

Survey Replication Tool

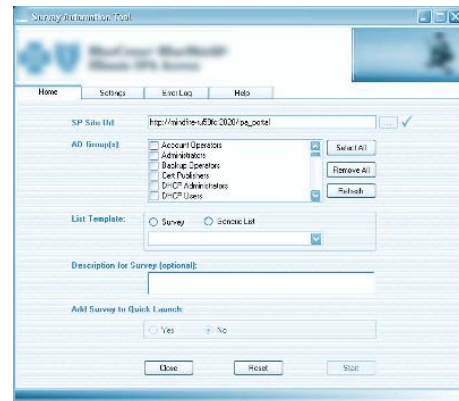
A SharePoint-Healthcare Case Study

Executive summary

The project involved the replication of SharePoint Surveys / Lists from a list template based on the group names present within the Active Directory.

About our client

Client	Software Services and Solutions
Location	Chicago, IL, USA
Industry	Health Care



Business situation

The business requirement was to develop a tool that can be used by the customer to replicate different medical surveys or some lists related to the health care domain. The replication was to be based on the group names present within the Active Directory Server and corresponding Active Directory permissions needed to be tied up with the replicated lists / surveys.

Solution details

The Mindfire Solution

After the analysis of the client requirements the team at Mindfire came up with a solution to build a Windows Application which will help facilitate the replication process. It was decided to first generate a blank STP file (i.e. a List template) from an existing Survey / List which would be used by the tool to replicate the lists / surveys based on Active Directory groups. It was also decided to have some kind of error logging mechanism which would allow easy tracking of the generated errors / warnings.

Final Results

Software system

A windows application with its corresponding installer was developed and delivered to the customer. The installer helped with easy installation of the solution on the customer's server. The application could be launched using the shortcut icon present on the desktop and it consisted of 4 different tabs (details outlined below).

Home

This tab is used to start the survey / list replication process. Before starting the process one needs to provide the Sharepoint Site URL, select the Active Directory group names (for which the list needs to be replicated), select the Template (which would be used as a base for list replication) and provide other relevant information like the description and the quick launch options. Once the process gets started, the progress is notified using a progress bar and a status message gets displayed after the completion of the process.

Settings

This tab consists of some vital information stored within the configuration file which is used during the actual replication process. The information includes the Active Directory server name (from which the AD groups get pulled), Security permission settings and the Filter prefix (used to filter specific AD groups).

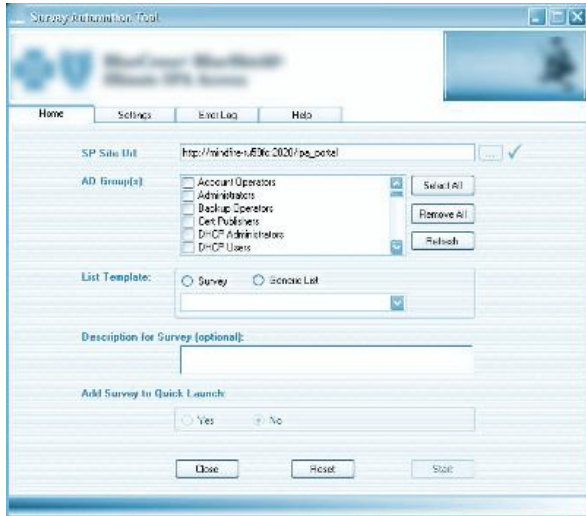
Error Log

This tab is basically meant for providing the customer with a flexibility of viewing the application related errors generated during the replication process. The error logs can be further filtered by Error Type and Error Date.

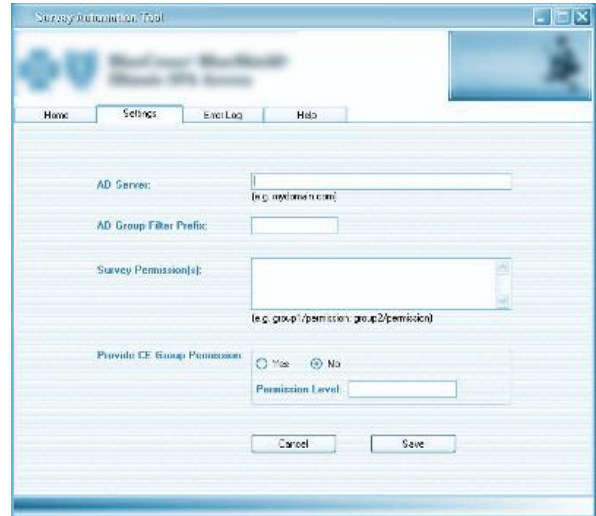
Help

This tab helps provide an overview in using the replication tool.

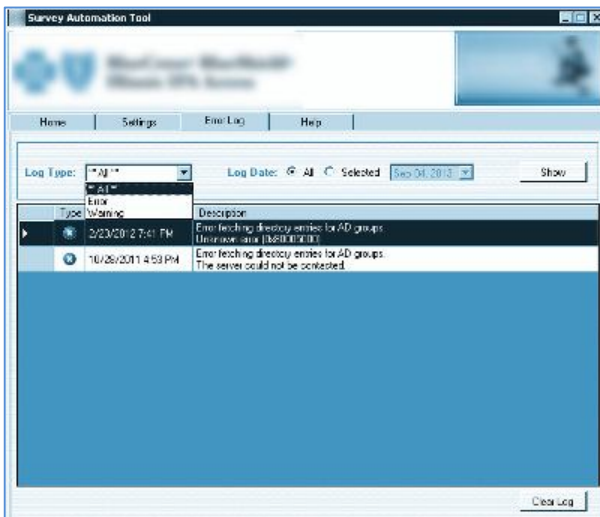
Screenshots:



Home Screen



Settings Screen



Error Screen

Help Screen

Technologies

WSS 3.0, C#.Net 3.5

Customer benefits

This automated tool helped the customer in streamlining the process by avoiding long hours otherwise spent in manually replicating surveys / lists for specific Active Directory groups.

Future relationship

Since this automation tool was a success, the customer retained us for their future development work and is planning to start on with a couple of more automation tools with us.