0 on the Office XP CD and decided to install it. The rest is history. In 2006 he was honored to be awarded the MVP award from Microsoft for Windows SharePoint Services. He has had the pleasure of working with SharePoint farms both large and small. He has written several books and magazine articles on SharePoint. Todd has presented sessions on SharePoint at many major conferences both in the United States as well as Europe and Asia and does the user group circuit as well. He chronicles his SharePoint adventures on his blog at <http://www.toddklindt.com/blog/default.aspx>.



Rhonda Layfield

Rhonda Layfield has been helping people securely deploy, protect, and streamline their IT resources for over 25 years. She began her career in the US Navy as communications specialist with a top secret clearance. Later as Sr. Security Analyst for an electrical utility company operating nuclear power plants she discovered serious security flaws in software about to be acquired. She also consults for large and small customers.

Rhonda is currently an NT/2000/2003 MCSE, Setup and Deployment MVP and Desktop Deployment Product Specialist (DDPS). Along with teaching, she enjoys presenting at International conferences, contributing articles to magazines, and has co-authored two books, one on Windows Server 2003 and another on Windows Server 2008.



Mark Minasi

Mark Minasi is a best-selling author, popular technology columnist, commentator, keynote speaker, and IT consultant. Mark's written over a thousand computer columns and several dozen best-selling technical books, explaining operating system and networking planning, installation, maintenance and repair to crowds from two to two thousand. An independent voice hailed as "Favorite Technical Author" by CertCities four times out of four, Mark takes even the most technical topics, filters out the hype and explains them in plain English.

Mark is probably best known for his Mastering Windows Server and Complete PC Upgrade and Maintenance Guide books, both of which have seen more than 12 editions and sold over a million copies.

His humorous, provocative and yet informative style makes him a favorite of audiences around the world. Mark's firm, MR&D, is based in Virginia's Tidewater area.



Jeremy Moskowitz

Jeremy Moskowitz a Group Policy MVP and is the Chief Propeller-Head for Moskowitz, inc. and GPanswers.com. He is one of less than a dozen Microsoft MVPs in Group Policy. Since becoming one of the world's first MCSEs, he has performed Active Directory, and Group Policy planning and implementations for some of the nation's largest organizations. His latest books are Group Policy Fundamentals, Security, and Troubleshooting and Creating the Secure Managed Desktop: Group Policy, SoftGrid, and Microsoft Deployment and Management Tools.

Learn more about the books and Jeremy's Group Policy Master Class training www.GPanswers.com (ranked as one of "The 20 most useful Microsoft sites for IT professionals" by Computer-World magazine).



Stephen L. Rose

Stephen Rose is the Worldwide Community Manager for the Commercial Windows OS group at the Microsoft Headquarters in Redmond, Washington. In his current role, Stephen manages the IT Professional community for the Windows Client OS, oversees technical content for the Springboard Series on TechNet, the Springboard Insider Newsletter read by over 1 million IT pros each month, writes the IT pro news for the Windows Team Blog and leads the worldwide Springboard Technical Experts Panel (STEP). Before joining Microsoft, Stephen spent 15 years working as a network infrastructure design and virtualization consultant for many global Fortune 500 companies, earning certifications as both a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and Microsoft Certified Trainer. Stephen is a two time Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP) and was the Senior Tech Correspondent for Fast Company magazine. For more on Stephen visit his personal blog at <http://blogs.technet.com/stephenrose> or follow his Twitter feed at @stephenrose



Bruce Rougeau

Bruce Rougeau, MCSE, MCP+I, MCT, Citrix Certified MetaFrame Administrator, has been working in data processing for over 25 years. Bruce began his career as a developer and has focused his past 13 years in computing infrastructure ranging from mainframes to terminal servers. Currently Bruce leads a team of engineers that support a manufacturing facility. Bruce has spoken at TechMentor since 2000 focusing on Terminal Services and the administration skills. Teaching is the best job Bruce has ever had and he brings a lot of knowledge, experience, and excitement to each session.



Rick Vanover

Rick Vanover, MCTS, MCSA, MCT, is an IT Infrastructure Manager for Alliance Data in Columbus, Ohio. With years of IT experience in system administration, technology management and software engineering roles, Rick has a solid foundation of infrastructure in a virtual world. Rick is a columnist for Virtualization Review Magazine in the Everyday Virtualization blog as well as other online technology publications. Rick can be reached at: vanover-rick@usa.net.



Don Jones



Rhonda Layfield



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