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Summary: Limitations of Microsoft Account Lockout and Management Tools

NetWrix Account Lockout Examiner vs. Microsoft Account Lockout and Management Tools

Feature	Account Lockout Examiner	Microsoft Tools
Automatically detects account lockouts in the background as soon as they occur.	✚	No. Product must be run manually for investigations.
Automatically notifies administrators of account lockouts in real-time via e-mail, indicating time stamp, DC name and the source workstation for every account lockout.	✚	✖
Automatically attempts to find root cause of lockouts such as mapped network drives, services, scheduled tasks, and disconnected remote desktop sessions, failed logons and more across all domain controllers, servers and desktopsworkstations.	✚	No. Manual routine investigation configuring for each specific situation must be performed (e.g. check for stale credentials in services and scheduled tasks in many different places).
Monitors multiple domains and domain controllers at the same time.	✚	Must connect to each DC manually to investigate.
Offered as a single integrated tool for ongoing monitoring and troubleshooting of account lockout problems.	✚	No. Multiple tools must be downloaded and installed separately for troubleshooting.
Long term audit trail and reporting of lockout events, unlocking and examinations.	✚	No. Only txt files stored in the debug directory serve as a reference and can accidentally be overwritten.
Facilitates both individual and bulk password resets and unlocking of accounts.	✚	No. Only individual accounts can be unlocked and reset using the native tool, or through ADUC.

Feature	Account Lockout Examiner	Microsoft Tools
Offers both Web-based portal for helpdesk staff (with role-based access) and a graphical UI to provide all the necessary troubleshooting actions and output.	✚	No. Multiple types of activities can only be invoked using individual command line tools.
Supports event IDs from Windows 2000 (3-digit), 2003 (4-digit), 2008, 2008 R2 domain controllers.	✚	No. Only 2003 and newer 4-digit event IDs are supported.
Allows secure remote account unlocking from handheld devices via e-mail.	✚	✖