

Server

Windows Server 2008/2012-Domain Controller startet nicht mehr (englisch)

I was encountering an error on my virtual Domain Controller some days ago, resulting in an ugly blue screen:

“STOP: c00002e2 Directory Services could not start because of the following error: A device attached to the system is not functioning.

Error Status: 0xc0000001. Please shutdown this system and reboot into Directory Services Restore Mode, check the event log for more detailed information.”

Since this is my only DC in the VM environment I am using for tests and

development, and I didn't had a backup or snapshot I needed it back really badly!

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I found some entries in a forum that discussed mixed up drive letters, so first attempt was to check this. Indeed, my system partition lost the letter C:\ for some reason, so I switched that back.

It didn't really help. Some other posts described methods to switch back to a further date via the BIOS, but I was not able to do so, and the posts mostly discussed the issue after restoring an old backup file.

So I searched further, and came across a [nice post](#), mentioning the following steps executed in the Directory Services restore mode. It basically makes use of the Active Directory Domain Services management command line tool [NTDSUTIL](#) and checks for corruptions of the service. It furthermore uses the ESENTUTL tool to check for the integrity of the JET database.

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1. Restart the server and press F8 key, select Directory Services restore mode.
2. Log in with the local administrator username and password
3. Type: cd \windows\system32
4. Type: NTDSUTIL
5. Type: activate instance NTDS
6. Type: files
7. If you encounter an error stating that the Jet engine could not be initialized exit out of ntdsutil.
8. Type: cd\
9. Type: md backupad
10. Type: cd \windows\ntds
11. Type: copy ntds.dit c:\backupad

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12. Type: cd \windows\system32
13. Type: esentutl /g c:\windows\ntds\ntds.dit
14. This will perform an integrity check, (the results indicate that the jet database is corrupt)
15. Type: esentutl /p c:\windows\ntds\ntds.dit
16. Agree with the prompt
17. Type: cd \windows\ntds
18. Type: move *.log c:\backupad (or just delete the log files)

This should complete the repair. To verify that the repair has worked successfully:

1. Type: cd \windows\system32
2. Type: ntdsutil
3. Type: activate instance ntds
4. Type: files (you should no longer get an error when you do this)
5. Type: info (file info should now appear correctly)

One final step, now sure if it's required:

From the NTDSUTIL command prompt:

1. Type: Semantic Database Analysis
2. Type: Go

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This worked for me like a charm...

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