

The ABC's of NSM - S is for Sysinternals



Jason Rahm, 2009-06-04

Welcome back for another episode of the ABC's of NSM. What's NSM you say? We'll go with Network and System Management, but you could throw Security in there as well. We'll work our way through the alphabet over the next several weeks looking at tools and concepts along the way for all the administrators out there. By the way, you can thank [Joe](#) for the format & [Don](#) for the title (I couldn't for the life of me come up with one.)

Today's letter S is for [Sysinternals](#). Acquired by Microsoft back in 2006, Sysinternals is a massive suite of tools to help admins and users alike achieve a great many things with a few less mouse clicks. OK, a lot less. A few of my life savers:



- AdRestore - Recovers Active Directory objects you might have accidentally deleted
- Autoruns - Comprehensive tabbed listing of all the auto-starting programs, whether they're in your startup folder or buried in the registry.
- Process Explorer - Displays which files, registry keys, libraries, etc, belong to which process and who owns that process.
- PsKill - process killer that can be executed remotely. I picked this one up recently after venting about my Windows Task Manager headaches on [Twitter](#).
- PsPasswd - Change the password of a local or domain account. Mass change to the local admin account on sixty machines in one command recently. Nice.

These are just the tip of the iceberg. I highly encourage a trip out to [Microsoft](#) to [download](#) and get familiar with Sysinternals. You will not be sorry.



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