TECHMENTOR CONFERENCES

Las Vegas

October 15–19, 2007
Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino

The Next Generation is here. Are you ready?

5 days of tactical and strategic sessions on automating, managing, securing and troubleshooting Microsoft Windows server systems.

Conference Tracks

- Cutting Edge Technology
- Practical Security
- Troubleshooting Tips and Tricks
- Scripting and Automation
- For MCSEs
- Foundation for Windows Administration

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EVENTS

Who Should Attend

- IS/IT Managers and Directors
- Network and Systems Administrators
- Network and Systems Engineers
- MCPs, MCSAs and MCSEs
- Security Specialists
- Helpdesk/Desktop Professionals
- Consultants
- IT/Systems/Technical Analysts

The Next Generation is here. Are you ready?

Join your fellow systems administrators and IT managers at the Rio Hotel & Casino in Vegas, October 15-19, for a week of in-depth technical training. TechMentor will give you the tools and techniques to help you get the most out of your network. Our expert instructors will lead tactical and strategic sessions on automating, managing, securing and troubleshooting Microsoft Windows server systems. You'll come away with a rock solid grasp of the technical and tactical, as well as a solid view of the strategic as you make your technology deployment decisions.

For Las Vegas, TechMentor adds a new track dedicated entirely to next-generation and cutting-edge technology like Server Core and application virtualization. These sessions will delve deep into the latest developments in Vista, Exchange Server 2007, Longhorn, Groove and the new Systems Center series of management tools.

Conference Highlights:

- Independent, real-world training
- Knowledgeable and accessible instructors like Derek Melber, Don Jones, Greg Shields and more
- Hundreds of tips you can immediately put to use
- Technical training ranging from fundamental primers to advanced techniques
- TechMentor is now bigger than ever. This fall, it will be co-located with VSLive! and TechPartner!

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Keynote/Highlights

Monday, October 15

Keynote **Living the Longhorn Life: What's Up With Server 2008?**

Mark Minasi, Best-Selling Author, Popular Technology Columnist, Commentator and Keynote Speaker

Veteran Windows pundit Mark Minasi, best-selling author, popular technology columnist, commentator and keynote speaker, tells you what's new, what's good, and what's not-so-good about the next Microsoft server. Anyone can tell you about the long-awaited "Longhorn," but only Minasi can make you smile while he seeks to "explain the pane!"

90+ Sessions, 6 Tracks

- Cutting Edge Technology
- Practical Security
- Scripting & Automation
- Troubleshooting Tips & Tricks
- For MCSEs
- Foundations for Windows Administration

»What Your Peers Are Saying

"Great conference in a great location! Very good tracks, I learned a lot. Very knowledgeable speakers with very honest opinions about products and solutions."

—C. Gange, Erie Insurance Group

"I thought the presenters were fantastic, had the highest knowledge spectrum of anyone in their individual discipline. There were no questions they could not answer."

—P. Rudin, Grand Bank and Trust of Florida

"I have been to many conferences in my 15-year career, and TechMentor is simply the best educational value in the market. Awesome job at bringing together the 'top' talent in the computer and technology industry."

—J. Lemay, Marten Biosciences Corp.

Program-at-a-Glance

Monday, October 15		
	Pre Conference Crash Courses	
8:00 - 11:30am	CC1 Windows Vista Security *Mark Minasi*	CC2 VMWare Virtual Infrastructure *Greg Shields*
	Scripting and Automation	**Troubleshooting Tips and Tricks**
12:30 - 2:00pm	M1 PowerNuts! PowerShell in a NutShell *Don Jones/Jeff Hicks*	M2 Getting the Most out of the New Windows Event Log *Greg Shields*
2:15 - 3:45pm	M6 PowerNuts! Top Ten PowerShell Cmdlets Every Administrator Needs to Know *Don Jones/Jeff Hicks*	M7 Another Brick in the Wall: Isolation Groups and the Vista Firewall *Greg Shields*
4:00 - 5:30pm	M11 VBScript in 90 Minutes *Jeff Hicks*	M12 Top Tricks for Monitoring & Analyzing System Performance *Greg Shields*
Tuesday, October 16		
8:30 - 10:00am	Combined General Session/Keynote	
10:15 - 11:45am	T1 Managing Local Users, Groups, and More with VBScript *Jeff Hicks*	T2 Windows Crash Dumps Made Simple *Bruce Mackenzie-Low*
2:30 - 4:00pm	T6 PowerShell Scripting *Don Jones*	T7 Tips & Tricks for Preventing an Active Directory Failure *Greg Shields*
4:15 - 5:45pm	T11 Managing Systems with PowerShell and WMI *Don Jones*	T12 WSUS 3.0 Architecture, Implementation, and Troubleshooting *Greg Shields*
Wednesday, October 17		
8:30 - 10:00am	W1 Stupid (and not-so-stupid) Windows PowerShell Tricks *Don Jones*	W2 Tricks of the Vista Masters *J. Peter Bruzzese*
10:15 - 11:45am	W6 Error Handling and Debugging in PowerShell Scripts *Don Jones*	W7 Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Windows Cluster Troubleshooting *Bruce Mackenzie-Low*
2:30 - 4:00pm	W11 Mr. Roboto's Resource Kit *Jeff Hicks*	W12 Vulnerability Management: Beyond Patching *Greg Shields*
4:15 - 5:45 p.m.	W16 Mr. Roboto by the Batch: Command-Line Scripting, Old School Style *Jeff Hicks*	W17 The Art of Network Troubleshooting: How to Fix Any Network Problem *Mark Minasi*
Thursday, October 18		
8:30 - 10:00am	Th1 Converting VBScripts to PowerShell *Don Jones*	Th2 Hardening Windows Server Systems: Tips and Tricks *Mark Minasi*
10:15 - 11:45am	Th6 Creating a Graphical User Interface in PowerShell *Don Jones*	Th7 IE7 Deep Dive: Protecting against Spyware, Phishing, and Bad Employees *Greg Shields*
1:00 - 2:30pm	Th11 Managing Active Directory Users, Computers, and More with VBScript *Jeff Hicks*	Th12 SQL Server 2005 Administration Tips & Tricks *Chris McCain*
2:45 - 4:15pm	Th16 Graphical VBScript: HTML Applications (HTAs) *Jeff Hicks*	Th17 Faster, Better, Cheaper: Disaster Recovery with Virtualization *Greg Shields*
4:30 - 5:30pm	Keynote, Mark Minasi	
Friday, October 19		
8:30 - 10:00am	F1 Welcome to the Jungle: Fun Stuff with PowerShell Add-Ins *Don Jones*	F2 Vista Rapid Deployment Tools *Rhonda Layfield*
10:15 - 11:45am	F6 PowerShell Survivor: Hands On in Tribal Council *Don Jones*	F7 Troubleshooting Group Policy Application *Derek Melber*
	Post Conference Crash Courses	
1:00 - 4:30pm	CC4 Exchange Server 2007 Command-Line Management *Jeff Hicks*	CC5 Network Monitor: Full Visibility Into Your Network *Rhonda Layfield*

CC3 Futuristic Desktop Management and Security *Derek Melber*		
For MCSEs	**Foundations for Windows Administration**	**Cutting Edge Technology and Practical Security**
M3 Managing Files, Folders, Registry, and AD objects *Derek Melber*	M4 Active Directory Administration, Part 1 *Bruce Rougeau*	M5 Controlling Windows from the C: Level - And Get Ready for Server Core *Mark Minasi*
M8 IIS: Internet and Intranet *Chris McCain*	M9 Active Directory Administration, Part 2 *Bruce Rougeau*	M10 What's New in Vista and Server 2008 Group Policy *Derek Melber*
M13 Delegating and Auditing within Active Directory *Derek Melber*	M14 System Recovery: The Good, the Bad, the Lifesaving *Bruce Rougeau*	M15 What's New in Windows Server 2008 ("Longhorn") *Don Jones*
T3 Windows Terminal Services vs. Citrix: Which One Wins? *Greg Shields*	T4 Vista Administration Essentials *Bruce Rougeau*	T5 What's New in Exchange Server 2007 *J. Peter Bruzzese*
T8 Real World PKI and Certificate Implementation *Chris McCain*	T9 Managing Vista with Group Policy *Derek Melber*	T10 High Availability Communications: Exchange Server 2007 Clustering *J. Peter Bruzzese*
T13 Using IPSec and other Network Security Techniques *Chris McCain*	T14 Terminal Services Concepts and Administration *Bruce Rougeau*	T15 Longhorn Changes to AD: RODCs, Password Policies, and More *Mark Minasi*
W3 Clustering: When and Where to use it *Chris McCain*	W4 Security Basics: Windows Vista, Server Roles, and Security Templates *Bruce Rougeau*	W5 Microsoft Office Groove: Practical Collaboration *Todd Logan*
W8 Managing DNS in an Active Directory Environment *Rhonda Layfield*	W9 IIS Essentials and Administration *Bruce Rougeau*	W10 PolicyMaker Group Policy Technology in Windows Server 2008 *Derek Melber*
W13 Wireless Networking and Security Essentials *Todd Logan*	W14 Routing and Remote Access Concepts and Administration *Bruce Rougeau*	W15 Microsoft SoftGrid Deep Dive: Application Virtualization *Derek Melber*
W18 Recipes for Scripting: Automating without Becoming a Programmer *Don Jones*	W19 Remote Access Policies and Network Monitoring *Bruce Rougeau*	W20 System Center Essentials: Why You Need It *Greg Shields*
Th3 Managing and Monitoring Windows and Active Directory Performance *Rhonda Layfield*	Th4 TCP/IP Essentials: The Heart of the Network *Bruce Rougeau*	Th5 Using Forefront Client Security *Beth Quinlan*
Th8 Where and When to use Server Virtualization *Chris McCain*	Th9 DNS Essentials: Your Network's Phonebook *Bruce Rougeau*	Th10 Using Standards and Security to Create a Compliant Windows Desktop *Derek Melber*
Th13 The Best Free Tools for Windows Server Administration *Greg Shields*	Th14 Windows PowerShell From the Very Beginning *Don Jones*	Th15 Unveiling the Top Group Policy Security Settings *Derek Melber*
Th18 GPOs Soup to Nuts *Derek Melber*	Th19 DiskManagement: How, What, When, and Why *Bruce Rougeau*	Th20 Managing Microsoft Forefront Servers with Forefront Server Security Management Console *Beth Quinlan*
F3 Good GPO Management: GPMC - Better GPO Management: AGPM *Derek Melber*	F4 The Logon Script Cookbook *Jeff Hicks*	F5 Protecting Microsoft Exchange 2007 with Forefront Security for Exchange Server *Beth Quinlan*
F8 Active Directory Sysvol Replication Today and Tomorrow *Rhonda Layfield*	F9 Digital Identity: The Fundamentals of Certificate Management *Bruce Rougeau*	F10 Securing Your Network Using Microsoft Network Access Protection *Beth Quinlan*
CC6 Windows PowerShell: The Deep-Down, Hardcore, Amazing Stuff *Don Jones*		

VSLive! and TechPartner Conferences

TechMentor Las Vegas is now bigger than ever.
This fall, it will be co-located with VSLive! and TechPartner Conferences.

VSLive! Visual Studio® Developer Conference

VSLive! will provide a depth of resources and perspectives to help you be productive now and prepare for the near future. For more than a decade VSLive! events have set the standard of excellence in developer conferences. Get more talent, information, learning and networking under one roof at one time for the best value at VSLive! Las Vegas.

Attend ASP, .NET 3.0, Best Practices and Visual Team Foundation Server sessions featuring practical techniques for writing software with today's tools. From ASP.NET AJAX and data binding, to VB, C# and the .NET Framework, we have you covered. VSLive! speakers have years of experience mastering the tools you need to get your job done.

Who Should Attend:

- Software Architects and Designers
- Project and Team Leaders
- Application Development Managers
- Software Developers
- Programmers
- Database Administrators

TECHPARTNER CONFERENCES

TechPartner will help you take your business to the next level. As most executives and entrepreneurs know all too well, starting a company is one thing. Building it steadily and successfully is something quite different.

Expert speakers will provide up-to-the-minute advice on critical topics ranging from managing overall growth and ramping up sales efforts to developing strong vendor relationships. They'll also look at opportunities related to managed services and Microsoft's fast-growing Dynamics solutions.

Who Should Attend:

- CEOs/Presidents/Owners
- Vice Presidents
- Principals/Partners
- Sales Directors
- Marketing Directors

Attendee Feedback

"TechPartner is a good opportunity to meet and network."

- Pat Dean, Tribal Communications

"The speakers are great!"

- Jayson Flint, PinTECH Systems

» Register for the VIP Passport and get an all-access pass to BOTH TechMentor and VSLive! conferences.

Pre and Post Conference Workshops

Monday, October 15

CC1 Vista Security Crash Course

8:00 - 11:30am Mark Minasi

Add up all of the changes in Vista; guess where you'll see the most changes? It's not the new Aero Glass GUI, or in the new deployment tools, or the updates to group policies—nope, it's in security. Most of the changes in security, however, aren't obvious—even a keen-eyed techie might miss Windows Integrity Control, or the many changes to security defaults. Other security changes are obvious, like User Account Control, but irritating...until you understand them. Still others are useful, but not activated by default, like the new changes to physical security in Vista. Learn about them all from Mark Minasi, the author of *Administering Windows Vista Security: the Big Surprises*, and have a chuckle or two in the process.

CC2 VMware Virtual Infrastructure Crash Course

8:00 - 11:30am Greg Shields

Heard all the virtualization hype, but haven't had time to learn it? Now's your chance. Focusing on VMware Virtual Infrastructure, *Redmond* columnist and TechMentor Track Lead Greg Shields will guide you through deploying, managing and troubleshooting virtual machines in your data center. You'll discover the best ways to build and deploy server hosts, and rapidly deploy new virtual machines. You'll analyze system sizing tricks and performance optimizations that prevent bottlenecks and resource overuse. You'll leave with proven solutions for virtualizing your entire server infrastructure. You already know that virtualization tools can lower your costs in the data center and enhance your productivity through automation. Come to TechMentor a bit early and attend our VMware Virtual Infrastructure Crash Course to learn exactly how.

(BONUS: Sign up for this Crash Course and receive a free 90-day, 16-processor evaluation license for VMware's Virtual Infrastructure datacenter virtualization platform. You can break this special evaluation license into multiple physical hosts—eight 2-processor machines or one big 16-processor machine.)

CC3 Futuristic Desktop Management and Security Crash Course

8:00 - 11:30am Derek Melber

Stop and think about how you would prefer to manage desktops. Now save that mental picture. This course will take the concepts of desktop management and security to a whole new level, showing you how to use new technologies to strip away your image management, deploy applications with greater ease, configure desktops centrally, eliminate log-on scripts and much more. You'll also learn how to remove those pesky user accounts from local administrators, and still be able to run their applications. Frustration and school of hard-knocks experience is required.

Friday, October 19

CC4 Exchange Server 2007 Command-Line Management Crash Course

1:00 - 4:30pm Jeffery Hicks

Are you dreading Exchange 2007? Fearing you'll have to learn an entire new way of administering your Exchange infrastructure? Well, purge that fear and dread. This session will demonstrate how easy it is to manage Exchange 2007 from the command line. This session isn't designed to teach you about Exchange 2007, but rather how to manage it. We'll cover everything from creating users and mailboxes to automating a complete server provisioning. This is not a hands-on workshop, but there will be a lot of demonstrations. Demonstrations (on video) and scripts will be available for download by attendees after the session.

CC5 Network Monitor Crash Course: Full Visibility Into Your Network

1:00 - 4:30pm Rhonda Layfield

Heard of NetMon? As a network packet analyzer, Microsoft's Network Monitor reveals all. In fact, it reveals so much that it may seem overwhelming at first glance. In this deeply technical session, you will begin by capturing and viewing some basic DHCP, DNS and Ping traffic. Then, you will move on to NetMon's more advanced features like pre- and post-capture filtering, pattern matching and simultaneous traces. You'll learn how to create event triggers that automatically start a network capture based on an Event Log trigger. Learning these Event triggers can help with those intermittent issues that occur irregularly or when no-one is around to start the NetMon capture. No matter what your experience with networking and network traffic analysis, you'll walk away from this session with the tips and tricks you need to troubleshoot your network and network applications.

CC6 Windows PowerShell: The Deep-Down, Hardcore, Amazing Stuff Crash Course

1:00 - 4:30pm Don Jones

This is an advanced post-con that shows you exactly how far you can go with Windows PowerShell. Learn to manipulate XML, retrieve data from the Web, create your own custom formatting views, extend PowerShell's data types with your own functionality, universally access databases from PowerShell scripts, and even write simple cmdlets to extend PowerShell's functionality. To take full advantage of this session, you should either have a working knowledge of PowerShell's basics, or have attended the PowerShell sessions during the main portion of the conference. This is not a hands-on workshop, although all samples will be available for download by attendees after the session.

Cutting Edge Techhnology and Practical Security Tracks

M5 Controlling Windows from the C: Level—And Get Ready for Server Core

12:30 - 2:00pm Mark Minasi

Still doing administration from the GUI? Well, that works, of course—but while GUIs are nice for now-and-then tasks, you can get a lot more done from the command line and, even better, you can stuff your favorite command lines into Notepad to create the world's simplest administration tool.

The hard part, of course, is getting started—and who better to help you than Mark Minasi, whose "This Old Resource Kit" and "Windows Power Tools" columns have discovered and explained the best Microsoft command-line administrations tools for the past eight years. While the "altitude"—that is, high-level nature—of GUIs are nice, really getting the job in the least amount of time needs a more down-to-earth, "C:\>-level" approach. Join Mark and see how to run "command" Windows to do your bidding!

M10 What's New in Vista and Server 2008 Group Policy

2:15 - 3:45pm Derek Melber

Microsoft has already started its Group Policy overhaul with new additions to Vista Group Policy. These additions start with Windows Server 2008. There are now more than 2,400 Group Policy settings from which to choose, so implementing and learning some of the new Group Policy management technologies are essential for your enterprise. These include the new repository, expanded local GPOs, ADMX files, GPO service and more. You'll need a good foundation in Group Policy to understand how these new changes can benefit you the most.

M15 What's New in Windows Server 2008 ("Longhorn")

4:00 - 5:30pm Don Jones

Do you already know Windows Server 2003 inside and out? Then this is the perfect session for you. This will go over the "delta" between 2003 and 2008 to help you quickly get up to speed on the new features, new capabilities, new pitfalls and new procedures in Microsoft's upcoming server operating system. You'll learn about new administrative procedures, new product features, new security precautions and entire new strategies for deploying and using the new Windows server. Being a high-level overview session, I will quickly introduce you to every major new aspect of Server 2008 in just 90 minutes.

T5 What's New in Exchange Server 2007

10:15 - 11:45am J. Peter Bruzzese

You've heard plenty of buzz regarding Exchange 2007. Here's your chance to find out first hand what everyone is talking about. This latest version of the Exchange messaging platform is more than a needed upgrade—it's impressive. Learn about the latest server roles under which you can roll out Exchange 2007, the new tools for anti-spam and anti-virus security, unified messaging, clustering and high-availability options, backup and recovery solutions, and last but certainly not least—the new Exchange Management Shell. This session provides an overview of all the new features included in Exchange Server 2007.

T10 High Availability Communications: Exchange Server 2007 Clustering

2:30 - 4:00pm J. Peter Bruzzese

When most people hear the word "cluster," they get images of dollars with wings and empty bank vaults. Yes, clusters are noted for being costly to implement and difficult to maintain. Exchange can take away that stress and financial woe with its new high-availability models that don't always require clustering. This session will cover the subject of Exchange high availability from A to Z. You'll learn about the three new solutions: Local Continuous Replication (LCR), Cluster Continuous Replication (CCR) and Single Copy Clusters (SCC). Plus, we'll throw one more in for good measure—the newly developed (with Exchange 2007 SP1) Standby Continuous Replication (SCR). Two of these four solutions don't require clustering, nor do they require expensive hardware.

T15 Longhorn Changes to AD: RODCs, Password Policies, and More

4:15 - 5:45pm Mark Minasi

2003's Active Directory is pretty good, but, honestly, it could be better. Branch office DCs are a real pain both from a security and a bandwidth point of view. But Longhorn Server/Server 2007 offers some relief with the concept of a "read-only domain controller" that flexes Kerberos' muscles in a way that Windows hasn't really before. You'll get the ability to dial in exactly which user accounts are stored on a branch office DC, as well as new encryption options to make it theft-proof. But that's not all—DCPROMO gets a facelift and, well, it needed it. Find out about this and other upcoming Longhorn domain controller and AD improvements with bestselling author Mark Minasi!

W5 Microsoft Office Groove: Practical Collaboration

8:30 - 10:00am Todd Logan

Think you need to set up a complicated extranet to transfer files and collaborate with users outside of your company network? Think again. This session will teach you how easy it is to let ad-hoc team members collaborate securely, working on-line or off-line, and regardless of network boundaries. You'll learn about the Groove platform architecture, its end-to-end transparent security and how Groove accomplishes all this without sacrificing centralized management and control. There are no prerequisites for this session.

W10 PolicyMaker Group Policy Technology in Windows Server 2008

10:15 - 11:45am Derek Melber

Have you ever thought that there just aren't enough Group Policy settings? Your wish is our command. Microsoft just acquired PolicyMaker and they plan to include it with Windows Server 2008. PolicyMaker is the comprehensive suite of Group Policy extensions that give you many more power management controls, drive mappings, printer mappings, file transfers and more. You can adjust all these settings through Group Policy. Come see what you're missing in Group Policy.

W15 Microsoft SoftGrid Deep Dive: Application Virtualization

2:30 - 4:00pm Derek Melber

Do you use either VMware or Virtual PC? If you do, then you'll love Microsofts' newest virtualization technology called SoftGrid Application Virtualization. With SoftGrid, you can reduce testing time, eliminate application compatibility issues, reduce image management and resolve that nasty LUA bug. This session will give you an overview of this technology and how it is going to change the landscape of how you handle applications in your organization. SoftGrid will change how you deal with every application!

W20 System Center Essentials: Why You Need It

4:15 - 5:45pm Greg Shields

Microsoft changed the names again. They've also added a new systems management product designed just for the small and medium-sized business. System Center Essentials is an excellent tool for managing your servers and workstations, easily inventorying software and hardware, deploying software and patches, and much more. Come learn why you need to install this tool in your network right now and get your arms around centralized systems management.

Th5 Using Forefront Client Security

8:30 - 10:00am Beth Quinlan

Forefront Client Security is a new security product from Microsoft which helps protect business desktops, laptops and servers from emerging threats such as spyware, rootkits, viruses, and other traditional attacks. It gives you the ability to configure one policy for anti-virus, anti-spyware, and security state assessment. This session will include a discussion of software prerequisites and key steps needed for setting up FCS under one, two and four server topologies. You will also see how to deploy a client side policy, get signature updates, view alerts and run reports.

Th10 Using Standards and Security for Compliant Windows Desktops

10:15 - 11:45am Derek Melber

Do you have security compliance regulations you need to meet? Of course you do! They might be internal or external requirements. When it comes to desktop security compliance, you have tons of options to ensure that your systems meet restrictive security regulatory requirements. With Group Policy and other standardized settings, you can ensure your users' environment meets these requirements. This session will cover the myriad of different settings available to meet all requirements.

Th15 Unveiling the Top Group Policy Security Settings

1:00 - 2:30pm Derek Melber

Have you looked deep into a Group Policy lately? With more than 2,400 settings in a Windows Vista Group Policy Object (GPO), you have a huge task ahead of you in trying to decrypt some of the key security settings. In this session, we'll dive into a GPO to show you some of the key security settings you can use to manage security on your servers and desktops. We'll look at authentication, passwords, firewall settings, IE settings and more. If you're using Group Policy to manage Windows servers or desktops in your organization (and who isn't?), this session is for you.

Th20 Managing Microsoft Forefront Servers with Forefront Server Security Management

2:45 - 4:15pm Beth Quinlan

Forefront Server Security Management Console (FSSMC) is a new security product to manage multiple Forefront Server products, such as Forefront Security for Exchange and Forefront Security for SharePoint. In this session, you will learn how to use and configure FSSMC to centrally manage Forefront configuration, distribute scan engine updates to Forefront servers, use templates and manage quarantine and reports from Forefront servers.

F5 Protecting Microsoft Exchange 2007 with Forefront Security for Exchange Server

8:30 - 10:00am Beth Quinlan

Microsoft Forefront Security for Exchange Server succeeds Microsoft Antigen for Exchange and includes multiple scan engines to help businesses protect their Exchange messaging environments from viruses, worms and spam. Changes in Exchange 2007 have altered how anti-virus scanning is handled for e-mail. In this session you will see how Forefront Security for Exchange Server takes full advantage of these changes. You will learn about new scanning options per Exchange server role, and how Forefront coordinates and optimizes the scanning between multiple Exchange servers.

F10 Securing Your Network Using Microsoft Network Access Protection

10:15 - 11:45am Beth Quinlan

Network Access Protection (NAP) is built into the Microsoft Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008 operating systems allowing you to better protect network assets by enforcing compliance with system health requirements. With NAP you create customized health policies to validate computer health before allowing network communication, as well as automatically updating compliant computers, and optionally restricting non-compliant computers network. In this session you will learn how to deploy NAP by configuring policies on the Network Policy Server (NPS), Microsoft's RADIUM implementation and replacement for IAS, as well as how to enforce policies based on 802.1x, DHCP, IPSec and VPN.

Scripting and Automation Track

M1 PowerNuts! PowerShell in a NutShell

12:30 - 2:00pm Don Jones and Jeffery Hicks

Windows PowerShell uber-geeks Don Jones and Jeffery Hicks join forces for a fast-paced tour of Windows PowerShell. They'll cover what it is, why every administrator in the universe needs to care about it, how it works, and—most importantly—how to use it to do some major cool stuff. Maybe this is no reality TV show, but you'll still have a blast as you navigate the suddenly-clear waters of PowerShell's basic functionality, learn to perform core tasks like process and service management, use WMI in PowerShell and much more.

M6 PowerNuts! Top Ten PowerShell Cmdlets Every Administrator Needs to Know

2:15 - 3:45pm Don Jones and Jeffery Hicks

Microsoft's new shell ships with 129 cmdlets. Don Jones and Jeffery Hicks will introduce you to the very best—the ones that do the most work, give you the most benefit, and the ones you will use almost every day to automate administrative tasks. Plan to use Exchange 2007, System Center or nearly any other future Microsoft product? These are the cmdlets you'll be using with all of those products. This isn't just names and serial numbers. You'll learn the inside, intimate personal details of these cmdlets.

M11 VBScript in 90 Minutes

4:00 - 5:30pm Jeffery Hicks

Need to suddenly learn "just enough to be dangerous?" Perhaps you need to maintain existing VBScripts, refresh your memory about VBScript's most important functions, or quickly come up to speed on enough VBScript to make sense of our other VBScript-based sessions? Then start here with the author of *WSH and VBScript Core: TFM*™ for a fast-paced look at everything you really need to know about using VBScript for Windows administration. You'll learn how VBScript works, key language elements and functions, and the core objects that VBScript uses to accomplish administrative tasks.

T1 Managing Local Users, Groups, and More with VBScript

10:15 - 11:45am Jeffery Hicks

Active Directory is great, but what about the bazillions of local user and group accounts lying around on client computers and member servers? Learn to use VBScript to "reach out and touch someone" for local user and group account management, changing local Administrator passwords, managing local group membership and much more. You'll learn the basic concepts of local account management and pick up plenty of "recipes" (ready-to-run solutions) for instant administrative satisfaction, all from the co-author of Advanced VBScript for Windows Administrators.

T6 PowerShell Scripting

2:30 - 4:00pm Don Jones

Turn PowerShell up to 11 by taking advantage of its built-in capabilities for looping, logical decision-making, and more—or just save your fingers from constant re-typing of commands. Don Jones, PowerShell MVP and co-author of *Windows PowerShell: TFM*™, takes you through every single element of the PowerShell scripting language. He'll explain PowerShell's scripting security infrastructure, show you how to "script interactively," and write powerful, repeatable scripts to accomplish administrative tasks. If you attend just one PowerShell session this TechMentor, attend the first on Monday. If you attend just two, make this one the second.

T11 Managing Systems with PowerShell and WMI

4:15 - 5:45pm Don Jones

Windows PowerShell columnist Don Jones takes you on a tour of PowerShell and its most powerful ally: Windows Management Instrumentation. You'll learn what WMI is, why it's so darn important to administrators, and what it can and can't do for you. You'll also learn how PowerShell manipulates WMI with a single cmdlet (and one hand tied behind its back) to accomplish remote management tasks, inventory critical information and more. This is where much of the "power" in PowerShell shines through, so don't miss it.

W1 Stupid (and Not-So-Stupid) Windows PowerShell Tricks

8:30 - 10:00am Don Jones

Hey, cmdlets aren't everything. Learn how to use the .NET Framework (don't worry, you don't even need to really know what that means), arrow keys and your favorite PowerShell script editor to accomplish amazing tasks like pinging computers, resolving DNS names, sending e-mail, creating balloon notification messages, and many other nearly-unrelated, unspeakably cool tricks with Windows PowerShell. Spruce up your scripts and pump up your one-liners with these incredibly useful tricks of the trade that would otherwise take you years of searching to discover—all in 90 short minutes. Think a single session can't be worth the price of an entire conference admission? Think again.

W6 Error Handling and Debugging in PowerShell Scripts

10:15 - 11:45am Don Jones

Give extra smarts to your PowerShell scripts—and debug those scripts faster—by leveraging PowerShell's built-in error handling capabilities and integrated, interactive debugger. Handle run-time errors, make your scripts more flexible and robust, and track down (and squash) bugs faster than you ever believed possible. You'll even learn Don's Not-Yet-Patented Strategy for Bug Elimination, which will save you hours of time and bottles of aspirin as you learn to debug even the most complex scripts with an almost embarrassing ease.

W11 Mr. Roboto's Resource Kit

2:30 - 4:00pm Jeffery Hicks

Join *Redmond* magazine's Mr. Roboto—King of All Automation—and learn to automate administrative tasks using powerful tools that you either never knew about or weren't using to their full potential. Mr. Roboto laughs in the face of manual, repetitive tasks with an arsenal of useful tools—many of which you won't find on Microsoft's Download site. These require years of careful spelunking and patient stalking to uncover. You'll leave with a virtual tool belt stuffed full of utilities that help automate some of the most difficult and complex administrative tasks known to Windows administration. You can even imagine Jeffery wearing that cool metal helmet from his magazine column.

W16 Mr. Roboto by the Batch: Command-Line Scripting, Old-School Style

4:15 - 5:45pm Jeffery Hicks

Don't want to learn VBScript? Still not ready for PowerShell? Never fear, Mr. Roboto is here! Take "scripting" back to its Windows administrative roots by learning how to use simple batch files to accomplish modern, complex administrative tasks. Always a believer in the right tool for the right job, *Redmond*'s automation automaton shows you the tasks that are uniquely well-suited for batch scripting and covers powerful and under-used techniques and tools that give batch scripting amazing potential for getting the job done.

Th1 Converting VBScripts to PowerShell

8:30 - 10:00am Don Jones

Whether you really want to convert VBScripts to PowerShell scripts, or just leverage your VBScript skills to learn PowerShell's basics faster, this is the session for you. Don Jones, author of *VBScript, WMI, and ADSI Unleashed* and co-author of *Windows PowerShell: TFM*™, bridges the gap between VBS and PS1 scripts. He'll show you how nearly every single VBScript element is accomplished in PowerShell—all in just 90 minutes. You'll learn how key VBScript tasks and concepts are implemented in PowerShell, and get a quick lesson of one-to-one script conversion—along with a good-sized helping of PowerShell's new paradigm and how it can reduce a dozen lines of VBScript code to a single PowerShell command. Convert your scripts and upgrade your mind.

Th6 Creating a Graphical User Interface in PowerShell

10:15 - 11:45am Don Jones

Who says the command-line can't be pretty? Learn to use the .NET Framework's "WinForms" to build simple, effective and functional graphical user interfaces (GUIs) right from within Windows PowerShell. PowerShell author, columnist and MVP Don Jones guides you through the WinForms hierarchy and shows you practical, effective examples—which you'll be given—for creating, fine-tuning and using your own custom-built GUIs from within PowerShell scripts. This is an intermediate session: You should have a basic understanding of PowerShell cmdlets and scripting (or attend our earlier sessions on those topics) in order to take full advantage of this session.

Th11 Managing Active Directory Users, Computers, and More with VBScript

1:00 - 2:30pm Jeffery Hicks

VBScript is the "right tool for the job" when it comes to managing Active Directory objects, says Jeffery Hicks, and he'll show you how. Automate tasks that affect an entire domain or OU full of computers, automate user creation and maintenance, and perform other critical Directory-related tasks, all with straightforward VBScript statements and constructs. You'll see real-world, practical examples, learn how they work, and get to take them home and put them to use. You'll also learn about key references that make Directory scripting easier, more powerful and more capable, and how to use non-scripting tools to examine the Directory schema to discover new capabilities.

Th16 Graphical VBScript: HTML Applications (HTAs)

2:45 - 4:15pm Jeffery Hicks

Combine your VBScript skills with your HTML superpowers, and you've got an HTA—a graphical application that doesn't require Visual Studio or a complex .NET Framework programming language. You'll learn how HTAs work, what they can do and see a smattering of useful HTA-based administrative tools. You'll also learn Jeffery's recommended techniques for HTA development, including ways to reduce debugging time, increase code modularization (and re-use), and speed up HTA development time. A grounding in VBScript and a working knowledge of basic HTML formatting tags will help you get the most from this intermediate-level session.

F1 Welcome to the Jungle: Fun Stuff with PowerShell Add-Ins

8:30 - 10:00am Don Jones

Learn about the rich and diverse "ecosystem" that supports Windows PowerShell, including commercial tools, add-ins, and community-developed open-source add-ins. You'll see how PowerShell can effectively manage Active Directory, how to use PowerShell to create graphical "dashboards" for monitoring performance and other data, how to connect PowerShell to additional hierarchical storage systems, and even a graphical way to use PowerShell's capabilities. This is an intermediate-level session that assumes a working knowledge of PowerShell. The presenter will cover several commercial tools, as well as free tools.

F6 PowerShell Survivor: Hands-On in Tribal Council

10:15 - 11:45am Don Jones

Here's a chance to use PowerShell to accomplish real administrative tasks, win reward challenges, and conquer immunity challenges. That's right, you'll get practical hands-on time with PowerShell in a fun, competitive team environment. You'll face the risk of being voted "off the island" in Tribal Council for the chance to win real prizes worth real money. It's an opportunity to take home valuable scripting-related books, software, tools and more. Bring your laptop with Windows PowerShell and a fully-charged battery (there will not be power available in the classroom). Please ensure that PowerShell is functional prior to coming to the session (running PowerShell as a local Administrator is strongly recommended).

Troubleshooting Tips & Tricks Track

M2 Getting the Most out of the New Windows Event Log

12:30 - 2:00pm Greg Shields

It used to be called "Crimson." Now, it's the "Event Log" in Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008, and it's completely new and improved. In this session, we'll dig deep into the features and capabilities of the new Windows Event Log. We'll examine its new search capabilities, its XML-based back-end, and how to set up Event Forwarding to centralize log data to give you easier and better information on system status.

M7 Another Brick in the Wall: Isolation Groups & the New Windows Firewall

2:15 - 3:45pm Greg Shields

ACL's are so retro. They've been around forever now, quietly protecting your data against prying eyes and accidental deletion. What if some misinformed administrator accidentally opens a file share to Everyone | Full Control? You're out of luck. Isolation Groups are a way of adding another ACL down at the network layer to protect your most sensitive information. This session will discuss how you can use them, the IPSec configurations you need to set them up, and how to troubleshoot when they act up.

M12 Top Tricks for Monitoring and Analyzing System Performance

4:00 - 5:30pm Greg Shields

Solving the most difficult system problems often means comparing performance during the problem with behavior before the problem occurred. Keeping an eye on your systems' performance is the most overlooked responsibility of a systems administrator. No more—in this session, you'll learn about the best tools for monitoring, managing, and alerting on system performance issues. We'll discuss how to use performance indicators as a measurement for solving problems. You'll come away knowing how to watch your performance logs for signs of trouble.

T2 Windows Crash Dumps Made Simple

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Mackenzie-Low

Do you feel helpless when your Windows servers crash? Do you dread spending hours on the phone being passed around the world seeking assistance for your BSOD? Fear not—join Bruce as he introduces the basic principles of crash dump analysis. You too can use Bruce's easy cookbook approach to identify failing software or hardware components responsible for Stops, Hangs and Blue Screens. Impress your boss as you use Microsoft's Windows Debugger (Windbg) to pinpoint the failing driver that's causing your downtime.

T7 Tips & Tricks for Preventing an Active Directory Failure

2:30 - 4:00pm Greg Shields

Is your Active Directory configuration a ticking time bomb? Ever wondered if there's something lurking that could cause a major disaster? Prevent that Resume-Producing Event by attending this fast-paced session. We'll cover the overlooked settings in your AD that could someday cause a major failure. Gleaned from real-world experience through countless AD assessments, you'll learn the top Active Directory mistakes and how to make them right before that bad day arrives.

T12 WSUS 3.0 Architecture, Implementation, and Troubleshooting

4:15 - 5:45pm Greg Shields

WSUS is one of those services that…just…works—except when it doesn't. This session is devoted to the design, build, and troubleshooting the newest WSUS, and will help make you a successful WSUS administrator. You'll learn how to set up new WSUS servers, migrate your old WSUS data to this new version, and even a little trickery that'll give you the ability to patch when you want without waiting. If you do patch management at all, you won't want to miss this session.

W2 Tricks of the Vista Masters

8:30 - 10:00am Peter Bruzzese

Did you know miners often have to sift through anywhere from 250 to 400 tons of rock, gravel and sand to extract one carat of diamond? There are quite a few diamonds in the rough buried within Microsoft Vista. You just need to know where to look to bring them to the surface. This session will teach you all the tips and tricks about how to perform shortcuts, work with ImageX, peer inside a VHD file of your backup, tweak the WEI, work with new Group Policy settings and more! It will be one face paced joy ride into the Vista world, so sit back... and enjoy the Vista!

W7 Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Windows Cluster Troubleshooting

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Mackenzie-Low

Troubleshooting Microsoft Windows Clusters can be a challenging experience. Learn the tips, tricks and tools that can expedite your troubleshooting efforts, reduce downtime and increase cluster stability. Join Bruce as he reviews the anatomy of the cluster log file and correlates events with the system event log. Fill your toolbox with a variety of handy utilities you can use to maintain Windows clusters, such as fixing disk signatures with Dumpcfg, interrogating SAN components with FCinfo, and translating error codes with WinERR. Leverage tools such as ClusDiag, Netmon, MPS and HPS Reports to collect baseline or troubleshooting information across your cluster.

W12 Vulnerability Management: Beyond Patching

2:30 - 4:00pm Greg Shields

Patches are great, but they only go so far to protect you. If a vulnerability shows up and there's available no patch, then you're in a world of hurt. This high-level session will go beyond the idea of patching and talk about the world of vulnerability management. We'll talk about some of the products currently on the market that can help protect you, as well as the compensating mechanisms you can implement now to protect yourself against the next big zero-day.

W17 The Art of Network Troubleshooting: How to Fix Any Network Problem

4:15 - 5:45pm Mark Minasi

Network software and hardware comes and goes, protocols grow and change, and what we do with networks expands all of the time. One thing doesn't change: how often we use the words "network" and "not work" in the same sentence. One day, we'll just plug it all in and it'll just work. For now, though, "to network is to troubleshoot." In this session, Mark Minasi shares the 12 immutable laws of troubleshooting any network problem.

Th2 Hardening Server 2003 SP1/SP2: Tips & Tricks

8:30 - 10:00am Mark Minasi

Once upon a time, all you had to do to make a server or workstation useful was install it and configure it to the client's needs. Unfortunately, now that's only part of the job. Nowadays, you've also got to tailor it against the needs of the other clients on your systems—the bad guys. Configuring a system to be harder to attack isn't hard. It just requires understanding and implementing an array of settings. In this informative and enjoyable talk, A7-level computer expert Mark Minasi explains how you can make your system as dirtbag-proof as possible, and as simple as possible.

Th7 IE7 Deep Dive: Protecting Against SpyWare, Phishing and Bad Employees

10:15 - 11:45am Greg Shields

Internet Explorer 7 is a powerful new tool in the fight against bad code and bad employees. With features like Internet Explorer Protected Mode, its internal anti-Phishing filter and RIES, it's more secure than ever. It's still far from perfect, though, and keeping your coworkers protected from themselves can be a full-time job. In this session, we'll dive deep into the new features of IE7, learning which ones are interesting and useful and which ones are more annoying than anything. You'll leave with the knowledge you need to best administer Microsoft's newest browser.

Th12 SQL Server 2005 Administration Tips & Tricks

1:00 - 2:30pm Chris McCain

SQL Server 2005 is now almost three years old; a veteran database server with many improvements over its predecessor. Join us to learn to add some nifty tricks to your SQL Server 2005 administration tool bag. Watch common tools pull and manipulate data, see demos on automating common database management tasks, and learn the most common SQL server best practices including protecting the server, protecting the data and maintaining the server.

Th17 Faster, Better, Cheaper: Disaster Recovery with Virtualization

2:45 - 4:15pm Greg Shields

Virtualization is fast becoming "the next big thing" in IT. Many IT shops are already moving to it to inexpensively solve a host of problems, including disaster recovery. With virtual servers, DR becomes easy and can be affordable. But there are also some very important gotcha's. This session will help you learn those common mistakes and give you the tools and techniques you need to nuke-proof your virtualized servers.

F2 Vista Rapid Deployment Tools

8:30 - 10:00am Rhonda Layfield

Microsoft's new imaging and deployment technologies can help you deploy Vista quickly and easily. This session will not only explain the new tools, but also provide demonstrations and step-by-step instructions. When you walk away from this session, you'll be ready to create a custom Windows Pre-Installation Environment (WinPE) and installation script using Windows System Image Manager (WSIM). Last but by no means least, you'll be ready to install, configure, implement and optimize the performance of a Windows Deployment Service (WDS) server. There are no prerequisites for this session. Everyone from novice to expert will walk away with new information to help deploy Vista in your environment.

F7 Troubleshooting Group Policy Application

10:15 - 11:45am Derek Melber

Have you ever configured a GPO and waited for it to apply, but it never did? Group Policy is one of the most important of all Active Directory technologies, but it is also one of the most complex to troubleshoot. Understanding how to decrypt where the problem is initiating is not all that easy, since there are very few good troubleshooting tools. We will look at the diverse tools that are available to troubleshoot Group Policy, as well as how to analyze the results to get the core of the problem. Experience with Group Policy is required.

For MCSEs Track

M3 Managing Files, Folders, Registry and AD objects

12:30 - 2:00pm Derek Melber

You have some files, folders, computers and Active Directory objects stored somewhere on your network. Are they secured? This session covers some of the key control mechanisms you can use to lock down these resources, while allowing users to maintain access to them. You'll learn about key concepts like NTFS permissions, Access Based Enumeration, Encrypting File System and Distributed File System. This session will also cover how to grant users access to these resources simply by using Group Policy.

M8 IIS: Internet and Intranet

2:15 - 3:45pm Chris McCain

Does your company have a Web presence? Of course it does. Microsoft's Internet Information Services is a versatile technology that can serve many purposes for the Web. This session will look at common IIS deployments for internal and external networks. See how Microsoft's Internet Security and Acceleration Server 2006 can help you deploy a secure IIS implementation by pre-authenticating users and providing reverse proxy servers for internal Web services. You'll also see how IIS functions as the core for Windows SharePoint Services, WSUS and other common Web Applications in a Windows Network.

M13 Delegating and Auditing Within Active Directory

4:00 - 5:30pm Derek Melber

Take control over your Active Directory infrastructure. Microsoft provided delegation of authority within Active Directory, but are you using it properly? This session will cover the delegation model built into Active Directory, hit some key areas to make your delegation more powerful and give you some design tips. Once you have delegation in place, now you need to audit what everyone is doing in Active Directory. You'll learn everything you need to make great decisions with your delegation of Active Directory.

T3 Windows Terminal Services vs. Citrix: Which One Wins?

10:15 - 11:45am Greg Shields

In one corner, we have a low-cost, manual solution for remote application access. In the other, we have a higher-cost and somewhat automated solution for the same problem. Which do you choose? It really depends on what you need. In this face-off between terminal services and Citrix, we'll discuss the pros and cons of both approaches. We'll talk candidly about the features you should care about and those to ignore. You'll leave being able to decide on a solid winner for your network's remote access solution.

T8 Real World PKI and Certificate Implementation

2:30 - 4:00pm Chris McCain

Do you think PKI is too hard to implement or not a right fit for you? Think again. This is the true story of an often avoided technology and how you can use it to secure your network environment from the user to the client to the server. You'll learn how to implement and manage a stable and secure PKI implementation with a look at tips, best practices and the most common real world scenarios.

T13 Using IPSec and Other Network Security Techniques

4:15 - 5:45pm Chris McCain

Do you feel you're in a battle for network security supremacy? Join this session to get a solid understanding of three common network security practices: IPsec, SSL and SMB Signing. You'll get a close look at the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of each security technique. In the session, you'll be able to watch demos of quick and easy ways to increase security for individual servers or groups of servers using local security policy and Group Policy.

W3 Clustering: When and Where to Use It

8:30 - 10:00am Chris McCain

Does clustering seem like a black, mystical box? Windows Clustering is often considered a difficult and highly technical technology. This session will demystify and break down the clustering concept and identify the appropriate usage scenarios—SQL Clusters, Exchange Clusters and more. You'll see demonstrations, best practices and tips for implementing Windows Server Clusters. The session will also include a look at how to build hot sites with geographically dispersed clusters.

W8 Managing DNS in an Active Directory Environment

10:15 - 11:45am Rhonda Layfield

DNS is easily the most critical component in an Active Directory environment. When it's not working properly, people notice. This session will turn you into a DNS black belt, covering the basics and taking you through the most advanced features such as service locator records, secure zone transfers and Longhorn's new DName records. Understanding how DNS really works will help you when it comes time for troubleshooting.

W13 Wireless Networking and Security Essentials

2:30 - 4:00pm Todd Logan

Want a better wireless experience from your computer? There are a significant new features, enhancements, and updates in the areas architecture, user interface, security and performance to wireless networking in Windows Vista. In this session, you'll learn about user interface improvements for wireless connections and changes in Wireless Auto Configuration. You'll learn about the significant changes made to the wireless architecture and new wireless Group Policies you can use to configure fast roaming and auto configuration. If that isn't enough, you'll also learn about the new diagnostic tools that help troubleshoot wireless connection issues. This session is intended for administrators with previous wireless experience.

W18 Recipes for Scripting: Automating Without Becoming a Programmer

4:15 - 5:45pm Don Jones

Sure, you want to script. You just don't have time to learn how, right? Let Don Jones, PowerShell MVP and author of *Windows Administrator's Automation Toolkit*, give you a cookbook full of scripting "recipes" that let you automate key administrative tasks without writing a line of scripting code. You'll get a quick walk-through of each script, which is a great way to learn scripting basics. You'll learn how to use easy-to-assemble "snippets" as the building blocks of your own power-packed scripts (sorry, snippets and batteries not included). You'll get all the scripts used in the session so you can immediately put them to use in your production environments.

Th3 Managing and Monitoring Windows and Active Directory Performance (Layfield)

8:30 - 10:00am Rhonda Layfield

How do you know when you need to add more RAM or hard drive space to a server? Monitoring your AD and server performance can help to save you time and money by heading off issues before they actually become issues. In this session, you'll learn about the various System Monitor objects and counters that can indicate downward trends and give you a chance to alleviate problems before your users are aware of them at all. Netdiag, DCDiag, Repadmin and Replmon are just a few of the tools we will cover.

Th8 Where and When to use Server Virtualization

10:15 - 11:45am Chris McCain

To "V" or Not to "V"? That is the question. Virtualization is quickly becoming a common data center practice. Today's network architects and administrators must be able to understand the principals and practices behind virtualization in order to identify the appropriate scenarios for virtualizing servers in the data center. This session will cover tips, best practices and real-world scenarios for implementing virtual servers in a small business or enterprise environment.

Th13 The Best Free Tools for Windows Server Administration

1:00 - 2:30pm Greg Shields

Why buy anything if you can get it for free? With hundreds of free tools out on the Internet, you can find one that will do just about anything. Finding the right one is the hard part. Considered a must-see session, come see Master Toolsmith and Windows Insider columnist Greg Shields. He'll share the free tools in his quiver that help ease the burden of systems administration—without having to beg for money from the boss.

Th18 GPOs Soup to Nuts

2:45 - 4:15pm Derek Melber

Do you want to know all there is to know about Group Policy? Spend the day with Group Policy MVP and author of *The Group Policy Guide*, Derek Melber, and he'll cover everything you need to know about Group Policy. If you're already a guru, have no fear. Derek will fill in those small gaps of knowledge regarding Group Policy. He'll cover Group Policy management, processing, application, design, architecture and more. When you leave, you will have the core knowledge of Group Policy that you need.

F3 Good GPO Management: GPMC - Better GPO Management: AGPM

8:30 - 10:00am Derek Melber

You want to get a better handle on your Group Policy management? Microsoft has come to your rescue by providing the perfect solution for you: Advanced Group Policy Management. This new tool is a must have for any Active Directory and Group Policy environment. The AGPM solves all the nagging issues you may have experienced. You'll see the power of AGPM's offline editing, rollback, change management and much more.

F8 Active Directory Sysvol Replication Today and Tomorrow

10:15 - 11:45am Rhonda Layfield

Have the contents of Sysvol ever failed to replicate to a particular domain controller? If so, you're not alone. With the right knowledge, troubleshooting replication issues has never been easier. This session will explain in detail both the legacy replication engine—called the File Replication Service—and the new and improved DFS-R. When you leave this session, you'll be armed with the knowledge and tools needed to ensure that your Sysvol replication is consistent and reliable.

Foundations for Windows Administration Track

M4 Active Directory Administration, Part 1

12:30 - 2:00pm Bruce Rougeau

It's impossible to be a great system administrator unless you have a thorough knowledge of Active Directory. This session will begin by introducing all the key buzzwords for AD and exploring the options for building an AD infrastructure. Then, it will cover all the ways to add users: the graphical console, Ldifde, Csvde and VBScript. We'll also look at the variety of AD groups and the different combinations for effectively using groups to manage permissions in a complex environment.

M9 Active Directory Administration, Part 2

2:15 - 3:45pm Bruce Rougeau

Group Policy is the heart and soul of Windows configuration management. This session will explore the essentials of Group Policy, explain where you can apply it, and why there are two parts to every Group Policy. Then, we'll explore the application of Group Policy by demystifying the often-confusing Loopback processing, Enforced, Block Inheritance and Group Policy permissions. Next, we'll see how to deploy software with Group Policy, contrasting Published and Assigned Applications. We'll finish up by using tools like Resultant Set of Policy (RSoP) and GPResult to verify the Group Policy settings being applied to client and server computers.

M14 System Recovery: The Good, the Bad, the Lifesaving

4:00 - 5:30pm Bruce Rougeau

Your server just crashed and it won't boot because the registry is corrupted. What do you do? If this hasn't happened to you yet, it's only a matter of time. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, so we'll start by covering the core techniques for effectively backing up different types of servers. You'll also get the pound of cure, learning a variety of techniques for restoring servers, including Safe Mode, Recovery Console, Automatic System Restore and even good old Windows Backup. Last but not least, we'll look at why you might want to explore a system state by restoring it to an alternate location—and how to do it.

T4 Vista Administration Essentials

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Rougeau

Trying to figure out answers to key questions about Vista deployment? Since Vista is nearly a complete rewrite of Windows, there are several things you'll need to be aware of to ensure a successful implementation. We'll help you work through decisions like which version to choose, hardware concerns, application compatibility, user training and data migration. We'll even help you develop a deployment strategy. Finally, we'll cover important and misunderstood new features like User Account Control (UAC), Windows Firewall, Disk Manager, event logs and more.

T9 Managing Vista with Group Policy

2:30 - 4:00pm Derek Melber

Do you want more control over your Vista desktops? Of course you do. PolicyMaker is the right solution to gain that control. It will solve those nagging little issues you thought were never going to be resolved. It can even resolve issues you didn't know you had. With drive mappings, printer mappings, power option control, file transfer, folder control and so on, PolicyMaker technology will give you the ultimate degree of control over desktops.

T14 Terminal Services Concepts and Administration

4:15 - 5:45pm Bruce Rougeau

Terminal Services is the greatest thing since sliced bread. Whether it's Remote Desktop or Terminal Services, the technical architecture has the same building blocks. This session will explore all the components of a "thin client" computing environment and how to make the most of it. We'll cover licensing for the Windows 2000 and 2003 Terminal Services servers, and how to configure access, which promises to be an eye-opener. Last but not least, we'll look at Terminal Services Manager, Terminal Services-related Group Policy settings and Terminal Services configuration tools. You'll be the all-powerful one by knowing and controlling what's going on in your environment.

W4 Security Basics: Windows Vista, Server Roles, and Security Templates

8:30 - 10:00am Bruce Rougeau

Why is security so difficult to manage? There's no one-size-fits-all-solution. Security varies from server to server and OS to OS. In this session, we'll look at a variety of server configurations and which security settings are appropriate for each. This will help you secure servers more intelligently based on their function. We'll look at Windows Vista, its controversial User Account Control, and how Vista security has been redesigned from the ground up. We'll wrap up with security templates, which are becoming a more important way for you to consistently manage and audit security settings.

W9 IIS Essentials and Administration

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Rougeau

Like it or not, every administrator needs to know how to manage Internet Information Services (IIS) in Windows Server 2003, whether you're managing public Web sites, intranet Web applications, or even just supporting an application that uses the Web server. We'll look at techniques like limiting the base install, securing IIS, and adding functionality by enabling ActiveX and WebDAV. We'll take that knowledge and look at Windows Software Update Services (WSUS), a key IIS-based application, and show how IIS provides the power behind this Microsoft patch management solution.

W14 Routing and Remote Access Concepts and Administration

2:30 - 4:00pm Bruce Rougeau

Microsoft will never put Cisco out of business. A Windows server can, however, provide many remote access functions through the Routing and Remote Access (RRAS) subsystem. This session will show you how to configure and troubleshoot RRAS. We'll cover static and dynamic routing and how to look at the route table on each Windows system. We'll discuss two tunneling protocols—IPSec and L2TP—and show you how to configure the Microsoft VPN client for remote access.

W19 Remote Access Policies and Network Monitoring

4:15 - 5:45pm Bruce Rougeau

This session will discuss using remote access policies, as well as the industry-standard RADIUS protocol, for controlling access to Windows' Routing and Remote Access Services. It will look at the ins and outs of configuring and establishing a Remote Access connection. It will also dig under the hood with Microsoft Network Monitor to see all kinds of network traffic—including how to capture passwords being passed across the network in clear text. You can't help but become a real network troubleshooter once you "see" network protocols in action, spot errant behavior and determine the cause.

Th4 TCP/IP Essentials: The Heart of the Network

8:30 - 10:00am Bruce Rougeau

IPv6 is here and networking isn't getting any easier. You don't use IPv6 yet? Think again: New versions of Windows configure and use it automatically. We'll look at more common IPv4 deployments in our discussion, and consider techniques for configuring and troubleshooting TCP/IP with both static and dynamic configurations. We'll look at Windows' DHCP Server and learn to use scopes, reservations and options to configure a robust TCP/IP-based network. We'll also use Network Monitor to see DHCP in action, and to troubleshoot the DHCP discovery process.

Th9 DNS Essentials: Your Network's Phonebook

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Rougeau

Accessing computers using their names would be impossible without DNS. This session will cover all the unique terms and concepts used in DNS management and show you how DNS is truly universal when it comes to name resolution. We'll look at the complexity of DNS (why do you think some large companies have administrators who do nothing but DNS?), and how to expand the DNS namespace using delegation and stub zones. We'll explain how to properly configure both forward and reverse lookup zones, and how to make them more secure and reliable by integrating them with Active Directory. We'll look at Windows' Dynamic DNS system, and how to secure that. You'll gain a complete understanding of DNS in a Microsoft world, and be ready to make major DNS improvements when you get home.

Th14 Windows PowerShell From the Very Beginning

1:00 - 2:30pm Don Jones

Interested in learning about the future of Windows administration? Want to start using it *today*? Windows PowerShell MVP and guru Don Jones introduces you to the fundamentals of Windows PowerShell through a series of practical examples. No programming, scripting, or any other experience is required! You'll learn what PowerShell is, how it works, and see several examples of real-world administration tasks performed from this all-new, super-flexible command-line interface.

Th19 DiskManagement: How, What, When and Why

2:45 - 4:15pm Bruce Rougeau

Every time you setup a workstation or server, you must decide what it the best way to configure and allocate disk space. This session will contrast how hardware RAID varies from software RAID 0. We will look at the Microsoft offering and see how it has gotten better in Vista. This session will be a great time to refresh your understanding of RAID and how to recover from various types of disk errors. This session will also cover Microsoft's quota management and various Microsoft tools like DiskPart.

F4 The Log-On Script Cookbook

8:30 - 10:00am Jeffery Hicks

Want to build powerful log-on scripts, but don't have the bandwidth to learn a scripting language? Never fear, *Redmond* magazine's Mr. Roboto is here with easy-to-assemble script snippets that map drives, map printers, check for group membership and more. By simply connecting these simple pieces, you'll be able to build effective log-on scripts that accomplish the most commonly used log-on scripting tasks in no time flat. You'll even learn when log-on scripts aren't the right answer, with a quick look at commonly-performed functions you can handle more easily with other technologies like Group Policy objects (GPOs).

F9 Digital Identity: The Fundamentals of Certificate Management

10:15 - 11:45am Bruce Rougeau

Are you indeed who you say you are? In the world of technology, only a digital certificate can tell for sure. Every network needs certificates, whether it's for encryption, identification or secure communications. This session will show you Microsoft's built-in Windows-based solution for creating a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). We'll look at how encryption and signatures differ, and whether you should opt for an internal PKI or rely on certificates purchased from a commercial Certification Authority (CA). If you decide to go internal, you're in luck. We'll look at different options for building a PKI, and how you can greatly enhance a PKI by integrating it into Active Directory.

Knowledgeable, Accessible Instructors

J. Peter Bruzzese

Over the past 10 years Mr. Bruzzese has worked for everyone from Goldman Sachs to Microsoft. He specializes in corporate training and has had the privilege of working with some of the top names in the business of Computer Education. During the 90s, Peter focused specifically on Certification Training (holding at the time certifications from Microsoft as an MCSE for 4.0 and an MCT, as well as A+, Network+, iNet+ from Comptia, and CNA from Novell and CCNA from Cisco). With the introduction of Windows 2000, he became one of the foremost speakers on the subject of Active Directory and Exchange. He wrote several articles for a variety of magazines and has co-authored upwards of 10 different titles ranging from Directory Services to Enterprise Storage Solutions. He has spoken on the TechMentor Conference circuit, as well. Currently an MCSE for 2003, he is working on Office 2007 titles that will soon be on the bookshelves and just completed the book *Tricks of the Vista Masters*.

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 e-mail at jhicks@SAPIEN.com or visit his blog at http://jdhitsolutions.blogspot.com.

Don Jones

Don Jones is the owner of ScriptingAnswers.com, a contributing editor to *Redmond* magazine, and a columnist on CertCities.com and MCPMag.com. Don has written more than a dozen information technology books, including *Managing Windows with VBScript and WMI* (Addison-Wesley). Don is also an independent technology consultant, with a focus on security and automation in Microsoft-centric environments.

Rhonda Layfield

Rhonda Layfield, MCT, NT/2000/2003 MCSE, MCSE: Security began her network support career in 1982 serving in the U.S. Navy, where she worked for seven years in communications with a top secret clearance. Since then, she alternates between consulting (including a network support role at Microsoft) and training (specializing in 2003 MCSE boot camps). Some of her clients include Dow Jones, U.S. Airforce, IBM, Duke Energy, Bank of America, Wachovia and EDS. She is also a co-author of *Mastering Windows Server 2003*, *Upgrade Edition for SP1 and R2*, and the upcoming *Mastering Windows Server Longhorn* book.

Todd Logan

Todd Logan, MCSE, MCSA, MCDST, CWNA, Security+, is a Windows Server Technology Specialist for Microsoft. Todd was a technical trainer for 10 years prior to joining Microsoft. He is a published author on topics relating to Windows 2000, XP, Server 2003 and wireless technologies. He also created a series of certification videos for CBT Nuggets Inc.

Bruce Mackenzie-Low

Bruce Mackenzie-Low, MCSE/MCSA is a master consultant at HP providing 3rd level worldwide support on Microsoft Windows based products including Clusters and Crash Dump Analysis. With more than 18 years of computing experience at Digital, Compaq and HP, Bruce is a well-known resource for resolving highly complex problems involving clusters, SANs, networking and internals. He has taught extensively throughout his career always leaving his audience energized with his enthusiasm for technology.

Chris McCain

Chris McCain, CEO of the National IT Training and Certification Institute (NITTCI), is a six-year veteran of the IT training and consulting field. Chris has worked with a variety of Microsoft feature and products like Active Directory, DNS, DHCP, PKI and IPSec. His work has helped him develop a specialization in architecting secure Microsoft networks on platforms like Windows Server 2003, Windows XP and Windows Vista. In addition Chris has experience in training and deploying core server products like MSQL Server, Sharepoint, Virtual Server 2005, and VMware Virtual Infrastructre 3. Chris has co-authored national publications, authored content for Microsoft Learning, and been a portion of the brainshare behind the coming www.GetYourNerdOn.com Web resource.

Derek Melber

Derek Melber, MCSE, CISM, MVP, is an independent consultant and trainer, as well as author of many IT books. Derek educates and evangelizes Microsoft technology, focusing on Active Directory, Group Policy, Security, and desktop management. Derek regularly contributes to numerous online and print publications, including *Redmond* magazine and has written over 10 technology books, including *The Group Policy Guide* (MS Press). You can bring Derek to your office for training or consulting, just e-mail him at derekm@braincore.net.

Mark Minasi

Mark Minasi, MCSE is author of *Mastering Windows Server 2003*, the latest in a series of books on Microsoft networking that have sold over a million copies. He has been a columnist for several industry magazines. Mark is a frequent conference keynote and breakout speaker and regularly garners those conferences' highest attendee evaluation scores. He has won CertCities.com's Readers' Choice Award for "Favorite Technical Author" three years running. (www.minasi.com)

Beth Quinlan

Beth Quinlan MCT, MCSE, MCSA, CISSP, is a trainer/consultant who has specialized in Microsoft infrastructure technologies and security design for over 12 years. Beth is currently in her fourth worldwide tour on behalf of Microsoft Product Teams in which she trains internal Microsoft engineers, partners and customers on ISA Server 2004, Antigen, Exchange Hosted Services and RMS. Beth has spoken at events for Microsoft and others, written courseware for a variety of clients, developed hands-on labs for Microsoft and recently authored ISA Server 2006 Reviewer's Guide.

Bruce Rougeau

Bruce Rougeau, MCSE, MCP+I, MCT, Citrix Certified MetaFrame Administrator, began designing and implementing a three-tier architecture for an automated medical record system in April 1998. The most recent thin client implementation was deployed using Citrix's WinFrame utilizing 1,000 Windows-based terminals and fewer than 20 PCs. Currently he works for EDS as an infrastructure architect focusing on networks, Web servers, thin client computing and 32-way Intel Data Center solutions.

Greg Shields

Greg Shields, MCSE: Security, CCEA, is a principal consultant with 3t Systems in Denver, Colorado, www.3tsystems.com. With more than 10 years of experience in information technology, Greg has developed extensive experience in systems administration, engineering, and architecture. Greg is a contributing editor for *Redmond* magazine, authoring two regular columns along with numerous feature articles, Webcasts, and white papers. He is also the resident editor for Realtime Publishers' Windows Server Community at www.realtime-windowsserver.com. A highly sought-after instructor and speaker, Greg is a dynamic speaker and experienced technical trainer.

"It was really cool that Mark Minasi, Rhonda Layfield, Greg Shields and Derek Melber were so available to help with problems and questions we were actually facing on our site. Thank you."

—E. Parlor, Milter-Valentine Group

"I enjoyed Bruce Rougeau. He was very knowledgeable on the subject and he was an outstanding speaker. I learned a lot of valuable info that I can take back with me to apply to my job."

—C. Vetter, USDA/APHIS

"Don (Jones) and Jeff (Hicks) did an incredible job presenting a variety of topics and tying them all together in an understandable way. I'm walking away from TechMentor feeling better about my skills and more confident that I can be an even better asset to my employer."

—P. Gould, Premera Blue Cross

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Kaseya is a global provider of Managed Service Automation (MSA) software for IT Solution providers and Corporate IT organization who benefit from deploying Kaseya's Systems management capabilities. Kaseya allows businesses to proactively manage distributed IT infrastructure easily and efficiently with one integrated Web based platform. Kaseya's technology has been deployed on over 1 million machines in over 25 countries around the world.

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BARRACUDA NETWORKS

Barracuda Networks Inc., provides powerful, easy-to-use and affordable enterprise-class application security appliances for comprehensive e-mail, Internet and IM protection. These plug-and-play hardware solutions, the Barracuda Spam Firewall, Barracuda Web Filter and Barracuda IM Firewall, are built for businesses of all sizes and protect over 40,000 customers worldwide.

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Software is privately held and headquartered in Southborough, MA. For more information, please visit www.doubletake.com.

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VMware, an EMC company (NYSE: EMC), is the global leader in virtual infrastructure software for industry-standard systems. The world's largest companies use VMware solutions to simplify their IT, fully leverage their existing computing investments and respond faster to changing business demands. VMware is based in Palo Alto, Calif. For more information, visit www.vmware.com or call 650-475-5000.

Exhibit Hall Schedule

Tuesday, October 16

11:45am - 2:30pm	Exhibit Hall Open and Lunch
5:45pm - 7:30pm	Exhibit Hall Open and Reception
6:30pm - 7:30pm	Meet the Editors of Redmond Media Group

Wednesday, October 17

11:45am - 2:15pm	Exhibit Hall Open and Lunch

Registration and Travel Information

Conference Registration

VIP Passport Package

The VIP Passport offers the best value for your time and money. It is your all-access pass to TechMentor and VSLive!. You'll get the VIP treatment which includes everything from the standard package plus:

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- Receptions
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- Networking Events
- Lunches (Tuesday – Thursday) and Morning Pastries
- Standard Conference Bag
- T-Shirt with Completed Survey
- CD of All Course Notes (Excludes Crash Course Notes)

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To register a group and for more information, call 800-280-6218 or (541-346-3537).

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Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino

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Las Vegas, NV 89103
Phone: 1-888-746-6955

As a TechMentor attendee, you are eligible for special room rates at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino. Lock in our discounted **rate of $169** per night when you reserve your room **before September 19**. To reserve your room, please call 888-746-6955 and **mention the group code** SRTMC7 **and TechMentor**. Rooms are subject to availability.

American Airlines is offering those attending TechMentor discounts from any published domestic fare for travel to Las Vegas between October 12 and October 22. Mileage members can receive full credit for all American miles flown to attend this conference. For discounts please call American Airlines at 1-800-433-1790, reference number #A55H7AA. To book your discounted ticket online go to http://www.aa.com and use the discount reference number above as the aa.com discount code.

Avis Rent-a-Car is offering TechMentor attendees a discount on car rental while visiting Las Vegas. To receive the discounted daily and weekly rates, call Avis at 800-331-1600 and use Avis Worldwide Discount number D005872.

How to Register

Online: TechMentorEvents.com
Phone: 1-800-280-6218 (8:00am – 5:00pm PT)
Fax: 1-541-346-3545
Mail: TechMentor Registration
1277 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1277
Onsite: You may register onsite. However space is limited and admission cannot be guaranteed.

Registration Form

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❑ $235 (Before September 12)
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- ❑ CC1: Vista Security Crash Course
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- ❑ CC4: Exchange Server 2007 Command-Line Management Crash Course
- ❑ CC5: Network Monitor Crash Course: Full Visibility Into Your Network
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Registration is transferable with written authorization. Cancellations must be in writing and postmarked before the cancellation deadline. Cancellations must be made by September 12, 2007 and will be subject to a $250 cancellation fee. Cancellations made after September 12, 2007 as well as "no shows" are liable for the full registration fee. In the event that the conference is cancelled by Redmond Media Group, registration fees only will be refunded. Cancellations of travel reservations and hotel reservations made directly with the hotel are the responsibility of the attendee.

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