Quest ActiveGroups

AUTOMATE LIST/GROUP MEMBERSHIP TO INCREASE ACCURACY AND IMPROVE SECURIT Y

"Blue Cross was able to recognize significant cost savings immediately. The single administrator responsible for Exchange is able to do more, and there is a lot more productivity because the lists are accurate, up-to-date, and readily available to users."

—Jason Sawyer
IT Consultant
Blue Cross

Because of the system access and skills required to manage groups using native Exchange tools, the responsibility for creating and maintaining distribution groups falls squarely on the Exchange administrator. This means that your time is eaten up by manually-intense, error-prone tasks. Quest® ActiveGroups automates the creation and maintenance of distribution lists/groups based on user information stored in any data source. ActiveGroups eliminates the error-prone process of manually adding and removing members; enhances information security; improves company communications; and reduces the risk of message mishandling. This innovative solution provides clear-cut advantages and benefits:

Ensure Accuracy

Using ActiveGroups, you can define list/group membership as a function of any directory attribute or logical combination of attributes. You can also define membership as a query of Active Directory, Exchange Directory, or any external data source. ActiveGroups enables you to safely test and review the query prior to actual execution, helping to ensure accuracy and security in the creation process. You can further enhance your query by specifying users/groups to be included or excluded. Additionally, it is possible to import a predefined membership list.

Streamline the Process

A significant amount of administrative time is spent verifying the accuracy of a distribution list/group. With ActiveGroups, you can eliminate the guesswork. Once membership rules are defined, a point-and-click scheduler easily configures ActiveGroups to automatically update lists at scheduled intervals.

Maximum Performance

ActiveGroups maintains efficient operation of Exchange by breaking large distribution groups into nested subgroups when membership exceeds a configurable limit. These subgroups are hidden in the Address Book and operate transparently to the users, while maintaining maximum performance of Microsoft Exchange.

Manage Large Distribution Lists/Groups

Large organizations often require distribution lists or groups that contain more members than suggested in "best practices" recommendations. ActiveGroups maintains efficient operations by breaking large groups into smaller groups and creates nested lists/groups when a given list/group that exceeds a configurable limit. You can configure subunits so that they are hidden from the directory and operate transparently to the users.

Reduce Costs

ActiveGroups improves the accuracy of distribution list and security group membership so that business-critical information can be communicated to the appropriate users in a timely and efficient manner. It eliminates manual tasks and allows administrative resources to focus on other strategic corporate initiatives.

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"If you want to get a good overall view of the performance of your Exchange system, but also need close-up management capabilities, Quest's Exchange management suite helps you cover all the angles."

—Dick Beddoe
    Exchange Editor
    Enterprise Server Magazine

Secure Administration: Automate list/group membership maintenance based on user information stored in Exchange, Active Directory, or any other external data sources. This reduces the chance of human error and improves system security.

Query Builder: Easy-to-use queries help create comprehensive membership rules and allow you to fine-tune membership by excluding or including members. Automatically generate and maintain multiple lists/groups in a single step. Automatically add and delete lists/groups as attributes change in the data source.

Distribute Large Lists/Groups: When given a subgroup that exceeds a configurable limit, ActiveGroups will create nested subgroups to maintain maximum performance of Exchange. Configure these subgroups to be hidden from the Address Book and operate transparently to the users.

Manage Membership Lists: Import distribution lists and security group memberships from a file and add them to an existing list/group, either manually or automatically using a batch process. Using ActiveGroups, you can easily migrate lists/groups between containers/sites in a single step, reducing the time and effort required to create a new Exchange organization.

Transfer Ownership: Transfer lists/groups ownership from one user to another user in a single step, removing the opportunity for error, ensuring security, and saving administrative time and effort.
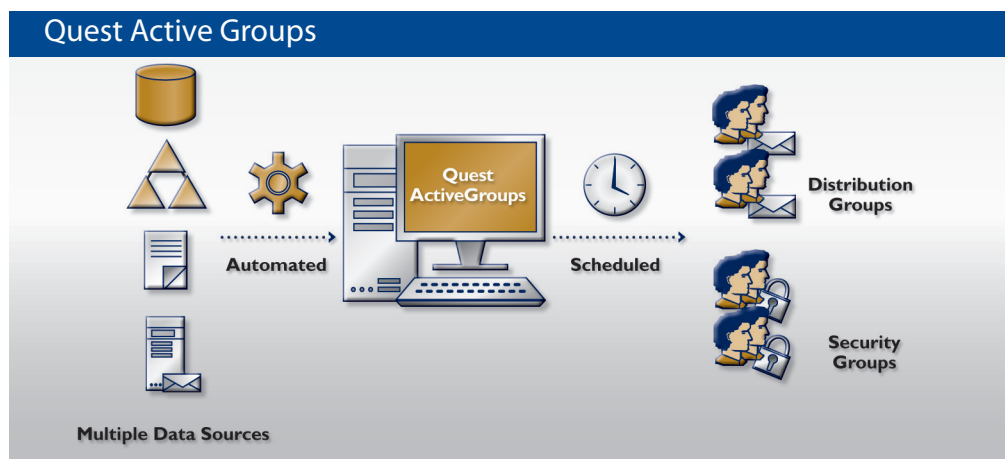
E-mail Notifications: Via e-mail, ActiveGroups automatically notifies list owners of membership changes. Automatic notification saves administrative time, helps to ensure that owners are up-todate, and works to improve end-user satisfaction.

Comprehensive Reports: ActiveGroups provides comprehensive reports on list and group owners, members, and more. This valuable information helps you to maintain a clean Exchange environment and supports an intelligent and efficient cleanup process.

Integrated solution: Works with the Quest management Console for Exchange, allowing you to Manage Exchange and its supporting infrastructure from the Microsoft Management Console (MMC).

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