

Ldp.exe

Ldp.exe is a graphical tool that allows users to perform Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) operations, such as connect, bind, search, modify, add, and delete, against any LDAP-compatible directory, such as Active Directory™ directory service. LDAP is an Internet-standard wire protocol used by Active Directory. Many objects stored in Active Directory are not readily displayed using the graphical tools that ship with the retail version of Microsoft® Windows® 2000. Ldp.exe can be used by administrators to view these objects and their metadata such as security descriptors and replication metadata to aid in problem determination.

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Starting Ldp

Ldp.exe can be invoked from the command prompt, or from the Start menu **run** command line. It has a Windows Explorer–like interface, with the scope pane on the left for navigating through Active Directory namespace and the results pane on the right for displaying the results of the LDAP operations. Any text displayed in the results pane can be selected with the mouse and copied to the clipboard.

Ldp Menu Selections

Ldp makes extensive use of menu commands to perform the various LDAP operations.

File Menu

Connect

The **Connect** dialog box allows the user to enter the Domain Controller's DNS name or IP address and to specify the TCP port. Leaving the server's name field blank results in a connection to a domain controller in the current logged-on user's domain. Port 389 is the default port for LDAP and port 3268 is the default port for Active Directory Global Catalog.

Upon successful connection to a domain controller, the RootDSE information will be displayed in the results pane.

Bind

The **Bind** dialog box allows the user to submit their credentials for authentication during the LDAP session. If these fields are left blank, Ldp will use the credentials of the user who is currently logged on.

Disconnect

This terminates the current connection to the domain controller.

New

This clears the results pane.

Save/Save As

This saves the contents of the results pane to a text file.

Browse Menu

Add

The **Add** dialog allows the user to add objects to Active Directory. The full distinguished name of the object must be entered, as well as all the mandatory attributes for the class of object being added.

Delete

The **Delete** dialog box permits the user to delete any object in Active Directory. The full distinguished name of the object must be entered. If the selected object is a container, the check box option **Recursive** causes Ldp to delete any child object, even if that child object is itself a container.

Modify

The **Modify** dialog box allows the user to modify the attributes of any object stored in the directory. Again the objects full distinguished name must be entered. Operation selection permits new values to be added or existing values to be deleted or replaced.

Modify RDN

The **Modify RDN** dialog box allows the user to modify (or rename) an object's relative distinguished name.

This also permits an object to be moved from one container to another.

Search

The **Search** dialog box allows the user to search Active Directory. The search base must be specified as a distinguished name, and the filter must be a valid LDAP filter. For example to retrieve all objects with Name1 as their first name and a surname beginning with the letter "S" the filter would be (&(firstname=Name1)(sn=S*)). To find all objects with a surname of Surname1 or a surname of Surname2, the filter would be ((sn=Surname1)(sn=Surname2))

Compare

The **Compare** dialog box allows the user to compare the value of an object's attribute with a specified value and returns a result of either true or false.

Extended Operation

The **Extended Operation** dialog box allows the user to submit an extended LDAP operation to Active Directory by specifying a LDAP Operational ID (OID) and an applicable value.

Security

The **Security** dialog box permits the user to view the security descriptor that has been placed on an object. This can be useful when attempting to determine the access permissions to an object.

Sample output:

```
Ace[15]:
  Type: (5)
        ACCESS_ALLOWED_OBJECT_ACE_TYPE
  AceSize: 0x28
  AceFlags: (0x0)
  Mask: 0x00000010
  Flags: 0x1
  ACE_OBJECT_TYPE_PRESENT
  Object Type:
    (in HEX) (59ba2f42-79a2-11d0-90-20-00-c0-4f-c2-d3-cf)

  GUID_PS_GENERAL_INFO

  Sid:
    S-1-0x000005--0xb
    NT AUTHORITY\Authenticated Users
```

Replication

The **Replication** dialog box displays the replication metadata such as Attribute ID, Originating and Local Update Sequence Numbers (USN), GUID of the originating domain controller, date/ time stamps for every attribute of an object. This is useful in identifying whether objects have been updated and replicated between the domain controllers.

Sample output:

```
Getting 'cn=Victor Eastman,ou=Sales,dc=antipodes,dc=com' metadata...
```

```
53 entries.
```

AttID	Ver	Loc.USN	Originating DSA	Org.USN	Org.Time/Date
=====	===	=====	=====	=====	=====
0	1	C88	4a93530b1a2bd211b309a658aee90463	C88	98-08-03 15:11.22
3	1	C88	4a93530b1a2bd211b309a658aee90463	C88	98-08-03 15:11.22
4	1	C88	4a93530b1a2bd211b309a658aee90463	C88	98-08-03 15:11.22

View Menu

Tree

The **Tree** dialog box is used to specify the base object to be displayed in the scope pane. If the base distinguished name is left blank, the tree view is rooted at the current default domain for the logged on user.

The tree view permits the user to expand and collapse the child objects, and double-clicking on a selected object displays the attributes of that object in the results pane.

Enterprise Configuration

Enterprise Configuration graphically displays all domains and domain controllers in the enterprise. It also indicates whether the domain controllers are online or offline.

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