Admx Migrator

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ADMX Migrator is a useful tool you can use to convert ADM templates to ADMX templates. This is useful when you have existing ADM templates on a Windows XP network and you wish to use those templates after you upgrade your client computers to Windows Vista. ADMX Migrator lets you do the following:

- Convert ADM files to ADMX format.
- Create and edit custom ADMX templates.
- Detect collisions caused by duplicate names.

ADMX Migrator includes two tools: a graphical tool called ADMX Editor and a command-line tool called ADMX Migrator Command Window.

You can download ADMX Migrator from the Microsoft Download Center.

The new Group Policy ADMX format is XML-based and provides a myriad of enhancements. Here we look at how to migrate old ADM files to this new format.

Group Policy has always been based on templates which define the registry-based settings that it is used to deploy. In the past, these templates were stored in ADM files, but with Windows Server 2008, Microsoft has introduced XML-based ADMX files for the storage of this information. These ADMX files provide quite a few general enhancements and security benefits over their predecessor.

This being the case, if you have the opportunity you should convert all of your old ADM files over to this new format. Microsoft provides the ADMX migrator tool, which can be downloaded here: <u>http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=0F1EEC3D-10C4-4B5F-9625-97C2F731090C&displaylang=en</u>.

Once you have downloaded this tool, you can convert your old ADM files by running it, and choosing the Generate ADMX from ADM option. You can then select your ADM files and perform the conversion. Once this is done you will be prompted to save the new ADMX file to a temporary location. Finally, you can import the new ADMX files into Active Directory.

