

Directory Manager

Active Directory management for the NHS

Microsoft Active Directory underpins the majority of services offered by ICT within NHS organisations. The timely processing of starters, changes and leavers, and ensuring the accuracy of Active Directory is maintained, is challenging and time consuming for administrators.

Improve security, data quality and reduce administration

Automating the management of Active Directory removes the burden of day-to-day management and brings numerous benefits to ICT and to the wider organisation. Security is increased, quality is improved and technical resources are freed.

Link ESR, Active Directory and NHSmail

Directory Manager from BDS Solutions is designed for the NHS and is used in organisations throughout the UK. Being designed to work with McKesson Electronic Staff Records (ESR) and NHSmail, it solves the problems NHS organisations face managing directories, messaging and file system resources in a dynamic healthcare environment.

Directory Manager Benefits:

- **Provision** user accounts, mailboxes, control group membership, create home and profile folders, call custom functions, with data sourced from multiple data sources including ESR, file-based and manual entry
- **Promptly de-provision leavers** preventing unregulated access to resources
- **Deliver role-based access control** removing and reallocating security rights
- **Delegate account requests** (and creation) to managers and allow to make changes, delegating account management
- **User self-service** providing tools to allow staff to update their own contact and role information
- **Create reports** to list users due to expire, unmanaged user accounts, and more
- **Intuitive web portal** for daily administration, account managers, and end users, with full auditing on who did what and when
- **Link many data sources** to Active Directory, including ESR, telephony, security, Junior Doctor lists, temporary staff, CSV and Excel files
- **Password Reset** - Coupled with our partner's self-service solution, Directory Manager releases ICT staff from daily routine tasks
- **Implementation in weeks** for quick return on investment

"DM is now an integral part of our AD and user management process, and I only wish we'd had it sooner."

Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust

Secure Active Directory

Link Active Directory to ESR

Provision and de-provision user accounts

Provision mailboxes, personal folders

Role-based Access Control

Employee Self-Service

Free ICT resources from user management

Provide auditable account management

Configurable Reporting

Aid Information Governance

Directory Manager: Technical Overview

Founded on Microsoft .Net Technology

Directory Manager is developed using the .NET framework and is provided as installable services that run on Microsoft Windows 2008/2012 servers. These services are highly resource efficient and may be run on existing servers. All software is developed and tested in our VMware ESX farm and is suitable for use in virtualized environments.

SQL Server 2008/2012 is utilised to control data management. This can be an existing SQL server instance or dedicated SQL Express instances for smaller sites. The database provides secure access to directory data and permits administrators to extract Active Directory account data easily and integrate this with other applications.

All approval processes and manual entry is performed through the Directory Manager Web Client which is an installable ASP.NET application that runs on IIS 6 or above.

Data Input Service

The Data Input Service provides the gateway for handling data moving into the directory management process. The service provides validation and transformation of data using the COS™ (Composite Object Schema) engine. This engine allows records from multiple systems to be integrated providing a single consolidated record representing the staff member. New and changed records can be subjected to approval process through the web client software provided.

Management Service

The Management Service provides the provisioning capabilities allowing Directory Manager to create accounts in other systems. Active Directory, Exchange, User Folders, Security and Distribution Groups can all be managed automatically by the service. There are facilities to introduce custom scripts using Powershell where specific actions not supported by the software are needed. All management takes place via TIM™ (Technical Interface Management) and this extensible interface permits Directory Manager to manage accounts and resources in 3rd party systems that provide a suitable API.



Change Notification Service

All events that take place in Directory Manager can be monitored and notified via email to designated staff. This can be the email address of a manager or department administrator related to a changed account. These notifications can be delivered immediately or via a daily digest of events. Typical use of notifications is to provide starters and leavers information to administrators of systems that are not automatically managed.

Integration with other systems

The central SQL Server database managed by Directory Manager provides a secure and controlled repository of staff details that can be easily integrated with other internal systems. BDS can provide services to integrate this data with other systems such as the NHS National Directory, Microsoft SharePoint™ or other platforms that expose a suitable interface.

Creation of additional directories

Directory Manager can create additional Active Directory LDS (ADAM) directories if a separate LDAP source is required. These high-performance data sources can then be exposed securely to external organisations such as service providers or other public sector organisations. Typically these directories are used to allow an agreed subset of attributes to be made accessible to those organisations. BDS can provide services to configure these directories and make sharing staff contact details simple and secure.

For more information please contact BDS Solutions
on **01884 33440** or visit **bds-solutions.co.uk**

BDS Solutions is a technology partner for NHS organisations throughout the country. BDS deliver, develop and support Microsoft, VMware, Citrix and Dell products together with associated 3rd party and in-house developed security and management software. BDS Solutions is ISO9001:2008 accredited, IGSoc compliant and provides dedicated service desk support for NHS organisations via N3.