Case Study
One of the largest home improvement organizations in the United States was challenged with migrating over 10,000 user workstations from Novell NetWare and NDS to Windows 2003 and Active Directory. Users were spread across 1,800 store locations, 20 corporate locations, and several distribution centres. Management mandated minimal end user disruption and migration costs along with a very tight timeline. InfraScience was challenged with putting together the proper solution with an understanding that:

1. Many end users worked from home and had never worked out of a corporate office.
2. Most remote locations did not have local IT support staff to assist with the migration.
3. End user workstation builds were inconsistent with regards to services, operating system versions, and applications.

Solution
InfraScience, a Microsoft Gold Partner, presented and implemented a two-fold solution using ForensiT’s User Profile Wizard that proved to be successful.

The first solution utilized ForensiT’s User Profile Wizard wrapped with extensive scripting. This solution targeted users in corporate locations and was pushed to end user workstations via NetWare login scripts. The solution considered different operating systems, domain and workgroup membership, permissions, password encryption, end user communication, the possibility for the migration process to be interrupted, automatic reboots, and detailed logging.

The second solution utilized the same technology, but the method of deployment changed. This solution targeted road warriors and remote access users. InfraScience created an automated menu driven CD to be shipped to each location. This CD included simple step-by-step instructions that allowed the user to run ForensiT’s Profile Wizard with a simple click of a button. With a reboot, the end user’s workstation became part of Active Directory and the new environment.
User Profile Wizard 2.5

User Profile Wizard 2.5 is the latest version of ForensiT's powerful workstation migration tool. User Profile Wizard will migrate your current user profile to your new domain account so that you can keep all your existing data and settings.

User Profile Wizard:

- Migrates all user profile data and settings
- Automatically joins a machine to a new domain
- Migrates workstations to a new Windows domain from an existing Windows network, from a Novell NDS network, or from no network at all.
- Supports all Active Directory, Windows NT 4.0, and Samba domains.
- Includes Enterprise strength scripting support

Final Thoughts

InfraScience’s creativity and thorough understanding of the environment coupled with ForensiT’s Profile Wizard saved the company thousands of dollars. The end user community enjoyed minimal outage during the project. Without the use of ForensiT’s Profile Wizard, the project would have been very intrusive and costly.

ForensiT is a developer of windows System solutions with customers in over thirty countries. For more information visit ForensiT.com, call 1-877-224-1721 (US Toll-Free) or +44 (0) 1634 817776, or email sales@ForensiT.com.