Mail Transition Assignment

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Part I

Mail Transitions Assumptions

1 Purpose And Goals Of This Major Assignment

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- Understand trade-offs between in-house and hosted mail systems.
- Learn how to eliminate or minimize interruptions during transion.
- Identify user oriented issues and topics related to mail service transition.

2 General Instructions

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- Applies To All Students
- Each student is to work independently and deliver his/her own deliberables
- Due By March 23, 2017

3 Deliverable: Mail System Transition Execution Plan

The deliverables are two papers that provide a high level description of steps involved in and an **execution plan** for:

- Transition From Some-Mail-Server To ByStar-Mail-Server
- Transition From ByStar-Mail-Server To Cloud Office-365 Mail Service

The papers can be in any format and at any length. The two papers can refer to one another. No need to duplicate. The goals are:

- not to have any mail service interruptions
- not to have any lost email
- minimize possibility of any bounced messages
- minimize impact on user base and correspondents

To Be Emailed by each student to the teacher by the due date.

3.1 Included In The Scope Of Transition Plans

- Enumeration Of Steps Involved
- Details and description of each step
- Communications with user base (before, during, after)
- Assumptions and clarifications – if/when the requirements are not clear point the topics out and make assumptions.
- Point out your thoughts/opinions on the merits of the transition.
- What should happen to the old system, when?

3.2 General Assumptions

- Assume User Base of 500. 1000 Mailboxes total.
- Primary goals for the transition are:
    - increased reliability
    - ease of maintenance
    - reduced on-going costs
    - visibility and monitoring
    - privacy and autonomy
- One-time costs are not a major concern
- 6 hour Window to implement the transition.
- Old and New DNS is under your control.

3.3 Transition From MS-Exchange-Server To ByStar-Mail-Server

Old MS-Exchange-Server Assumptions:

- Everything was under your control

- Mail was not in maildir format

- You have access to all user and mailbox credentials

New ByStar-Mail-Server Assumptions:

- Everything Is Under Your Control

- You have 2 very beefed up servers and one large network file server with lots of available disk space

3.4 Transition From ByStar-Mail-Server To Cloud Office-365 Mail Service

Old ByStar-Mail-Server Assumptions:

- You are In Control Of Everything

- You have access to all user and mailbox credentials

New Office-365 Assumptions:

- Cost Is No Problem. You can spend as much as possible. Get the best that is offered.

- If possible, we want to remain in full control of our own DNS domains.

- If possible, you want the exact set of mail addresses to remain active – To external users, the transition should be mostly transparent.

References