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The Methods Virtual Directory Can Help Businesses by [John Ozoa](#)

Article published on February 20th 2012 | [Software](#)

There are many ways getting a virtual directory can help your organization. Using this in your method can give a consolidate view of information across the variety of directory repositories. It can also provide different view of information per application basis. It enables different access or right to information per application basis and may change, join and map data from the different LDAP directories into a namespace.

The best factor about using this on your environment is it helps in eliminating the need to extend the AD or Active Directory schema for the third party applications. The data and schema is saved and placed in the virtual layer which will then be applied automatically to items in real time. With this also, any custom schema or third party schema can be applied in the virtual directory and not in the Active Directory. This results into the reduction of any difficulty of custom schema.

Compared to other solutions available around, virtual directory server allows the custom schema to be applied in real time, with out requiring custom coding or object duplication. In addition, the typical custom schema can be easily applied across multiple AD forests without changing anything into the AD environment.

A virtual directory is horizontally and vertically scaled in order for the requirements of the enterprise deployment to be met. It's possible for it to do that because it comes with built-in or integrated connection pooling, load balancers and failover help. The virtual directory server may be placed behind the load balancer, providing robust failover for applications that connect in to the virtual directory. Apart from that, it offers robust caching possibilities as well that enable you to cache items on connection or object class basis. The objects can have limit on the cache size and time as well.

Using a virtual directory in your environment will not only allow you to have consolidated views of information. It also enables you to have a safer environment. This is because it also acts an LDAP proxy which works to keep your environment secured against any user who desires to perform unnecessary changes.

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Article Keywords:

virtual directory, virtual directory server, LDAP proxy,