Pod 1 Lab Report

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This lab assignment provides a great way to put the basic knowledge we’ve learned in lecture into hands on experience.  Having a very broad knowledge of the pieces/inner-workings of a network, this lab gives us a specific set of requirements on multiple systems using some of the most popular operating systems in use today.  With resources such as this, we are provided with a much deeper, well-rounded understanding of networks. Being able to identify key networking concepts is very important. Knowledge such as IP addressing and sub-netting are invaluable, as well as DNS operation and Active Directory setup and management. However, being able to perform these tasks as opposed to only knowing about these concepts, is why this lab is very important. Once in the workplace, knowledge alone may not be enough in an entry level position. This lab also provided experience in wiring a simple network, which is a requirement of setting up most networks.

Lab Assignment Paragraph

During this lab assignment, the group learned multiple key concepts to setting up and managing a network. As mentioned before, wiring a network is usually step one and most important during initial setup. Being able to connect and see our network work with our prior connections was satisfying and educating. Every group member learned a little bit about installing required operating systems, especially installing the Linux distribution Ubuntu, an operating system that we had little prior knowledge of operating and managing network tasks. Once working with Server 2003, we learned how easy and robust a lot of the active directory tasks were to carry out. The amount of control was something that we did not know existed, and were pleased to learn that we could execute so easily. Setting permissions of users to read/write and delete was interesting, as well as the ability to be able to audit and log which users attempted or succeeded in executing specific tasks.