# Configuring Microsoft Active Directory for Cisco WAAS Encrypted MAPI Acceleration

Abstract

The most current versions of Exchange-based email solutions from Microsoft (MAPI) contain data encryption at the Remote Procedure Call (RPC) level as a default configuration. Customers that wish to enable Cisco WAAS acceleration for these encrypted email services need to grant Cisco WAAS the permission to participate in this communication. This document will guide users through the configuration of Microsoft Active Directory (AD) to allow Cisco WAAS to accelerate encrypted RPC and MAPI traffic.

Figure 1. Cisco WAAS Encrypted Exchange Architecture
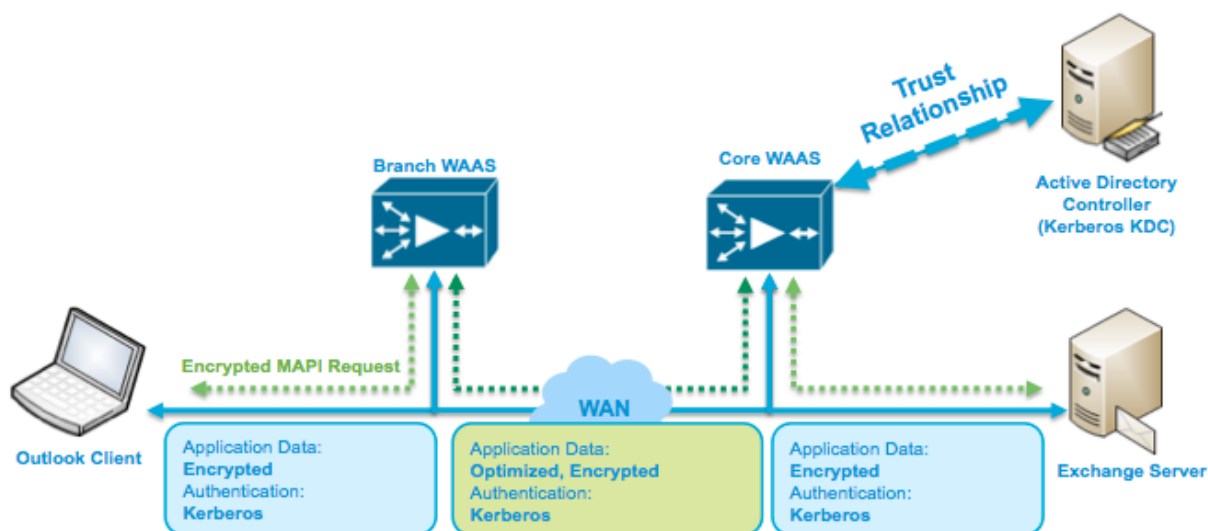
Considerations

Active Directory

This document assumes that the user has familiarity with Windows Active Directory, and has the appropriate Active Directory domain rights to make these changes.

User or Workstation Account

Granting Cisco WAAS permission to accelerate Exchange encrypted email can be done via a User account, or a Workstation (Computer) account.

Table 1. WAAS individual User account versus WAAS Workstation accounts

Method	Benefits	Considerations
User Account	- One User account can be used for all Core WAAS devices. - One or multiple User accounts can be used for multiple Exchange email domains. - In test environments, the Administrator account can be used. Administrator already has the needed rights. - WAAS devices do not need to perform a Domain Join when only User Accounts are used.	- User account should have a password that does not expire. - If password is entered or changed incorrectly, the account could become locked out due to incorrect login attempts.
Workstation account	- Each Core WAAS device will use its own Workstation account. - Account is created and password is changed and maintained automatically by WAAS and Active Directory. - User and Workstation accounts can be used at the same time for multiple Exchange email domains.	- All Core WAAS devices must be joined to Active Directory. - Only one Workstation account can be used per WAAS device.

It is highly recommended to grant the required WAAS permissions to an Active Directory Group, and then add Workstation or User accounts as required above to that group. This guide will follow this Group-based process.

WAAS Configuration

Once the steps outlined in this document are completed, the next step is to configure WAAS to accelerate encrypted Exchange email (RPC and MAPI). Directions and steps for this configuration are located in the Cisco WAAS 5.0.1 Configuration Guide, located on Cisco.com. These steps are beyond the scope of this document
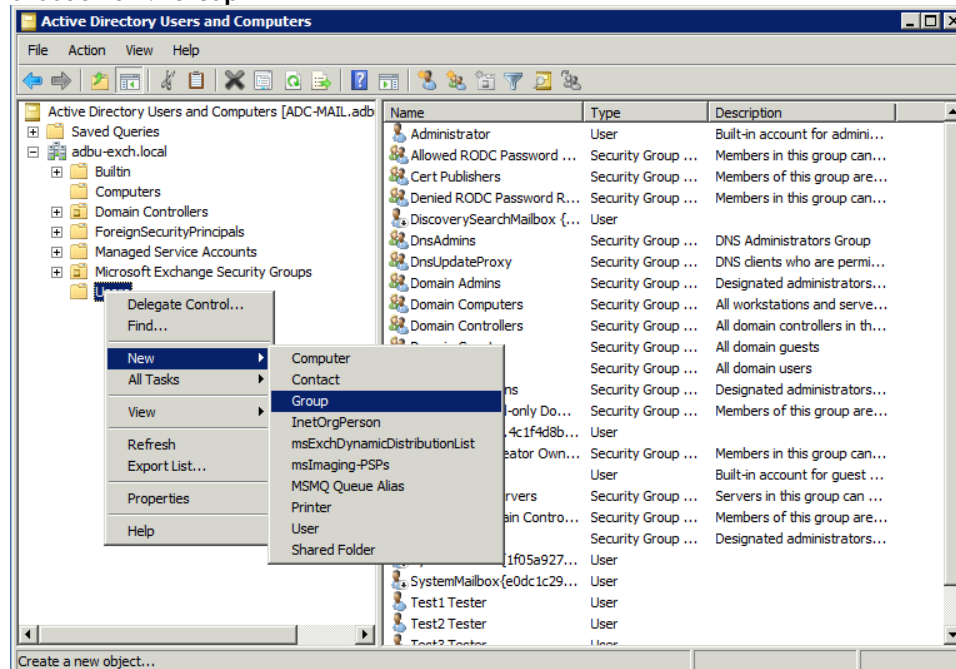
Configuration Steps

To grant Cisco WAAS permission to accelerate Exchange encrypted email sessions, do the following:

Note: This group is for accounts that WAAS will use to optimize Exchange traffic. Normal users and computers should **not** be added to this group.

Step 1. Using an account with "Domain Administrator" privileges, launch the **Active Directory Users and Computers** application.

Step 2. A new group is needed. Right-click the Organizational Unit (OU) where you wish to place this group, and choose **New > Group.**
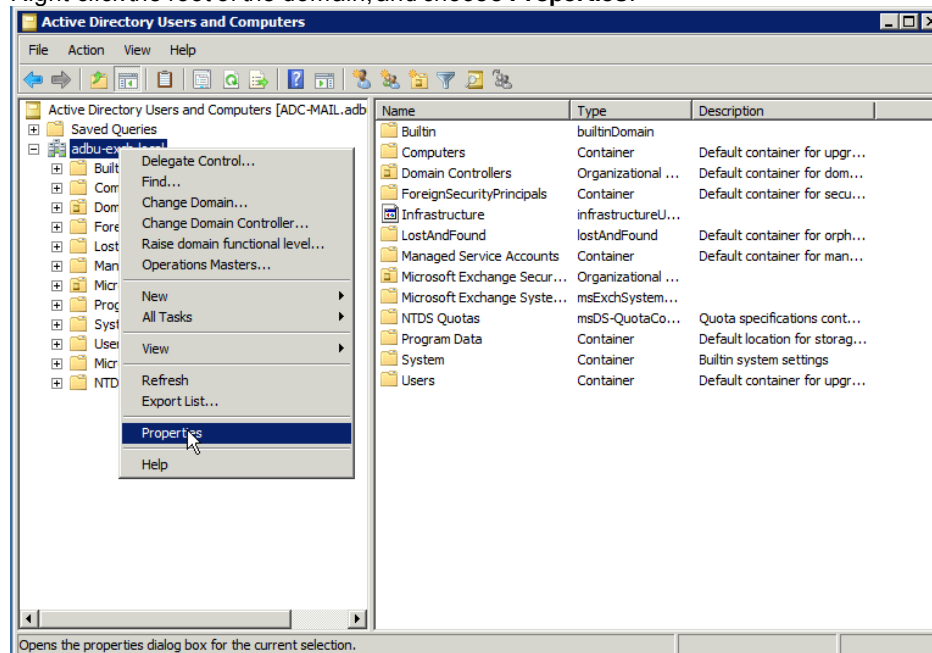

Step 3. Name the new group, and ensure the group is a **Universal**, **Security Group**.
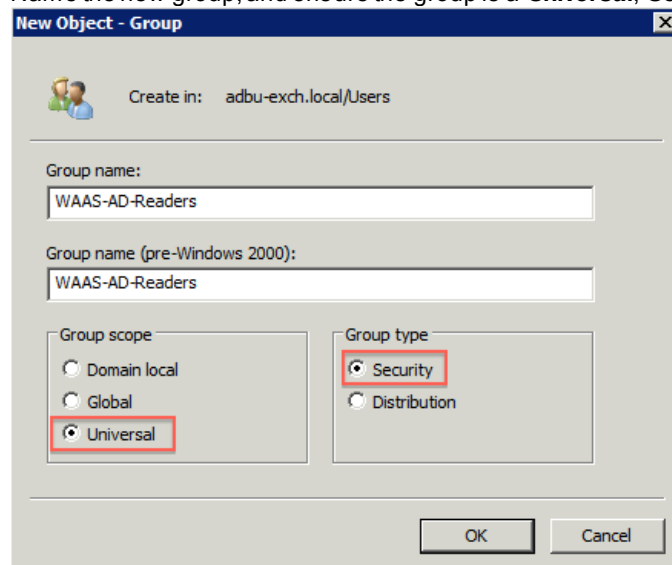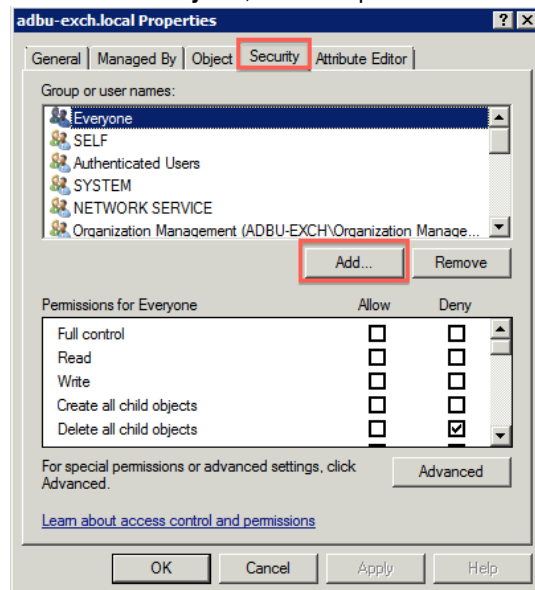
Step 4.   After the group is created, return to the **Active Directory Users and Computers** window. Select **View > Advanced Features**. This step allows configuration of the permissions required by WAAS.
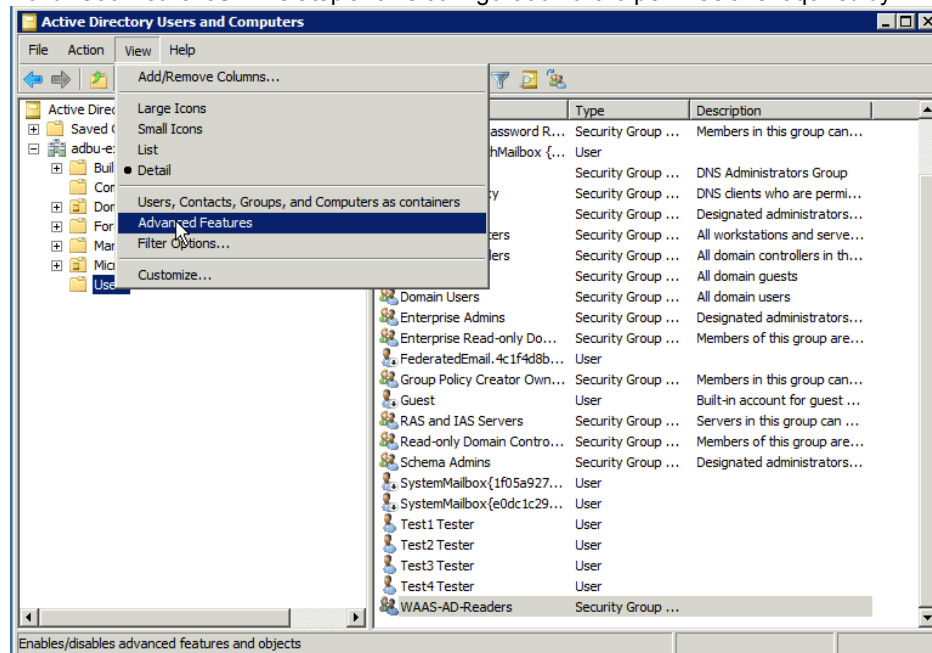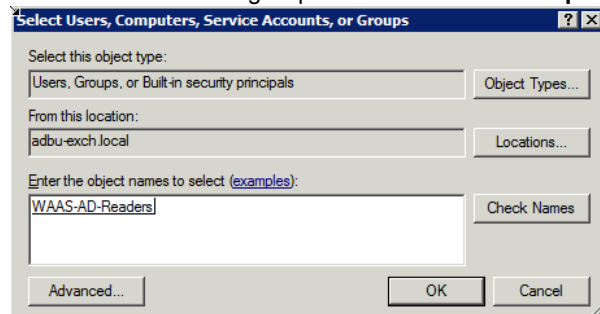

Step 5.   Right-click the root of the domain, and choose **Properties**.

Step 6. Click the **Security** tab, and then press the **Add** button under **Group or User Names**.


Step 7. Enter the name of the group that was entered in **Step 3**, and press **OK**.

Step 8. The group entered in **Step 3** should now show in the **Group or User Names** list. Click on the group to select it. Then, scroll down in the **Permissions for *Group Name*** pane, until the permissions **Replicating Directory Changes** and **Replicating Directory Changes All** are visible. Check **Allow** to allow both of these permissions, and press **OK**.
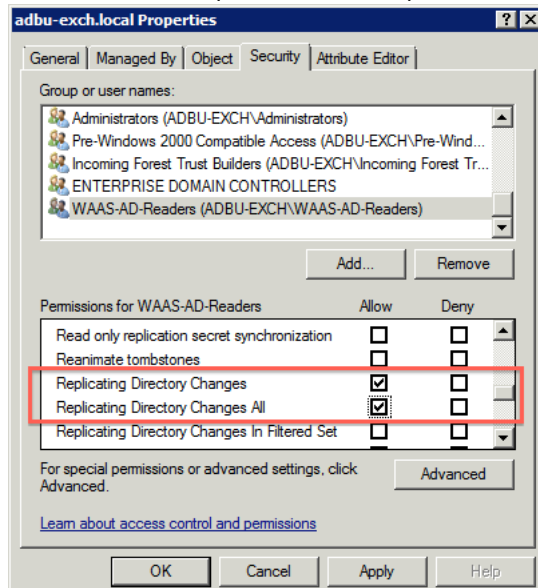
Step 9. User or Workstation (Computer) accounts now need to be added to this group for WAAS to use to optimize Exchange encrypted email. To add an account, right click on the account you wish to add, and select the **Member Of** tab. Click the add button, and pick the group used above in **Step 3**. Press **OK.**
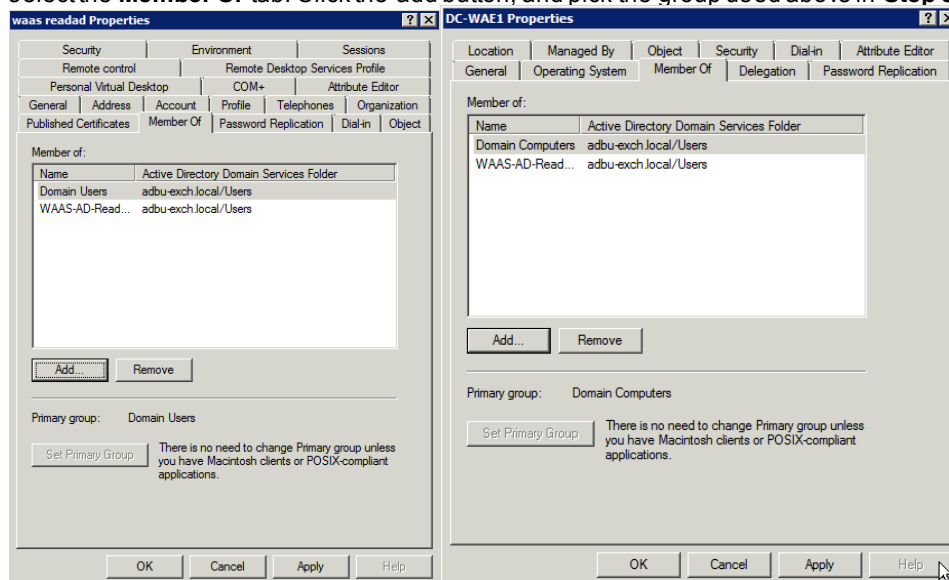
Step 10. After adding the User or Workstation (Computer) accounts to the group, the Active Directory configuration is now complete. All remaining configuration for Encrypted Exchange acceleration is performed on the WAAS Central Manager and/or devices themselves.

For More Information

For Cisco WAAS Exchange encrypted email configuration steps, see the [Cisco WAAS 5.0.1 Configuration Guide](#) on Cisco.com.

For more information Cisco WAAS, see http://www.cisco.com/go/waas

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