Case Study # 4

You are a Network Consultant with specialized skills in designing Win2000 directory services. You are recently requested by Joe's Canoe Company to design the security and the directory for the entire company.

Background

Joe's Canoe Company is a company that produces canoes of different kinds. Most of its customers are in the Vancouver area.

Since 1950 Joe has been designing and manufacturing Cedar Canvas Canoes. Through the years, as materials advanced, Joe began building Fiberglass, Kevlar and high tech Carbon Fiber Canoes. Joe's Master builders have 5 decades of canoe design and building experience, in all types, from the classic Cedarstrip to the family cottage canoe & the most advanced Carbon Fiber high performance canoes.

According to the CEO, staffs in the company are on average at the age of 50 and above. Somehow they are a bit resistant to new technologies. Currently they are running on a Win NT network.

Per your interview with the marketing manager, there is an increase in the demand for canoes in California, The company has been approached by a local canoe manufacturer from San Jose about a possible merger between the two companies. Your understanding on this is that, in the next one or two years, these two companies will still market their canoes separately under different brand names, However, the management will definitely want to see some sort of synergy in between.

Last month a new representative office was opened in Kansas City, as the company can receive tax deduction from the city government.

Structure

So far there is only one office location for Joe's Canoe. There are 3 different departments: Marketing, Accounting, and Production. Each department has its own management team. The team leaders need to report to the CEO directly.

Currently there are about 500 staffs. Of this amount, 60% of them will need to use computers in their daily operations.

Dealer Locations

The CEO's successor, James, has its roots as an IT consultant. He knows the importance of IT deployment. He likes to have all its dealers placing orders online to save processing costs. He recently built a VPN among the company and all its dealers.

As of today, there are 6 dealers selling canoes for the company:

Algonquin Bound - Madawaska
Frontenac Outfitters - Sydenham
Gordon Bay Marine - Mactier
Muskoka Store - Gravenhurst
Adventure Guide - Kitchener-Waterloo
Boundary Bay Watersports - Whiterock, BC

James is a MCP on NT 4.0. He likes to use Microsoft products. He wants you to implement a network design using Win2000 and active directory.

There was a NT4 network implemented for the company. It consists of two domains containing accounts and resources. In addition, there are some other resource only domains that trust these two domains. There are Unix, Linux and BeOS servers to perform different functions on the network.

James is not happy with the fact that trust relationships are so complicated to setup. He also dislike that fact that scalability is limited with SAM.

In addition, James plan to install 10 Remote Access Servers to allow the sales of the dealers to dial in.