Lab - System Utilities (Instructor Version)

**Instructor Note**: Red font color or gray highlights indicate text that appears in the instructor copy only.

# Introduction

In this lab, you will use Windows utilities to configure operating system settings.

# Recommended Equipment

* A computer running Windows

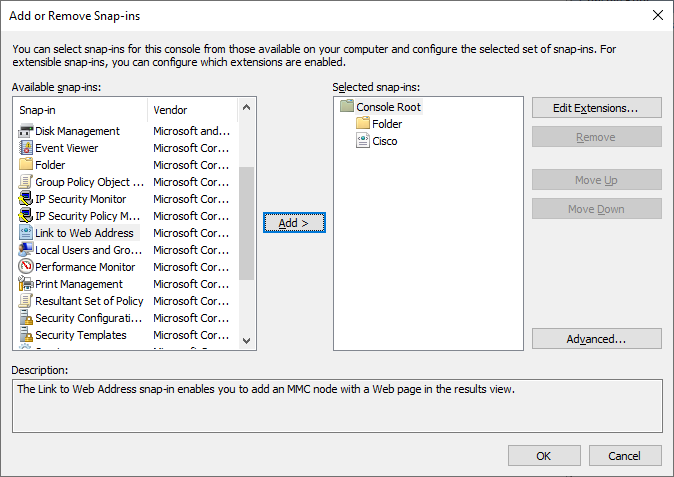
**Instructor Note**: The students will be accessing sensitive settings during this lab. Stress the importance of following instructions. You might want the students to delete their custom console when they have completed the lab.

# Instructions

## Custom Management Console

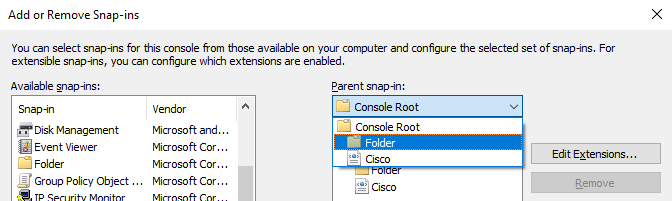
### Explore the management console.

* + - 1. To open the Microsoft Management Console, click **Start**, and search for **mmc**. Click **Yes** to allow Microsoft Management Console to make changes to the computer.
      2. In the Console1 - [Console Root] window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.
      3. In the Add or Remove Snap-ins window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** andclick **Add>**.
      4. To add the Link to Web Address snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the Link to Web Address wizard window, enter **http://www.cisco.com** in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.
      5. In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter **Cisco** and click **Finish** to continue.



### Create a custom management console.

* + - 1. To add snap-ins to the Folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.
      2. In the Advanced window, select **Allow changing the parent snap-in**. Click **OK**.
      3. A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.



* + - 1. Add the following snap-ins from the Available snap-in: pane: **Computer Management**, **Device Manager**, and **Disk Management**. In each of the snap-in windows, click **Finish** to select to use the snap-in to manage the Local Computer or This computer.
      2. Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.
      3. In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.
      4. To save the custom console, click **File > Save As**. Change the file name to your name. Example: **John’s Console**. Change the **Save in** box to **Desktop**. Click **Save**.
      5. Close all open windows.
      6. On the desktop, double-click the **Console** icon that contains your name to re-open the console with your snap-ins. Click **Yes** to allow this application to make changes to your device as necessary.
      7. Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.
      8. Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

#### Question:

What was the path you use to navigate to the Event Viewer?

Type your answers here.

Your console > Management Tools > Computer Management > System Tools > Event Viewer

* + - 1. Close the **Console** window when you finish your review. Click **No** when prompted to save the changes.

## Registry Editor

### Change your desktop background settings.

* + - 1. Right-click the **Desktop** > select **Personalize**.

#### Question:

What is the background picture?

Type your answers here.

Answers may vary.

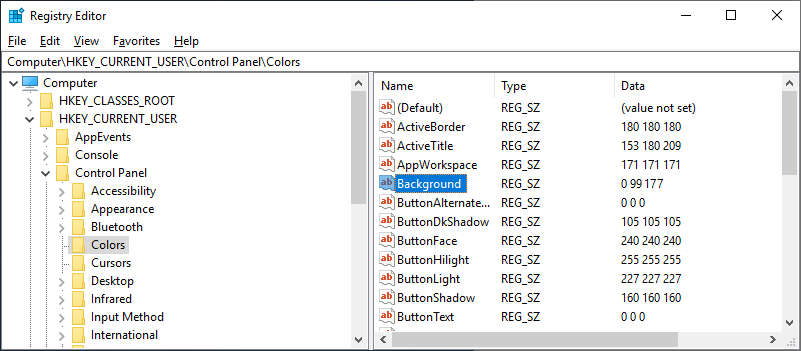
* + - 1. In the Background settings, select **Solid color** in the Background drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.
      2. Close all open windows.

### Open the registry editor.

* + 1. To open the **Registry Editor**, click **Start** and type **regedit**. Click **Yes** to allow Registry Editor to make changes to the computer.

**Note**: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

* + 1. Select and expand the **HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER** entry.
    2. Expand **Control Panel**. Click **Colors**. Click **Background** in the right panel.



#### Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?

Type your answers here.

These numbers may vary depending on the blue color that was selected for the background color. In the example, the numbers are 0 99 177.

### Export a registry key.

You will export the **HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

* + - 1. In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.
      2. Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**.
      3. At the desktop, right-click the **BlueBKG.reg** icon and select **Open with** > **Notepad**.
      4. Notepad opens displaying the contents of **BlueBKG.reg**.

#### Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**?

Type your answers here.

Answers may vary. 0 99 177 in the example.

* + - 1. Close the **BlueBKG.reg – Notepad** window.
      2. Open the Personalization window by right-clicking the **Desktop > Personalize** and select a **red** background color.
      3. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window. On your keyboard, press **F5** to refresh the **Registry Editor** window.

#### Question:

What is the data value of the Background? Compare the new value in the Registry to the value saved in BlueBKG.reg.

Type your answers here.

Answers will vary. The value is for any shade of red.

### Import a registry file.

You will import the **BlueBKG.reg** file to change the Desktop background back to blue.

* + - 1. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
      2. Click **File** > **Import**. Locate and click the **BlueBKG.reg** file then click **Open**.
      3. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.
      4. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

#### Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

Type your answers here.

Answers may vary. It should a value that displays a blue desktop.

What is the color of the desktop?

Type your answers here.

Red

* + - 1. Restart the computer.

#### Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

Type your answers here.

Blue

* + - 1. Reset **Display Properties Background** to the original settings.
      2. Close all open windows.
      3. Delete the custom console and BlueBKG file on the desktop.

# Reflection Question

* 1. Why would it be beneficial to add snap-ins to the mmc that are for other computers on the network?

Type your answers here.

Answers may vary. It would make it easy to configure and monitor other computers that do not have monitors, keyboards or mice, or that are not easily accessible.

* 1. After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed?

Type your answers here.

Importing the registry file modified the registry to contain a value for the desktop that was not the same as the current value. When the computer started, this value was read from the registry to make the desktop that color.

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