WHITEPAPER

Create a Unified Global Address List between Merging Organizations
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About This Paper

This paper shows you how to create a unified Global Address List (GAL) that is synchronized between two organizations using Directory Sync Pro (formerly named SMART Directory Sync) from Binary Tree.

When you merge two organizations, one of the first things you should do—ideally on ‘Day One’—is to create a unified Global Address List. This will let users in both organizations find and collaborate with their new colleagues. To do this, you need to synchronize mail-enabled objects and address lists between the Active Directory (AD) forests in each organization.

Directory Sync Pro from Binary Tree enables you to simply and quickly set up a unified GAL between two organizations. With this tool, you can:

- Customize sync settings to meet your unique needs
- Define the parameters of what to sync for each user, group, and more
- Address account deletions, group membership changes, and more
- Set the sync to run at custom times and intervals
- Do a dry run to see if everything syncs as expected
Unify Your Global Address List

Directory Sync Pro from Binary tree provides a 10-step process to unify and synchronize a GAL between two organizations.

1. **Create a sync profile**

Open the Directory Sync Pro console, then click the **Add Profile** button. By adding a new profile, you can set up multiple profiles that have different sources and targets.

Choose the type of profile you want to create. You can install Directory Sync Pro in one forest and then connect to multiple forests as long as there's IP connectivity. In our example, we choose the default **AD Migration/Synchronization**.

Click **OK**.
2. Specify the general settings for the sync

In the General tab, type a name for your profile. In our example screen shots, we portray synchronizing objects from an AD called Northwind to another AD called Litware. We are using the fictional company names Northwind and Litware as most readers will be familiar with their use by Microsoft. So, given the fictional company names, we name this profile “NW to LW.”

Choose a Scope. You can do either an inter-forest migration or an intra-forest migration. In our example, we choose Inter-Forest, since we want to sync between two different forests. If you need to keep things in sync within the same forest, change this scope to Intra-Forest.

Choose a setting for the amount of Logging needed. A ‘Low’ setting will log errors, a ‘Medium’ setting will log errors and warnings, and ‘High’ setting will log all messages, which is useful when you are troubleshooting.

Choose a Schedule. By default, the schedule is set to Manual Only. Or you can set it to synchronize at a certain frequency or at specific times.
3. **Connect to the source Active Directory**

Click the **AD Source** tab. Here’s where you give the credentials for your source forest.

Type a **User Name** and **Password**. In the **Global Catalog Server** field, type the IP address or the full qualified domain name. Either one will work. In this example, we type the IP address for our Northwind forest.

Press the Tab key, and the domain name automatically pops up. If you don’t see the domain name, make sure that your IP address or domain name is correct. Otherwise, it means the tool can’t connect to your source forest.

![SMART Directory Sync Console - Version 4.4.0.0](image)

Click the **Add OU(s)** button in the bottom right. This is where you set the parameters of what you want to sync in the source Active Directory environment.
Click the name of the OU you want to sync. In this example, we click **Sync to Litware**. Click **OK**.

In the **Source OUs** box, scroll to the right to see the **User Filter** and the **Group Filter**. If you want, you can enter your own LDAP syntax for users, groups, or even devices. For example, you might want to sync only certain users.
4. Connect to the source domain controllers

Choose the Source DCs tab. Here, you add the DC of the source environment that you want to sync with. Click to add a new item, and you see a list of available DCs. In our example, there’s only one. You might see hundreds of DCs in this list.

Click the name of the domain you’d like to use, then click the Test Connections button. Scroll to the right until you see that the Connection column says Success. That means the tool talked to this domain controller successfully. Click OK.

If needed, click to add another DC. Depending on your AD subset location and LAN routing, you might have domain controllers that are less desirable than others. So you can set the priority for each DC. In the Priority column, type a number (for example, 1, 2, or 3). The tool will then try to connect first to the primary DC with the highest priority.
5. **Connect to the target Active Directory**

Click the **AD Target** tab. In this example, we're synchronizing to our Litware environment, so we add the Litware credentials.

As you did for the AD source, type a **User Name** and **Password**. In the **Global Catalog Server** field, type the IP address or the full qualified domain name. Either one will work. In this example, we type the IP address for our Litware forest.

Press the **Tab** key, and the domain name automatically pops up. If you don’t see the domain name, make sure that your IP address or domain name is correct. Otherwise, the tool can’t find your target domain.

Click the **Browse...** button.
Choose the specific place in your domain that you want to synchronize with. In this example, we choose From Northwind. Click OK.

Choose if you want to Synchronize Passwords. If you choose Yes, the tool will synchronize user passwords. If you choose No, you will be required to enter a default password that would be used for all newly created target accounts.
6. Specify any special handling of users, groups, and devices

Click the **AD Target Options** tab. Here, you have several options for how the tool can create users and groups in the target.

From the **Users** and **Groups** sub-tabs, modify any settings that you want. For example, you might want to bring over your mail-enabled users as contacts. These newly created contacts in the domain would allow Litware users to see their Northwind counterparts in the GAL. It will also grab any newly created mail-enabled users and add them to the GAL for you. In our example, we leave it **As Is**.

Choose an option for **User Collisions**. This tells the tool what to do if there’s a collision. For example, do you want to bring over your mail-enabled users as is? Or do you want to bring them over but disable them in the target? You can do either of these things. You can even rename the accounts.
7. **Specify any options for the Exchange target**

Click the **Exchange Target Options** tab.

Choose an option from **GAL Visibility**. You can choose to make these accounts visible in the GAL, hidden, or just bring them over as is. In this example, we choose to make them **Visible** so that users in the target domain can find them.
8. **Connect to the target domain controllers**

Click the **Target DCs** tab. Here, you choose the target domain controllers that the application will communicate with.

Click to add a new item, you see the list of available target DCs. Again, you could have dozens of domain controllers in your list. In our example, we have one.

Choose the domain you’d like to connect to and press the Tab key to test it. Make sure that the **Connection** column says Success. Then click **OK**. You can also type a number in the **Priority** column to set the priority.
9. Specify any custom matching of attributes

Click the **Matching** tab. Here you can choose which attributes to match between the **Source** and **Target** accounts.

You have the flexibility to match any attributes in the source to the same or other attributes in the target. It's up to you and what your business and technical requirements are for this project. In our example, we decide to match the `sAMAccountName` in the source with the same attribute in the target.
10. Specify any custom mapping of fields

Click the **Mapping** tab. Just like in the **Matching** tab, you can map an attribute in the **Source Field** column to any in the **Target Field** column. For example, you can change the source **CN** to something different in the target. Again, you can customize these to meet your business needs.

When you’re done, click **Save**.
Test the Synchronization

Now that you’ve created and configured your Directory Sync Pro profile, you can do a dry run and make sure everything’s working as you expect. In our example, we test how well a user synchronizes between the Northwind and Litware domains.

1. Create a new user in the source

Open the domain controller for your source domain. In our example, we open the Northwind DC. In the left column, click the name of the target domain. For us, that’s Sync To Litware.

Create a new sample user. (Right-click and click New..., then User.) Type a name for the new user, including a Display Name. In our example, we use Tom Smith. In the Description field, make Tom a member of the IT department. In the E-mail field, give him a fake email address.

![Image of user creation process]
2. Run the sync manually

Go back to SMART Directory Sync. Click the Sync Profile button and then click Yes.

Once a sync has started, Directory Sync Pro will connect to the preferred source domain controller. During this time, the tool finds the OU or groups of OUs that you chose. It searches for all the users and groups that match the criteria you configured. It connects with the target domain controller, the preferred one, and Litware. It sees that those accounts already exist. If they don't, the tool will create them for you.
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3. **Verify the new user was created in the target**

Open the domain controller for the target domain. In our case, we open the Litware domain.

From the left column, click the source domain. In our case, it’s **From Northwind**.

Refresh the account. (Right-click and click **Refresh**.) You should see the name of the sample user you created earlier.

Click the sample user and double-check that the attributes all came through correctly. For example, we see that Tom’s name, his description, and his email address all show up as expected. If not, go back to Directory Sync Pro and tweak your settings.

![Tom Smith Properties](image)

**Summary**

You’ve now seen just how simple yet powerful the Binary Tree Directory Sync Pro software can be to enable Day One support for mergers and acquisitions. By leveraging this platform, a unified Global Address List with contacts from both of the merging organizations will be accessible to your users and enable them to start collaborating.
About Binary Tree

Binary Tree is a Microsoft Gold Partner for messaging, cloud productivity and application development and is dedicated to and focused on enterprise transformations to Microsoft platforms. Since 1993, Binary Tree has transformed more than 8,000 global clients and 42 million users, including 7.5 million users to Office 365. The company is a globally preferred vendor for Office 365. Its headquarters is located outside of New York City with global offices in France, Germany, Singapore, Sweden and the U.K. Its award-winning software and services help companies modernize email, directories and applications by moving and integrating them to the Microsoft cloud. The company’s business-first approach helps plan, move and manage the transformation process from end to end so that clients can stay focused on their core businesses. Binary Tree’s experts deliver low-risk, successful IT transformations. Visit www.binarytree.com for more information.

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