

## The Next 50 Hours

The AD internship has been an experience, for me allowing me to deeply explore the complexities of managing and configuring Active Directory in real world scenarios. Throughout this phase of the internship, which focused on the 50 hours, I had the chance to enhance my skills, tackle situations and contribute to important AD implementations. This journey has allowed me to gain expertise and solidify my passion for Active Directory administration. In the week I had the opportunity to delve into Group Policy Management aiming to expand my knowledge and proficiency in handling complex AD environments. With guidance from mentors, I explored how Group Policy preferences can be implemented as a tool for customizing settings for users and computers. I realized just how essential these preferences are in tailoring policies to meet needs enhancing the overall user experience. Additionally, I honed my skills in troubleshooting Group Policies by resolving conflicts and ensuring policy application. During the week an exciting chance arose where I could actively participate in an AD migration project for a client. Working collaboratively with the project team I played a role in planning. Executing the migration of an existing AD domain to an environment. In the migration process we underwent a restructuring of the AD domain. This involved tasks such as renaming the domain and carefully transferring user accounts, groups, and resources to the domain. Through this firsthand experience, I gained insights into the complexities and challenges of AD migrations, which significantly enhanced my skills as an AD administrator.

During week thirteen I delved into the realm of Active Directory Certificate Services (AD CS). Recognizing the importance of communications, I learned how to deploy and manage Certificate Authorities (CAs) within AD to issue and maintain certificates. This newfound knowledge allowed me to bolster network security by ensuring authentication for services. The

impact that AD CS had on strengthening our organization's security posture was hugely impressive. In week fourteen my focus shifted towards optimizing Group Policy performance and management. With an eye I reviewed our existing Group Policy Objects (GPOs) to identify areas where improvements could be made. By reducing logon times and streamlining policy application I optimized our policies to better align with requirements. This endeavor taught me the significance of reviewing and consolidating policies to maintain an AD infrastructure.

The final week of this phase introduced me to aspects related to disaster recovery and high availability strategies, for AD environments. Recognizing the significance of maintaining business operations, I dedicated my efforts to implementing backup and recovery solutions, for Active Directory (AD). Through my exploration of AD replication and technologies like AD Lightweight Directory Services (AD LDS) I deepened my understanding of AD resilience ensuring that our organization is prepared to manage failures. The third phase of my Active Directory internship has been a journey filled with valuable learning experiences and real-world applications. As I delved into AD tasks participated in migration projects. Implemented security measures my expertise in Active Directory administration grew, fueling my passion for this field. This phase has played a role in advancing my skills and boosting my confidence in handling AD scenarios. Looking ahead to the remaining hours of the internship, I am eagerly anticipating the opportunity to take on challenges and contribute to projects. The experiences gained during this phase have solidified my dedication to pursuing a career in Active Directory administration where I aim to make contributions towards building and maintaining efficient AD environments.