Active Directory Network Topology Extraction Tool
A web application that allows the network administrator to extract data from a running Active Directory instance.

By Vertis Microsystems, LLP
A reputed Network Security company, through a Silicon Valley Start-up

**Business Problem**

Discovering computers and other network devices (network topology discovery) requires scanning the Active Directory forest efficiently. While most Active Directory installations have some common attributes and structure, often system administrators use different attributes and custom structures to capture additional details. An LDAP based version agnostic tool is required for efficient of such device attributes.

**Scenario**

- Network administrators can use this tool to list all network devices connected to the Active Directory Server.
- A flexible rules engine allows this tool to be targeted at any Active Directory Server without any code change.

**Software**

J2EE, Jetty, Apache Struts

**Hardware**

Client Hosted, Ubuntu Linux

**Challenges**

1. The system needs to be platform neutral (i.e. server deployment on Windows and/or Linux should be possible).
2. The system must not require any native component running on the client.
3. The system must be completely agnostic to the structure of the Active Directory Server. It must not make any assumptions about how the data is organized.
4. The system should be able to extract various attributes of the network nodes (e.g. operating system, IP address, firmware version) based on custom rules for data extraction.

**Solution**

- A web application developed using J2EE that allows the network administrator to extract data from a running Active Directory instance.
 Ability to define complex regular expression based data extraction rules.
 Ability to define regular expression based search rules to limit the scope of network nodes traversed.
 Access through JNDI/LDAP ensures simplicity in accessing the target Active Directory Server.

Benefits

 Rule based extraction of network topology from an Active Directory Server.
 Automated extraction results in many man-hours saved and accurate results.
 A web-based portal that requires no installation on the client.