



A journey from 170 Samba3-NT4 domains to 1 unified Samba-AD domain with 8000 users

Denis Cardon, 6th June 2016









« They did not know it was impossible so they did it » - Mark TWAIN









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Tranquil IT

- IT company in Nantes, France, since 2002
- Largest Samba-AD integrator in France
- Editor of Wapt software deployment solution

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Good beer drinkers



by Tranquil IT 🛆







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• In France all is about culture



 Wine, Cheese, Castles, Museum, Litterature, Philosophy, etc.

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- So we have a Ministry in charge of that !
- Not mission critical, but important anyway !

















- Working with regional branches for 12 years
- Collaboration with IT team to restructure whole identity management starting 2016
- Architecture historically based on
 - Central LDAP for business applications



- 170 domains for workstation authentication







Why Samba ?









Samba in France, French stereotype

Some say French people are...

- chauvinistic
- greedy
- anti-English/American
- self indulgent
- arrogant, etc.





















- What a better place for Samba to foursish!
 - free as in beer, free as in speech, anti Microsoft zealot
 - (General de Gaulle syndrom)
- Samba3-NT4 historically strong
 - administrations, schools, universities, research labs, hospitals, private companies, etc.
- Fertile ground for Samba-AD









Ministry of Culture Migration

- state of affairs in 2013 :
 - mostly Samba3-NT4 domains
 - some Microsoft AD 2k3, 2k8 (and 1 NT4)
 - IT management mostly de-centralized
 - No strict specification for domain management







Regional Initiative, 2013

- Regional initiative in early 2013
- migrating the « Pays de Loire » regional branch
- from Samba3-NT4
- Samba-AD 4.0
 - great minefield
 - In Samba team we trust !











Regional initiative, 2014

- Regional initiative, 2014
- Migrating Limousin regional branch
- Aging Windows NT4 domain...
- same setup, works great !









January 4th 2016

- First incoming business call of the year 2016...
- « we want the same thing »
- regional initiative become a national one
- one big domain, all merged !











Samba 4.3 Everywhere !











Ministry of Culture Migration

- Samba 4.3 not ready for large domains
- intermediate step : 16 domains
 - 1 central administration
 - 15 regional branches
- IMHO, the best choice
 - from a technical perspective
 - from a human perspective







Ministry of Culture Migration

- Cyberspace landscape evolving rapidly
 - Many more threats everyday
 - Local Area Network / Endpoints are the new target
- Local Area Network security is Lame !
- Same network → same security level







Ministry of Culture Migration Phase1

- Phase 1 :
 - Merge into 16 domains, cleanup, normalisation
 - 170 physical sites : France, Corsica, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guyane, Réunion, etc.
 - a lot of travel, many souvenirs !
- at the same time
 - normalise username and groups, linux distribution, virtualization, etc.







- Server side migration automation
 - ansible playbook for creating / preconfiguring
 CentOS VM
 - ansible playbook for creating / join new DC
 - ansible playbook for normalizing SID on fileserver







Ministry of Culture Migration, Phase 1

- Client side migration automation
 - WAPT inventory
 - profile migration
 - WAPT scripting
 - Python rocks !

\land Console WAPT Fichier Actions Affichage Outils ? Inventaire Groupes de paquets Dépôt privé Windows Updates Téléchargements Windows Updates Θ Actualiser | Modifier la machine Vérification des mises à jour | Lancer les installations Search keywords Rechercher une machine Plus d'options 🕕 🗌 En erreurs 🔺 🗌 A me Sta... R.... WUA Host 🔺 Descriptior ٢ 🛷 OK nuc-xavier.ad.tranguil.it Xaxier Darr Inclure les postes des sous-dossiers ٢ 🔥 PEN... nucvcardon.ad.tranguil.it Vincent Ca 🔵 ad.tranquil.it ^ ۲ wsalejeune2.ad.tranguil.it O 🗊 Computers ۲ wssfonteneau.ad.tranguil.it 🚊 📄 tranguilit P ()wsvmauger2.ad.tranguil.it Vincent M: 🔄 computers nowsus Computers · 🚞 prod_tis Créer ou éditer le paquet de l'Unité Organisationnelle Servers 📄 tests Vérifier les mises à jour des machines de cette OU 📔 test hardening Lancer les installations de paquets pour les machines de cette OU 📔 no wsus 📄 laptops meriniere.stemarieduport.fr Computers 📄 SMP 🖻 📴 ordinateurs 🖻 📄 W7 🖻 📴 remove profils 📩 🝋 REDAGO







Migration tools

- Scripting, scripting, scripting...
 - python-ldb
 - samdb
- set-nt-hash hack
- Wapt
- Talking, talking, talking...
 - human cannot yet be scripted :-)









- Phase 2 :
 - samba 4.7 ready for 8k users domain
 - Merge 16 domains into 1 domain
 - More cleanup, more normalization
 - Less travel (only going to main sites)
 - Automatic AD user management directly from HR system







- Almost finished !
 - 166 sites merged, only 4 left
 - merging finished at the end of the month
 - One directory to rule them all !







- Security Hardening
 - disabling NetBIOS, SMB1, NTLMv1, etc.
 - more RODC
 - lesser right policy on AD objects
- more automation
 - Ansible for servers, decrease « time to patch »
 - Wapt for Clients







Herding the Flock

- Many other already following suit
 - Ministry of Finance (1 domain, already 35k desktop migrated, 1k per week, aim at 150k desktops)
 - Ministry of Environment (46 domains, 25k desktops)
 - Ministry of Agriculture central administration (1 domain, 2k desktops)
 - French navy







Herding the Flock

- And many other catching up !
 - interministries regional branches (DDI)
 - Education ministry
 - academic region of new Aquitaine, Britanny, Normady, Centre, etc.







Samba Everywhere !











What's Next ?

- Financing model not easy
- Being as good as MS-AD not sufficient
- Need to find revenue stream
 - SaaS (Samba-AD as a Service?)
 - Packaged product with support ?
 - have more sensible defaults ?









You Tube

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The end !

- a big thank to
 - Samba team
 - Ministry of Culture team
 - Tranquil IT team
 - To you all, no tomatoes thown yet...



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- Any question ?
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