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Microsoft Entra Device Migration Services

Overview

Traditionally, organization-owned Windows devices have been joined to a Windows Server Active Directory (AD) domains to enable identity, authentication, access management, and device security. However, this model depends on regular, sustained network connectivity between devices and on-premises servers—an increasingly problematic requirement in today's hybrid workforce environment. Fortunately, Microsoft Entra ID provides cloud-native identity, authentication, and security capabilities that are accessible to devices regardless of location or connectivity type. Migrating devices to "Entra Joined" has become a strategic priority for organizations aiming to reduce technical debt while enhancing the security and flexibility of their workforce computing environment.

Example Objectives

Strategic Planning & Roadmap

- Migration Strategy Design: Define phased or hybrid migration approaches based
- on business needs and risk tolerance.
- Hybrid Identity Planning: Design coexistence models using Entra Connect or Entra Cloud Sync.
- Device Join Strategy: Plan for Entra ID Join or Autopilot provisioning based on device types and use cases.

Entra ID Configuration & Integration

- Tenant Configuration: Set up or optimize Entra ID tenant, including custom domains, branding, and RBAC.
- Policy Framework: Implement Conditional Access, MFA, and Identity Protection policies.
- Integration with Microsoft 365 & Intune: Ensure seamless access to cloud services and endpoint management.

Training, Documentation & Support

- Admin Training: Provide hands-on sessions for IT teams on Entra ID management and troubleshooting.
- User Communication: Develop communication plans and self-service guides for end users.

Device Migration Execution

- Pilot Deployment: Test device join and user experience with a controlled group.
- Bulk Migration: Automate device unjoin/rejoin processes using scripts, Intune, or Autopilot.
- Group Policy Modernization: Translate legacy GPOs into Intune configuration profiles or settings catalog.

Outcomes

Simplified Device Provisioning
With Entra ID join, devices can be provisioned using Windows Autopilot, reducing the need for on-premises imaging and manual setup.

Enhanced Security Posture
Entra ID joined devices benefit from stronger identity-based security controls

Improved User Experience
Users enjoy a seamless sign-in experience with cloud credentials, faster access to resources, and fewer prompts for authentication.

Reduced Infrastructure Dependency
Organizations reduce their reliance on on-premises domain controllers, VPNs, and legacy infrastructure, lowering operational costs and increasing agility.

Scalable and Future-Ready Architecture
Provides a foundation for a fully cloud-managed environment, supporting future initiatives like Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), remote workforce expansion, and advanced analytics.