

Before you begin ensure that you are performing ALL of this in a LAB environment – I cannot stress to you how unsupported this process is by Microsoft, it has been purely designed to provide a means of Data recovery for Orphaned Public Folders.

You will require a functioning Exchange server which is using the Enterprise Edition of Exchange (as you are going to need to create an additional storage group (which will enable you to logon to OWA and view the messages that you have brought back from your Public Folders).

It does not matter if the lab server has both AD and Exchange installed on it, and it also does not matter if the domain name and organisation name are different (the whole point to this is being able to view the Public Folders from a database that you cannot remember the detail of).

An Outlook client will need to be provided to point at the LAB Exchange server in order to export the contents of the Public Folder Database.

You will also need to download the LegacyDN.exe tool from the Microsoft web site here:
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=5ef7786b-a699-4aad-b104-bf9de3f473e5&displaylang=en>

Performing the Sequence;

Dismount the Default Mailbox Store and the Public Folder Store on your Lab Exchange Server from the Exchange System Manager (ESM)

The Default location of the Public Folders is C:\Program Files\Exchsrvr\MDBData\

Delete the Pub1.edb and the Pub1.stm files.

Copy your orphaned DB Files to the location of the Exchange Public Folder Files

Run **ESEUTIL /p "c:\program files\exchsrvr\mdbdata\pub1.edb"**

From the ESM Try to mount the Exchange Public Folders – This will fail – this is intentional, it will generate an error in the Application Event log that will tell us what the DN was of the Organisation the Public Folders came from.

Go to the Application Event Log – look for the following events 1088 and 9519 – the event that we are looking for really is the 1088 event which will have text in it like the following;

```
The information store could not be loaded because the distinguished name (DN)
/O=COREGENDYN/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN= of message database "First
Storage Group\Public Folder Store (LDN-EX1)" does not match the DN of directory
/O=LDN/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=.
```

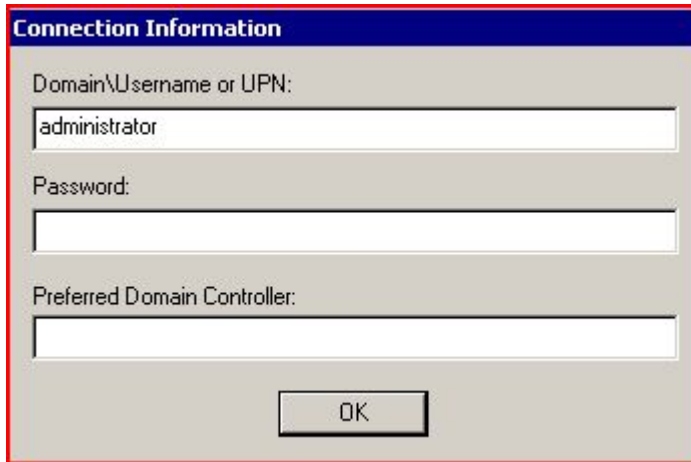
```
The database may have been restored to a computer that is in an organization or site
different than the original database.
```

```
For more information, click http://www.microsoft.com/contentredirect.asp.
```

The value that we are interested in is the first part of the Message – this tells us what the DN of the Exchange organisation needs to be in order for the Public Folders to Mount – so from above we need to make a note of the /O=COREGENDYN/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=

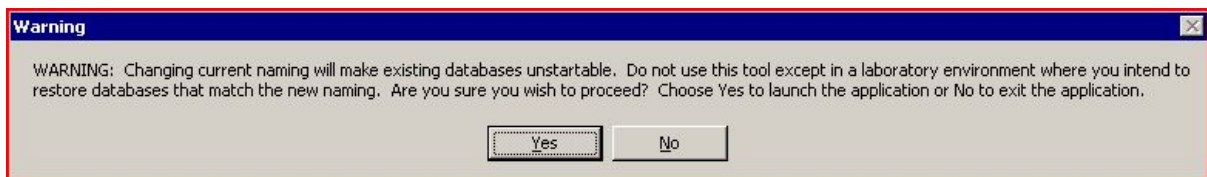
Ensure that you have downloaded the **LegacyDN** tool and copied it to a folder on your LAB Exchange server you will now need to run it using the command line **legacyDN.exe /forcewrite**

You will need to Log Administrator Domain Credentials;



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Connection Information". It has three text input fields: "Domain\Username or UPN:" with "administrator" entered, "Password:" which is empty, and "Preferred Domain Controller:" which is also empty. At the bottom center is an "OK" button.

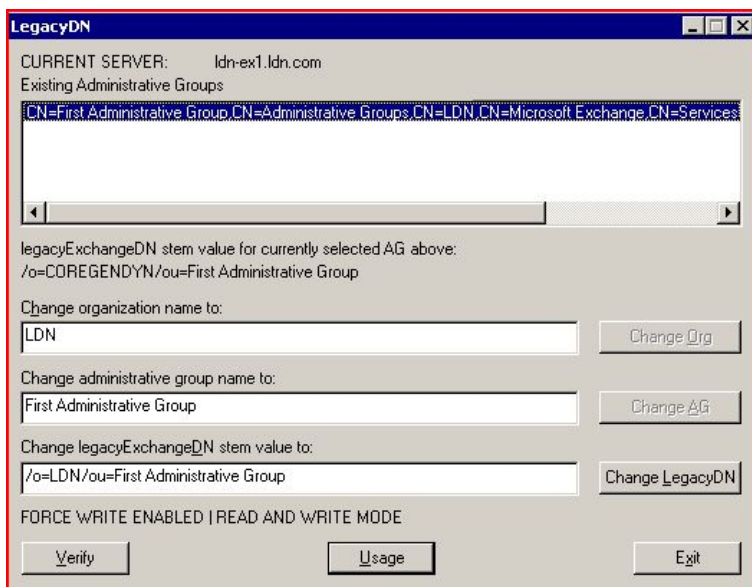
Should your credentials be correct you will be given a warning telling you that incorrect use of the tool will break your Exchange Server;



The screenshot shows a "Warning" dialog box with a blue title bar. The text inside reads: "WARNING: Changing current naming will make existing databases unstartable. Do not use this tool except in a laboratory environment where you intend to restore databases that match the new naming. Are you sure you wish to proceed? Choose Yes to launch the application or No to exit the application." At the bottom are "Yes" and "No" buttons.

Click yes to proceed.

You will be presented with a screen that looks like the following:



The screenshot shows the "LegacyDN" application window. It displays "CURRENT SERVER: ldn-ex1.ldn.com" and "Existing Administrative Groups" with a list box containing "CN=First Administrative Group,CN=Administrative Groups,CN=LDN,CN=Microsoft Exchange,CN=Services". Below this, it shows "legacyExchangeDN stem value for currently selected AG above: /o=COREGENDYN/ou=First Administrative Group". There are three input fields with corresponding buttons: "Change organization name to:" (LDN, Change Org), "Change administrative group name to:" (First Administrative Group, Change AG), and "Change legacyExchangeDN stem value to:" (/o=LDN/ou=First Administrative Group, Change LegacyDN). At the bottom, it says "FORCE WRITE ENABLED | READ AND WRITE MODE" and has "Verify", "Usage", and "Exit" buttons.

Click on the entry in the Existing Administrative Groups – and you will notice that the 3 edit boxes will populate (as per above).

Change the Organisation Name to the first part of the DN string – so in my Example the Organisational String is **/o=COREGENDYN** therefore the organisation name should be changed to **COREGENDYN**.

When you have done that click on the **CHANGE ORG** button, the tool will then think to itself for a little while and then, if the change has been completed you will be presented with a success message.

You will now need to restart the **Exchange System Attendant Service** from the Windows Services Administrative Tools MMC.

When the services have restarted, open up the ESM and navigate to:

Administrative Groups->Servers-><ServerName>->First Storage Group

Right click on the Public Folder Store and select **“Properties”** click on the **“Database”** tab and tick the box which is entitled **“This Database can be overwritten by a restore”**, click on apply the OK.

Again, Right Click on the Public Folder Store and click **“Mount Store”** – the database should then mount.

Right click on the **First Storage Group** – select **NEW** and the choose Mail Box Store.

Go through the process of creating a new store – when it have been created Mount the store.

Jump into Active Directory Users and Computers and create a new user but when moving through the Wizard ensure that you create the Mailbox for the user in the new store that you have created.

Now, you should be in a position to point your Outlook client or OWA at your LAB Exchange server and view the Orphaned Public Folders.