

Self-service portal and the comprehensive management of Active Directory in the City of Warsaw

ADManager Plus is easy-to-use, fully accessible from your browser and a cost-effective tool for managing AD. The application allowed us to effectively and quickly maintain the integrity of the AD. The reporting module provides us with valuable information concerning you in our organization.

- Michael Kaźmierczyk, Senior Specialist, Ministry of Environment

Introduction:

Warsaw City Hall encompasses 18 districts that are located in the area of 517 km, which supports 1.8 million residents. The office employs close to 7500 employees.

- The office has its own infrastructure, which consists of 270 servers including 20 domain controllers.
- It consists of 18 organizational units (districts).
- The infrastructure is managed by 5 server administrators, 4 network administrators, and 40 AD employee resource managers.
- The domain has over 4,500 active user accounts.

Resource working on Active Directory accounts optimally utilised:

Environmental management of AD's complex structure posed a huge challenge to the IT team. Tasks such as unlocking accounts, reset passwords of AD user accounts, took up a considerable part of their time. This situation prevented implementation of advanced administrative tasks and limited the growth of the organization.

To solve this problem, organizational changes were implemented, combined with implementation of tools supporting new division of tasks.

The new division of tasks included:

- transfer of minor administrative tasks in AD to administrators of individual business areas of the city
- transfer management of passwords and data in AD to helpdesk technicians or users themselves

COMPANY : Warsaw City Hall

INDUSTRY : Government

LOCATION : Warsaw, Poland

ABOUT THE COMPANY :

Warsaw is the capital and largest city of Poland. Warsaw is an Alpha— global city, a major international tourist destination and an important economic hub in Central Europe. It is also known as the "phoenix city" because it has survived so many wars throughout its history. As of 2012, Warsaw was ranked the 6th largest city of the European Union, and belonged to a list of top 100 cities termed "best in terms of quality of living"

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The new division of tasks included:

- notifying users about the impending expiry of the password in AD
- the possibility of self-change passwords and unlock user accounts
- the possibility of self-editing of user data in AD
- the possibility of auditing changes in AD, including in groups and administrative units
- the ability to quickly identify the source of attack if break in to the domain is detected
- Polish user interface

Solution:

To achieve the defined tasks, following solutions from ManageEngine were used:

ManageEngine
ADManager Plus

ManageEngine
ADAudit Plus

ManageEngine
ADSelfService Plus

The decision was arrived at based on the fact that

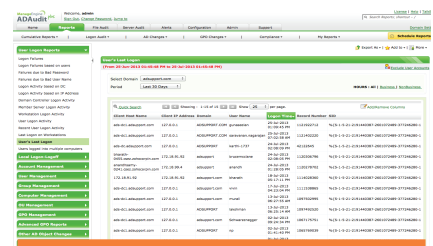
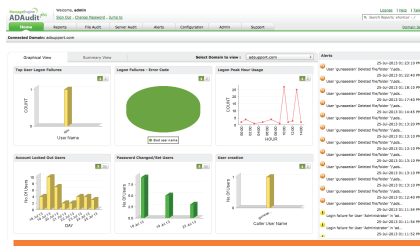
- they comply with all requirements
- uses simple and clear user interface
- has low implementation and maintenance cost

Full implementation of the solution took around two months, most of the time in AD selfservicePlus and that's mainly because, it had not been Polonized at the time of implementation. But we approached it as an advantage - we did the translation on our own and customized it exactly to suit our office terminology. Translation and adaptation of applications took the administrators couple of days, allowing the solution to match user expectations.

We used the ADManager Plus tool to manage Active Directory domains. In a simple and convenient way we created five roles for delegating powers to 49 professionals overseeing 18 units, to make it easier and faster.

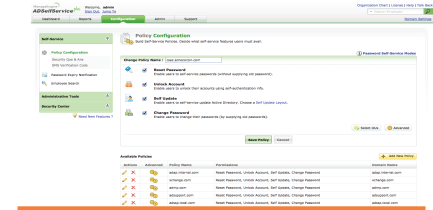
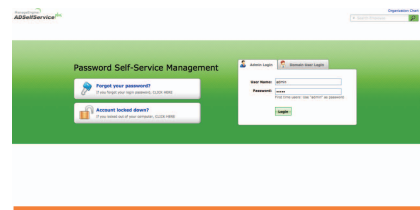
Achieved complete control over the powers and delegation of tasks at the employees bureau of information. Administrators can delegate the power to create accounts for people outside the IT Department, including staff, and provide a single standard for all accounts created on the domain and to avoid confusion using defined templates. As a result of the new distribution of roles helpdesk specialists have obtained permission to change passwords and unlock user accounts.

These changes, designed for advanced administrative projects have allowed the organization to save 20% of the time.



We used ADAudit Plus to monitor changes in a domain environment. It helped set up notifications about changes in key safety groups and make control changes in administrative units.

"Now, as soon as you change the group the Domain Admins are notified. The tool also helped detect login attempts in the system. Very quickly, administrators noticed on the main view hundreds of attempts to login to the domain. After having verified the logs it turns out that at the office in one of the districts was trying to log on hundreds of times to one of the domain controllers. This made it possible to detect the virus logging into the account in the domain and isolate specific computers to remove the virus. "



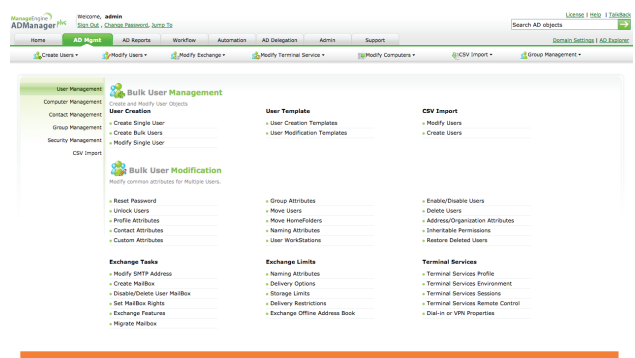
Allowing users to independently change their information in AD, resulted in an increase in timeliness by 30% annually.

For password management we used ADSelfService Plus, thanks to the Polanized version, which is configured according to the requirements of the Authority, a self-service portal is now available to all domain users.

With automatic alert to users about password expiration date and the possibility of self-unlocking the accounts without contacting the specialists, involvement of employees in the IT support for password incidents could be reduced by 40%.

Managerial Benefits:

- Cross-sectional reports
- Tracking trends
- Monitoring and planning change management
- Automation of routine activities for AD Administrators
- Optimization of working time of the administrators





ADAudit Plus helped achieve the following results:

- Aggregation of all significant security events of all 20 domain controllers
- Fast and accurate determination of cause and source locking the user account. The application lets you quickly detect virus attacks by blocking the source and scope of the attack of user accounts
- Current auditing of user accounts: login errors, login time, the name and controller of the station where the login takes place, log in to multiple stations simultaneously
- Current auditing process of managing user and computer account in AD
- The current audit management process of groups in AD: who, what and when to change
- The current audit process of Group Policy management: create, delete, change links
- Current auditing process of managing organizational units in the AD
- A full analysis of the error log
- In the event of certain events the system can send a message to the administrator (for example, a change in the member of a Domain Admins group)
- To send periodic reports of assumed accounts, incorrect logins, etc.
- Improving the quality of service for event requests on the city's AD objects - 99% of changes to different types of objects like users, groups, containers and GPOs are audited

Summary:

Implementation of this solution combined with organizational change definitely improved the quality and efficiency of the work of the Office of Information. The results achieved a level for 20 to 40 percent improvement gave grounds for further development of functional and quantification of the system.

Implementation of this solution, combined with an organization level change, definitely improved the quality and efficiency of work. The results achieved a level for 20 to 40 percent improvement, that gave grounds for further functional development of the system. Currently the installation of AD tools, is one of the largest in Europe.

About ManageEngine:

ManageEngine offers simple, easy-to-use IT management systems at prices tailored to any size business. More than 50 000 enterprises worldwide use ManageEngine solutions for managing IT infrastructure, including more than 400 in Poland.

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