

Customer Case Study

RSG Systems

American Systems House Turns to Genesis to Secure Internal Network



RSG Systems are a general business consultancy that advise their customers on all aspects of running a business. They store client confidential data that needs to exist in a fully secured environment.

The Genesis tool was chosen to secure their Active Directory on the grounds of security, cost and ease of implementation.

Published: April 2007

The Company



RSG provide integrated e-business solutions, content management and executive and professional services for a wide range of industries.

More information can be found on their web site at:

www.rsgsystems.com

This Case Study

This Case Study is comprised of information gained from a Q&A session conducted over a series of post-Genesis implementation emails. Rather than describing the project ourselves, we'll let the customer do that in their own words.

The Questions and the Answers

RKeyTec: Can you provide us with a Genesis quote?

RSG Systems: "In my opinion, the two most difficult things to manage in Active Directory are controls and standards. The everyday management challenges of an AD environment almost force you to take shortcuts that compromise your own security, controls, and standards just to 'meet your daily end-user demands'. Genesis is the 'genie in the box'. If you do your 'homework up front', Genesis will implement the security that you desired by configuring your AD with the controls and standards that you designed. The result will be a clean, professional looking AD directory structure, which follows a structured naming convention, is easy to navigate and understand, distributes objects in a logical manner and enforces your security policies from day one. Genesis takes into consideration almost all basic network administrative functions and builds in the permissions necessary for daily functions such as password resets, backups and DHCP administration without compromising the integrity of the rest of the services on the server. The Genesis 'genie' with its years of AD experience and 'best practices' takes care of many minute details that you may not have been aware of or simply missed. Every AD, irrelevant of size and complexity, will benefit from the discipline and structure of the Genesis product."

For more information about the project circumstances, please see the following page

The next step: Request a web-based demonstration or personal appointment by using the contact information, opposite. Reference sites available upon request.

Contact Details:

Telephone: +44 20 7870 1618 Email: Info@GenesisRKeyTec.com
Fax: +44 8700 528 179 Web: www.GenesisRKeyTec.com



Customer Feedback

"We were able to grant most of the permissions requested by the different development teams and still maintain that 'warm and fuzzy' feeling that you get when you know you haven't compromised your security model or the server in question. Now I'm actually starting to think about other 'mean' controls such as Intrusion Detection and Internet Access. When all is said and done, we'll have an excellent and manageable security model in place with the help of Genesis."

Thanks for your help and for the great product."

Cirilo Rosado
Director of Enabling Technologies
RSG Systems Incorporated



Solution Overview

Customer Profile

RSG provide integrated e-business solutions, content management and executive and professional services for a wide range of industries.

Business Situation

RSG wanted to amalgamate their infrastructure into a single, highly secure Domain.

Solution

RSG uses Genesis to implement a fully mature, fully secure Active Directory within a limited timescale.

Benefits

- Full implementation of true hierarchical authority within the Active Directory
- Reduced Active Directory design costs from saving time
- Reduced Active Directory implementation costs from using proven techniques
- Enhanced reliability due to use of a mature product

Software & Services

- Microsoft Windows Server with Active Directory
- Genesis

Hardware

- 87 Servers, Single Domain

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Genesis

RSG Systems Case Study

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RKeyTec: Approximately how many employees do you have?

RSG Systems: About 120 full time employees between NY and India and about another 80 consultants scattered around on projects at client sites.

RKeyTec: How many servers do you run?

RSG Systems: We have 87 servers in total. In NY, we have 47 Windows servers, 13 Linux servers, 2 Sun server and in India we have 18 Windows servers and 7 Linux servers.

RKeyTec: How many physical offices do you have?

RSG Systems: We have three offices. New York, NY (headquarters), Charlotte, NC (business contingency operations) and Gurgaon, India (off-shore development and support operations).

RKeyTec: What are your main in-house systems (email, etc)?

RSG Systems: We rely extensively on Exchange mail, Visual Source Safe, a Financial Accounting application and home grown applications for our day-to-day operations.

RKeyTec: What was the purpose of your project?

RSG Systems: We needed to merge two Active Directory Domains into one common domain where people between our offices could share resources, but at the same time control access to objects at a fine level. We wanted to upgrade our Active Directory environment and enhance security at the same time. We needed an Active Directory architecture where rights and permissions were clearly defined and which would leave us with the peace-of-mind that no one could 'wander' outside of their permissions realm, but still be able to do everything they had to.

RKeyTec: Did the project involve a complete back-end refresh?

RSG Systems: Yes, the project took a lot longer because we upgraded server and telecommunications hardware along with an operating systems upgrade to Windows 2003 server and Exchange 2003, at the same time as the Active Directory migration.

RKeyTec: Did you do all the work yourself?

RSG Systems: Yes, everything was done in-house. Outside of a few pointers to get me in the right direction by RKeyTec and a contact from another Genesis user, everything was done in-house following the documentation.

RKeyTec: How long did it take to install / configure your AD?

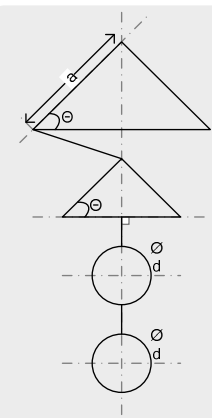
RSG Systems: The longest part was figuring out what we really wanted to do with our Active Directory implementation and collecting / installing all the migration tools. Once we had our AD design on paper and the tools in place, the actual installing, configuration, and 'tweaking' of the Genesis framework took less than a week. This included all the 'core' functions of Active Directory, such as DNS and DHCP services and replication between domain controllers. The actual Genesis installation and configuration, including mail services permissions, took just a few hours! That's the beauty of the Genesis product; you do your 'prep work' on paper, then execute the software, answer a few questions, and your 'security model' is installed and enforced. I cannot imagine sitting there manually assigning permissions and rights to the individual containers of each admin centre, fighting with inheritance, and not missing something or committing an error due to the tedious level of work. If you read and follow the documentation from the start, Genesis gets it right for you the first time.

The Genesis Advantage

- Reducing the design, prototyping and testing phases of Active Directory implementation projects by up to 90%
- Substantial reduction in deployment time
- Greatly increased security and functional capability of the Active Directory
- Simpler and more reliable administration leading to reduced administration overhead
- Stable global application behaviour
- Enhanced user experience: Systems, services & applications will behave the same regardless of logon location
- Quicker problem resolution due to standardised, fully documented structures
- Greater security against malicious attacks or administrative accidents.

What Is Genesis?

GENESIS is an expert system that allows any organisation to rapidly, and cost effectively implement a highly secure and functional "Pre-fabricated" Active Directory architecture into a new or existing Active Directory.



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Microsoft
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