

Lab 12.9.1: Windows Registry Backup and Recovery

Estimated time: 20 Minutes

Objective

In this lab, you will learn how to back up and perform a recovery of the registry. These files are also referred to as the "System State" files.

Equipment

The following equipment is required for this exercise:

- A computer system running Windows 2000

Scenario

As the system administrator for the XYZ Company, a new software package is to be deployed onto a manager's system. This software has not been tested, however you are aware it will make changes to the registry. The first step is making a backup of the system state files in case the software corrupts the system.

Procedures

The first step is to use the Windows Back Up Wizard to select the files that are to be backed up and then to perform the back up. Second, modify the registry. It is possible that the system will not work after these changes to the registry are made. Lastly, use the backup to restore the system state and registry files.

Step 1

Log on to the Server with the Administrator account

When the systems boots up, Click **Start**, and then click **Run**.

In the "Run Dialog box, type "ntbackup" and then click **OK**. The Backup dialog box should appear.

Take a minute to read the three option's descriptions under the Welcome tab, and then click the **Backup Wizard** button. The Backup Wizard should start now.

Click **Next**, to display the "What To Back Up" screen. Select the type of backup to be performed.

Click the **Only back up the System State data** button, and then click **Next**. At this point, the "Where to Store the Backup" screen will display. Select a place to save the file when prompted. This should be a pre-designated folder for backup files.

The "Completing The Backup Wizard" screen should display. This screen shows the details of the backup that will be performed. At this point, additional changes can be made. Click the **Advanced** button.

When the "Type Of Backup" screen appears, make sure that "Normal" is selected and that the "Backup Migrated Remote Storage Data" check box is not checked.

Click **Next**. The “How To Backup” screen should display. Verify the backed up data after performing the backup.

Select the “Verify Data After Backup” check box, and then click **Next**.

The “Media Options” page will display. Specify whether to “append this backup job to existing media” or “overwrite existing backup data on the destination media” at the prompt. Click the **Replace The Data On The Media With This Backup** button.

Click **Next**. Now the “Backup Label” screen displays. Supply a label for the backup job and for the backup media. Windows will supply a backup label and media label by using the current date and time by default.

In the Backup Label text box, type System State set created on xxx (xxx is today's date and time). Do not change anything in the “Media Label” text box, just click **Next**.

The “When To Back Up” screen displays, choose whether to run the backup job now or schedule this backup job. For this lab, select the **Now** radio button. Click **Next**.

When the “Completing The Backup Wizard” screen displays, click **Finish** to start the backup job.

Windows Backup will display the Selection Information dialog box, indicating the estimated amount of data for the backup and the time to complete it.

Then Windows Backup displays the Backup Progress dialog box, which shows the status of the backup operation, statistics on estimated and actual amount of data being processed, the time that has elapsed, and the estimated time that remains for the backup to complete.

When the backup is complete, click the **Report** button. A backup report will be displayed. The backup report contains key details about the backup operation, such as the time it started and how many files were backed up. When finished, close Notepad.

Close the “Backup Progress” dialog box and the “Backup Dialog box as well.

Step 2

Go to **Start > Run**. Type in “Regedt32” in the box. The Registry Editor window should open.

Expand the “HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE” Registry Key.

Right-Click the “Hardware Folder” and select **Edit** then **Delete**.

Close the Registry Editor Box. The system is officially broken. In reality, only a virus would be able to damage the registry like this. The point is that changes to your system can result in changes to the registry. With the backup, the system can be restored.

Step 3

Locate the Backup file that was saved in Step 1 of this lab.

Double-click on that file. The Backup Utility Wizard displays.

Click on the **Restore Wizard** button. The “Welcome to the Restore Wizard” screen displays. Click **Next**.

The “What to Restore” wizard screen displays. Expand File. Then find the backup file that was created with the proper date and time and expand that as well. Click on the **System State** check box. Click **Next**.

On the “Completing the Restore Wizard” screen click on **Advanced**.

On the “Where to Restore” screen, make sure that “original location” is selected. Click **Next**. If the “Restoring System State will always overwrite files unless restored to a different location” screen displays. Click **OK**.

Click on the “Replace existing files if they are older than the backup files” radio button. Click **Next**.

Verify that all three radio buttons are selected then click **Next**, then click **Finish**.

The restore will begin by copying the files back to the system showing the progress results.

When the restore wizard completes, the report can be viewed by clicking the **Report** button. Then click **Close**.

When prompted to restart your system. Click **Yes**. Your system will restart.

Troubleshooting

Always back up the registry when installing new software. If something is changed or removed in the registry that affects the system, using the backup to fix it can save hours of troubleshooting.

Reflection

How can backing up the system state files save time?
