

AD DS Design Document

NorthStar Consulting – AD DS Implementation Plan

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1. Business Requirements

- Centralized user management (move away from workgroup setup).
- Secure file storage with access based on department.
- Support for growth (up to 50 users in next 3 years).
- Simple Group Policies (passwords, drive mapping, desktop settings).

2. Domain Design

- **Domain name:** northstar.local
- **Forest:** Single forest, single domain.
- **Domain Controllers:**
 - DC1 (Primary – DNS, DHCP, AD DS)
 - (Optional later) DC2 (Redundancy)

3. Organizational Units (OUs)

- Directors
- Consultants
- Reception
- HR
- Marketing

- [Accounts](#)
- [Shared Resources](#)

4. User & Group Strategy

- **Users:** One per employee, format [firstname.lastname](#)
- **Groups:**
 - [HR_Staff](#)
 - [Accounts_Staff](#)
 - [Consultants_Staff](#)
 - [Marketing_Staff](#)
 - [Reception_Staff](#)
- **Principle of Least Privilege:** Restrict HR/Accounts to department only.

5. File Share Plan

- [\\northstar\\Public](#) – Everyone
- [\\northstar\\Consultants](#) – Consultants + Director
- [\\northstar\\HR](#) – HR + Director
- [\\northstar\\Accounts](#) – Accounts + Director
- [\\northstar\\Marketing](#) – Marketing + Director

6. Group Policies (initial)

- Password policy: 8+ characters, complexity, 90-day change.

- Department drive mapping.
- Desktop wallpaper (company logo).
- USB storage blocked for HR + Accounts.

7. Testing & Rollout

- Join test workstation.
- Verify logon, drive mapping, permissions.
- Pilot with HR + Consultant accounts.
- Roll out to rest of staff.

8. Users & Groups

Department	User	Username	Security Group	Notes
Director	Sarah Brown	sarah.brown	Directors	Access all departments
Consultants	John Smith	john.smith	Consultants_Staff	Project files
Consultants	Emily Jones	emily.jones	Consultants_Staff	
Reception	Alex White	alex.white	Reception_Staff	Shared resources only
HR	Maria Green	maria.green	HR_Staff	Confidential data
Marketing	James Black	james.black	Marketing_Staff	Creative assets
Accounts	Linda Grey	linda.grey	Accounts_Staff	QuickBooks access

8. Visual Diagram

