

Knowledge Base

How to move a DHCP database to a computer that is running Windows Server 2003

PSS ID Number: 325473

Article Last Modified on 5/12/2004

The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, 64-Bit Datacenter Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Datacenter Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, 64-Bit Enterprise Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Standard Edition
 - Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
-

This article was previously published under Q325473

IN THIS TASK

- [SUMMARY](#)
 - [Export the DHCP database from a server that is running Windows NT Server 4.0 or Windows 2000](#)
 - [Export the DHCP database from a server that is running Microsoft Windows Server 2003](#)
 - [Install the DHCP server service on the server that is running Windows Server 2003](#)
 - [Import the DHCP database](#)
 - [Authorize the DHCP server](#)
- [REFERENCES](#)

SUMMARY

This step-by-step article describes how to move a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) database from a computer that is running Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0, Microsoft Windows 2000, or Microsoft Windows Server 2003 to a computer that is running Windows Server 2003.

[back to the top](#)

Export the DHCP database from a server that is running Windows NT Server 4.0 or Windows 2000

1. Stop the DHCP Server service on the server:
 - a. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type `cmd` in the **Open** box, and then click **OK**.
 - b. At the command prompt, type `net stop "microsoft dhcp server"`, and then press ENTER. You receive a "The Microsoft DHCP Server service is stopping. The Microsoft DHCP Server service was stopped successfully" message.
 - c. Type `exit`, and then press ENTER.
2. Compact the DHCP database by using the JetPack utility:
 - a. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type `cmd` in the **Open** box, and then click **OK**.
 - b. At the command prompt, type `cd %systemroot%\system32\dhcp`, and then press ENTER.
 - c. Type `jetpack dhcp.mdb temp.mdb`, and then press ENTER.
 - d. After the database is compacted successfully, type `exit`, and then press ENTER.
3. Export the DHCP database by using the DHCP Export Import utility (Dhcpexim.exe). You can obtain this utility from the Windows 2000 Resource Kit Supplement 1. You can also visit the following Microsoft Web site to obtain Dhcpexim.exe:
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows2000/techno/reskit/tools/new/dhcpexim-o.asp>

To export the database:

- a. Install the Dhcpexim.exe utility, and then start the Dhcpexim.exe utility.
 - b. At the **Welcome to DHCP Export Import tool** screen, click **Export configuration of the local service to a file**, and then click **OK**.
 - c. In the **File name** box, type the file name for the exported file, and then click **Save**. For example, type `dhcpdatabase.txt`.
 - d. Click the scope or scopes that you want to export, click to select the **Disable the selected scopes on local machine before export** check box, and then click **Export**.
 - e. Click **OK**.
4. Disable the DHCP Server service on the server:
 - a. Click **Start**, point to **Settings**, click **Control Panel**, and then double-click **Services**.
 - b. In the **Service** list, click **Microsoft DHCP Server**, click **Startup**, click **Disabled**, and then click **OK**.
 - c. If the service is started, click **Stop**, and then click **Yes** to confirm the stopping of the service.
 - d. Click **Close** to close the **Services** dialog box.

Important Dhcpexim.exe is required to move the database successfully from a server that is running Windows 2000 to a server that is running Windows Server 2003. If only the configuration (not the database) is required, use the following command on the Windows 2000-based server that you want to export from

```
netsh dhcp server export C:\dhcp.txt all
```

where `C:\dhcp.txt` is the name and path of the export file that you want to use.

[back to the top](#)

Export the DHCP database from a server that is running Microsoft Windows Server 2003

To move a DHCP database and configuration from a server that is running Windows Server 2003 to another server that is running Windows Server 2003:

1. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type `cmd` in the **Open** box, and then click **OK**.
2. Type `netsh dhcp server export C:\dhcp.txt all`, and then press ENTER.
3. Copy the file to the new server.
4. Type `netsh dhcp server import C:\dhcp.txt all`, and then press ENTER.

[back to the top](#)

Install the DHCP server service on the server that is running Windows Server 2003

To install the DHCP Server service on an existing Windows Server 2003-based computer:

1. Click **Start**, click **Control Panel**, and then double-click **Add or Remove Programs**.
2. Click **Add/Remove Windows Components**.
3. In the Windows Component Wizard, click **Networking Services** in the **Components** box, and then click **Details**.
4. Click to select the **Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)** check box if it is not already selected, and then click **OK**.
5. In the Windows Components Wizard, click **Next** to install the selected components. Insert the Windows Server 2003 CD-ROM into your computer CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive if you are prompted to do so. Setup copies the DHCP server and tool files to your computer.
6. When Setup is complete, click **Finish**.

[back to the top](#)

Import the DHCP database

1. Copy the exported DHCP database file to the local hard disk of the Windows Server 2003-based computer.
2. Verify that the DHCP service is started on the Windows Server 2003-based computer.
3. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type `cmd` in the **Open** box, and then click **OK**.
4. At the command prompt, type `netsh dhcp server import c:\dhcpdatabase.txt all`, and then press ENTER, where `c:\dhcpdatabase.txt` is the full path and file name of the database file that you copied to the server.

Note When you try to export a DHCP database from a Windows 2000 domain controller to a Windows Server 2003 member server of the domain, you may receive the following error message:

Error initializing and reading the service configuration - Access Denied

To resolve this issue, add the Windows Server 2003 DHCP server computer to the DHCP Admins group at the Enterprise level.

5. If the "access is denied" error message occurs after you add the Windows Server 2003 DHCP server computer to the DHCP Admins group at the Enterprise level that is mentioned in step 4, verify that the user account that is currently used to import belongs to the local administrator's group. If the account does not belong to this group, add the account to that group, or log on as a local administrator to complete the import.
6. After you receive the message that the command completed successfully, quit the command prompt.

[back to the top](#)

Authorize the DHCP server

1. Click **Start**, point to **All Programs**, point to **Administrative Tools**, and then click **DHCP**.

Note You must be logged on to the server with an account that is a member of the Enterprise Administrators group.

2. In the console tree of the DHCP snap-in, expand the new DHCP server. If there is a red arrow in the lower-right corner of the server object, the server has not yet been authorized.
3. Right-click the server object, and then click **Authorize**.
4. After several moments, right-click the server again, and then click **Refresh**. A green arrow indicates that the DHCP server is authorized.

[back to the top](#)

REFERENCES

[323360](#) HOW TO: Install and configure a DHCP server in an Active Directory domain in Windows Server 2003

[323416](#) HOW TO: Install and configure a DHCP server in a workgroup in Windows Server 2003

[130642](#) How to move a DHCP database to another Windows server

[back to the top](#)

Keywords: kbHOWTOmaster kbNetwork KB325473

Technology: kbwin2000Search kbwin2000Serv kbwin2000ServSearch kbWinNT400search kbWinNTS400 kbWinNTS400search

kbWinNTsearch kbWinNTSsearch kbWinServ2003Data kbWinServ2003Data64bit kbWinServ2003Data64bitSearch

kbWinServ2003DataSearch kbWinServ2003Ent kbWinServ2003Ent64bit kbWinServ2003Ent64bitSearch kbWinServ2003EntSearch

kbWinServ2003Search kbWinServ2003St

[Send feedback to Microsoft](#)

[© 2004 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.](#)