

Imaging and deployment tests conducted at the UCE technology innovation centre



The equipment and configuration used in the tests reflects typical real world environments:

net-runna Server specification

- IBM Netfinity 5500 P3 500MHZ

Client specification

- P4 2.4 GHZ (Intel 815g)

Network specification

- Standard Cisco 100MB Switches

Software installed on clients

- Clean installations of Windows Advanced Server 2000 and Windows server 2003

Tests

Image Windows 2003 Server

- Imaging Time: **20 minutes**

Deploy Windows 2003 Server

- Initial 'bare metal' deployment: **7 minutes**

Create a second image of Windows Server 2003

- Imaging time: **1 minute 54 seconds**

Redeploy Windows Server 2003

- Deployment Time: **2 minutes 22 seconds**

Image Windows 2000 Advanced Server

- Image creation: **11 minutes 15 seconds**

Case study: UCE evaluation



Deploy *Windows 2000 Advanced Server* to 3 machines (Multicast)

- Deployment time: **3 minutes 50 seconds**

Deploy *Windows Server 2003* to 3 machines (Multicast)

- The machines are running *Advanced Server 2000* from the previous deployment. This test will rapidly switch them to *Windows Server 2003*. A 'Wake on LAN' command was sent from the *net-runna* Management Console to the 3 machines. The clients booted and joined the Multicast Deployment session;
- Deployment time: **2 minutes 29 seconds.**

***net-runna* Enterprise imaging and deployment technology explained**

Intelligent file based imaging

Intelligent network file transfer only uploads and downloads unique files reducing the time to image and deploy systems.

Single instance storage

Images are stored in the *net-runna* server image repository using single instance storage (SIS). Storing only one instance of common files requires a fraction of the storage requirement compared to conventional imaging solutions, dramatically reducing backup and management overheads. In these tests over 4GB of source data was compressed and stored giving an image repository size of 1.04 GB.

Rapid deployment with a cache partition

During deployment the compressed image is copied onto a hidden partition on the client's hard drive. The cache partition also employs SIS and can contain multiple operating systems, enabling fast switching between operating systems. Deployment from the cache partition is fast and does not use up network bandwidth.

Conclusion

net-runna provided a rapid deployment and even more rapid redeployment of server operating systems, enabling rapid switching between environments to cater for the different courses conducted in the room. Each environment is now resilient as any software errors or hard disk failures can now be rapidly fixed by redeployment. As a further benefit the image storage requirement is now extremely small and easy to manage.

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