

Migrating to Exchange 2013

Options for migrations from Exchange 2003 to Exchange 2013

“I want my business to use Exchange 2013, but how do I get there?”

Migrating to Exchange 2013 can be seamless and uneventful with the right partner and solution. However, there are many options available to get to this destination. The goal of this document is to provide a simply overview of the different options available.

Current Version?

An important first question to ask is what the current version(s) of Exchange are in the environment from which you intend to migrate.

Exchange 2013 CANNOT be installed in the same AD Domain or Forest in which Exchange 2003 or earlier is also installed. The Exchange 2013 installer will perform many health and status checks to determine if it is safe to install. An existing installation of Exchange 2003 or earlier will be caught and prevent the installer from proceeding. Furthermore, any remnant of Exchange 2003/2000 will also block the installer.

One of the risks associated with attempting to migrate to Exchange 2013 from an old version is that you may not be able to uninstall the old Exchange

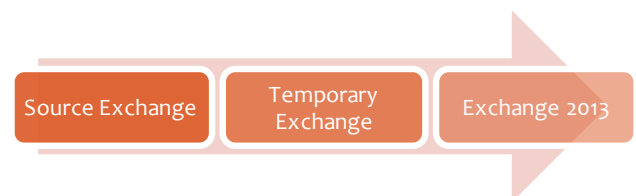
platform to the liking of the Exchange 2013 installer. At that point, you must search for answers on the internet and take the advice of others which may or may not exactly apply to your environment.

Exchange 2007 and later can live side-by-side in the same forest with Exchange 2013, however this pattern does not end with Exchange 2013. When the next version of Exchange is release, Exchange 2007 will have the same issue that Exchange 2003 has today.

Options?



Resource Forest Option



Two-hop Migration Option

Resource Forest

The first, and best option is to stand up a new AD Forest solely for the use of Exchange 2013. In this way – called a Resource Forest – there is no risk of not being able to install Exchange 2013.

The Resource Forest option is rather simple and requires only a single AD Domain Controller (though you would likely have at least 2 for redundancy). This AD environment exists only to support Exchange and the address book, and as such does not need the same complexity as your current user domain.

This option often takes less time overall than the very many pre-requisites for Exchange 2013 to be installed in the same environment as the users.

Two-hop migration

The other option to get to Exchange 2013 is to migrate first from a legacy version of Exchange to a temporary, middle layer version of Exchange. If your source version is Exchange 2003, you may elect to first migrate to Exchange 2007 or 2010 (which CAN be installed alongside of Exchange 2003).

After migrations complete to the middle layer, a removal of Exchange 2003 can be performed. The uninstallation of Exchange 2003 is not a trivial task and requires many roles and responsibilities to be transferred to the newer version. This does not happen automatically just by installing a newer version of Exchange.

Following the removal of Exchange, an attempt can be made to install Exchange 2013. If all goes well, you can then migrate from the middle layer to Exchange 2013. Following this activity would be the removal of the middle layer (Exchange 2007 or 2010) with the same caution and consideration as was mentioned with removing Exchange 2003.

Priasoft's Solution

Priasoft's solution supports either case easily. When migrating using the "two-hop" method, we have special pricing available such that the second "hop" can be done at no additional cost. Additionally, if you agree with our experts about the Resource Forest concept and you are on Exchange 2003, we have special pricing for you to get to Exchange 2013.

Regardless of the approach, Priasoft's experts stand ready to assist and our tools and solution are unmatched with regards to Safety, Predictability, Security, and Speed.

Let us show you how you can get to Exchange 2013 with little anxiety and with no impact to end users. Request a solution walk-thru today!

For More Information

Learn more about Priasoft and the Priasoft solution by visiting us at www.priasoft.com, calling +1 (480) 656-7402 (Arizona), or emailing sales@priasoft.com.

About Priasoft

As a trusted MS Gold Certified ISV partner, we bring the migration, deployment expertise, software, and support to help you integrate powerful Microsoft solutions into your infrastructure today and keep the productivity of your business running smoothly in the future.



ISV/Software Solutions