



Change Auditor Suggested Alerts / Searches

- Irregular Domain Controller Registration Events (DCShadow)
- Irregular Domain Replication Activity Events (DCSync)
- NTLMv1 & NTLM v2 (Needs Logon Activity Module)
- Kerberos user ticket events that exceed the maximum ticket lifetime (Golden Ticket) (Needs Logon Activity Module)
- Changes by Human vs. IAM
- Service account used out of band
- Changes to Membership of local "administrators" group
- DACL changes on Domain container
- SPN added
- Searches for unconstrained and constrained delegation
- Searches for changes to Protected objects
- ALL Protection templates discussed in next section



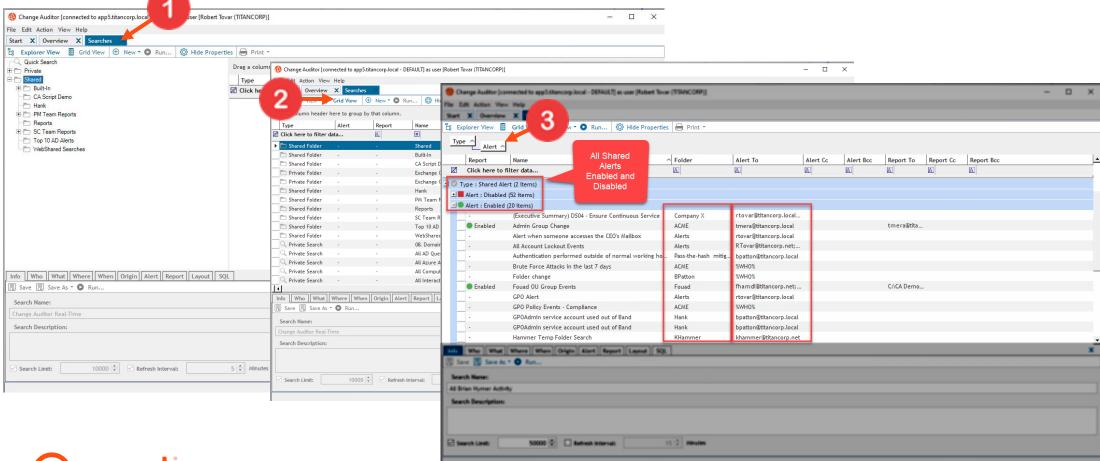
How to use the "Searches" Tab



Searches: Grid View – Find those hidden alerts

• The best practice is to keep alerts organized but in some cases they will be stored in multiple containers. Finding them all can be difficult.

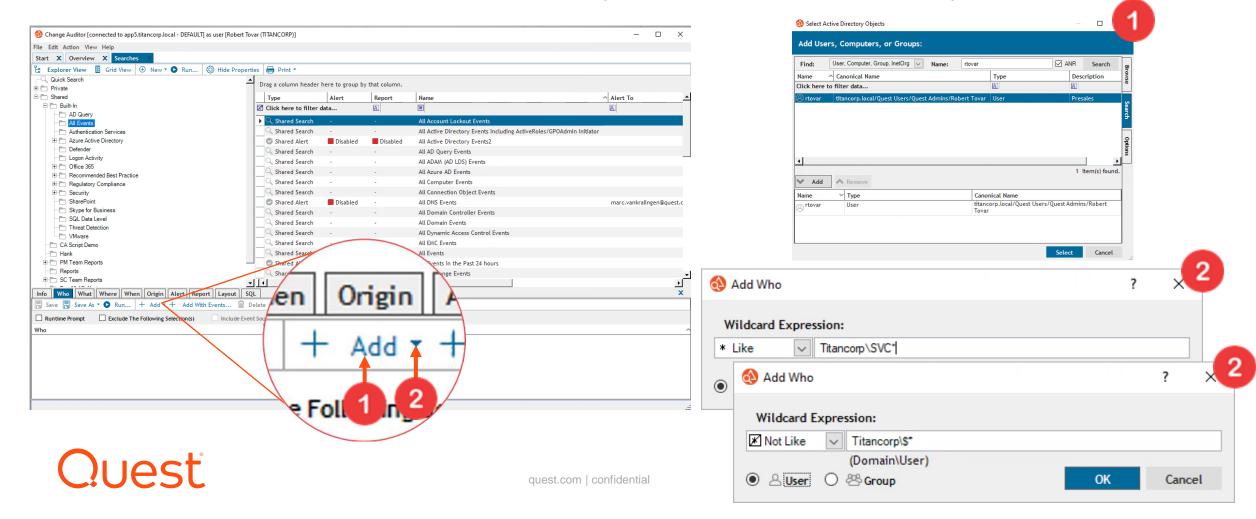
• Sort by 'Type' then 'Alert' while using the 'Grid View' to find alerts, what container they live in and who's getting the alerts.





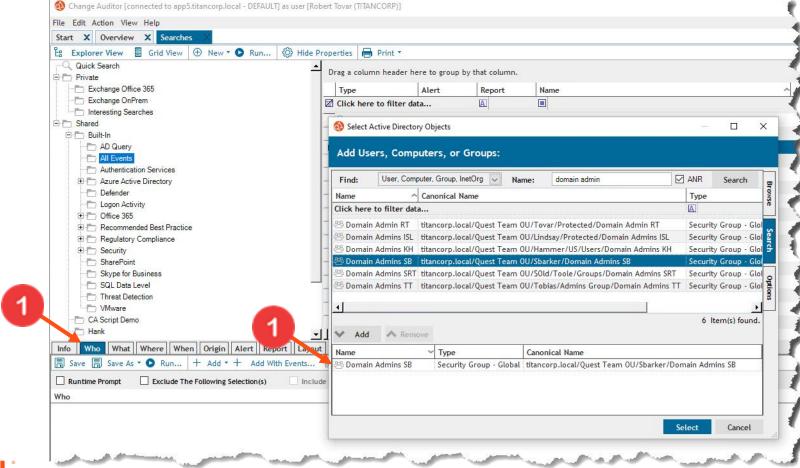
Searches: Who Tab – There are 2 parts to the 'Add' button

- 'Add' vs the tiny arrow button next to the 'Add' button, what's the difference?
 - 1. 'Add' allows you to 'Browse' or 'Search' for the user, users or group/s.
 - 2. The arrow button next to the word 'Add' is a separate button that allows to add a 'Wildcard Expression'



Searches: Who Tab – Add group/s to the who tab

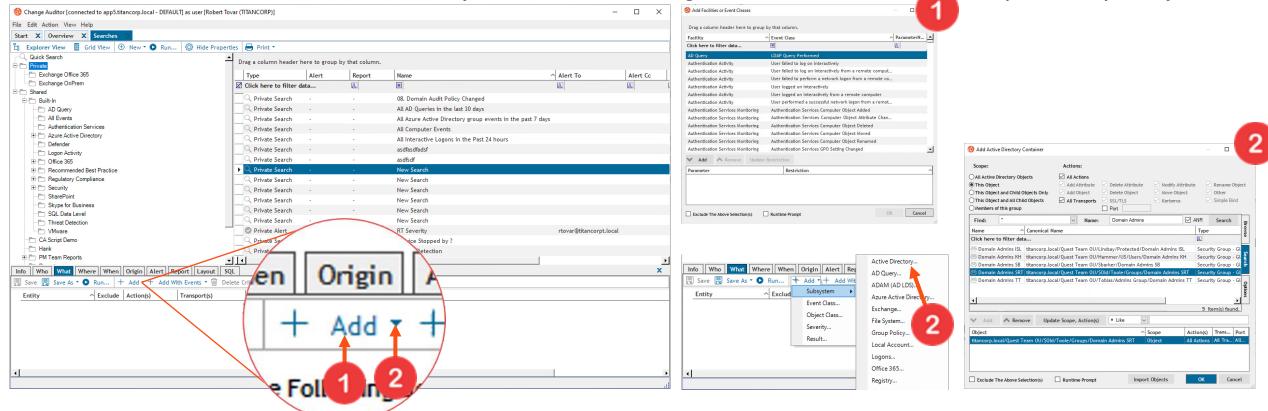
- You can add groups to the 'Who' tab to add all members of a group
 - 1. Add group or groups to the who tab





Searches: What Tab – There are 2 parts to the 'Add' button

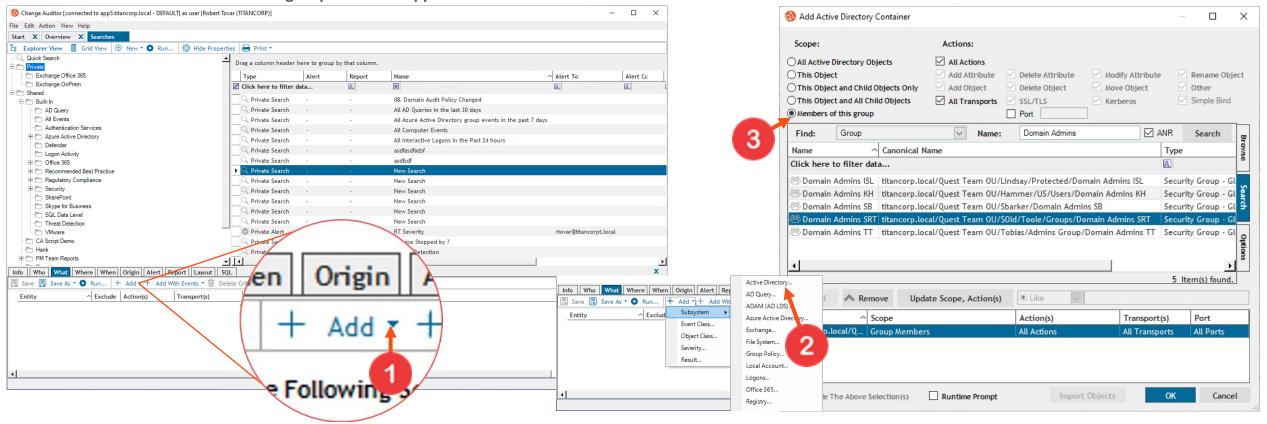
- 'Add' vs the tiny arrow button next to the 'Add' button, what's the difference?
 - 1. 'Add' allows you to select from all of the possible events Change Auditor can produce. The search will focus on the activity.
 - 2. The arrow button next to the word 'Add' is a separate button that allows to select the objects/activity you want the search to focus on.
 - 3. You can search based on the object and the event within a single search. Review the slide "Combine the specific activity and object"





Searches: What Tab – Activity performed against all members of this group

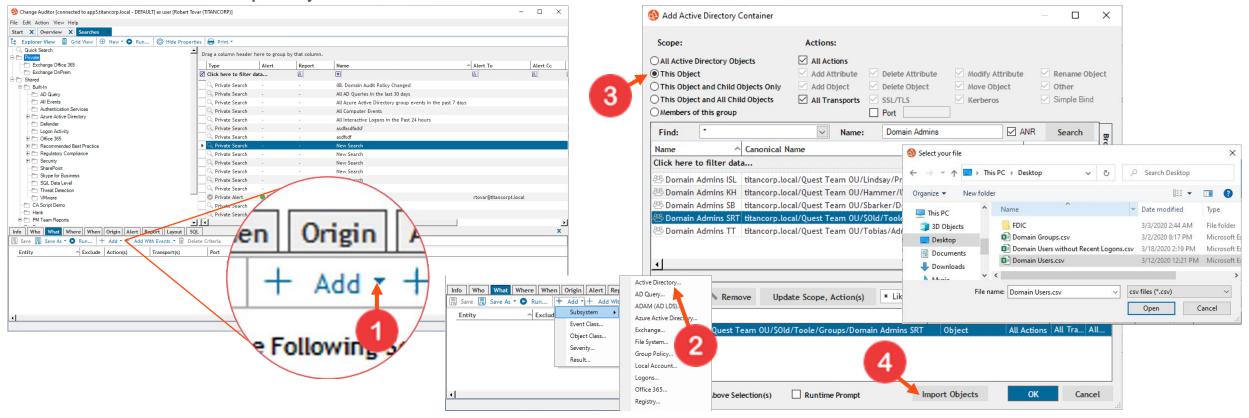
- 1. The arrow button next to the word 'Add' is a separate button that allows to select the objects/activity you want the search to focus on.
- 2. You can search based on the members of a group.
- 3. Members of this group select this option to show changes made to users in a specified group.
 - 1. Nested groups are not supported.





Searches: What Tab – Bulk import objects from CSV file

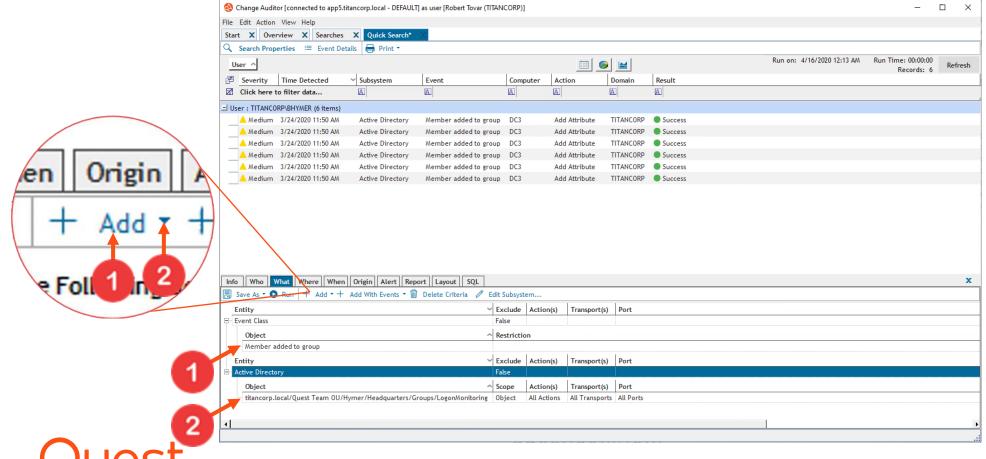
- 1. The arrow button next to the word 'Add' is a separate button that allows to select the objects/activity you want the search to focus on.
- 2. You can search based on a list of AD objects.
- 3. Click on the 'This Object' option
- 4. Click on 'Import Objects'





Searches: What Tab – Combine the specific activity and object

- 1. 'Add' allows you to select from all of the possible events Change Auditor can produce. The search will focus on the activity.
- 2. The arrow button next to the word 'Add' is a separate button that allows to select the objects you want the search to focus on.
- 3. You can combine the activity and the object of interest within the 'What' tab to get filtered results.



Searches: 'Add With Events' within the Who / What tab. What does it do?

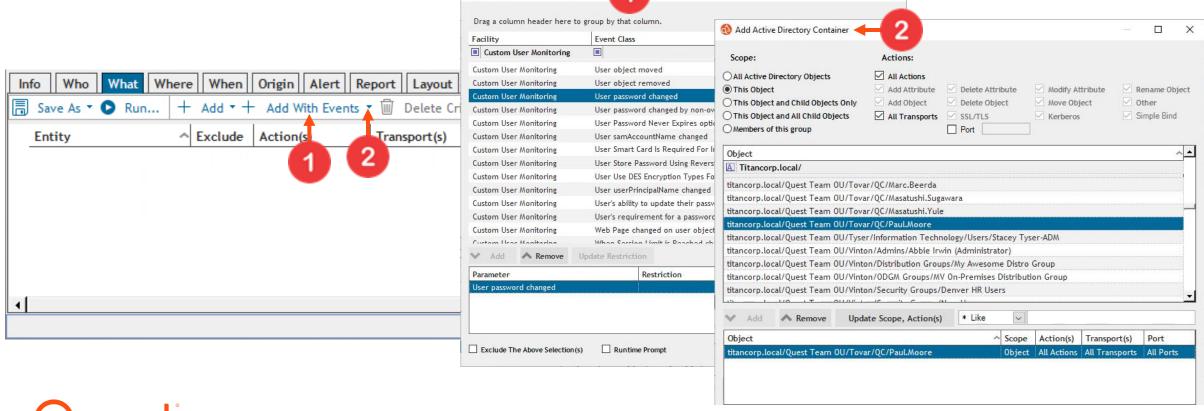
The 'Add With Events' button allows you to add events and/or objects that live within the database but not necessarily in Active Directory

Add Facilities or Event Classes

If you need to search for an object that may have been deleted from Active Directory searching via the 'Add' button is not an option.

The 'Add With Events' button will provide a list of events that have been generated in your environment and exist in the DB

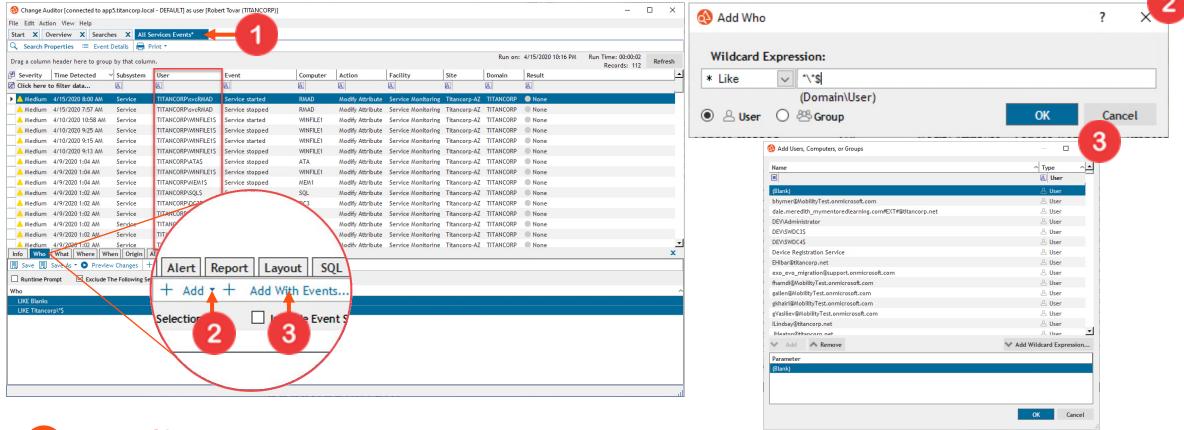
The arrow button next to the 'Add With Events' button allows you to focus a search from the list of objects that live within the DB but may not necessarily live in Active Directory.





Searches: Wildcard Expressions – Filtering out the noise

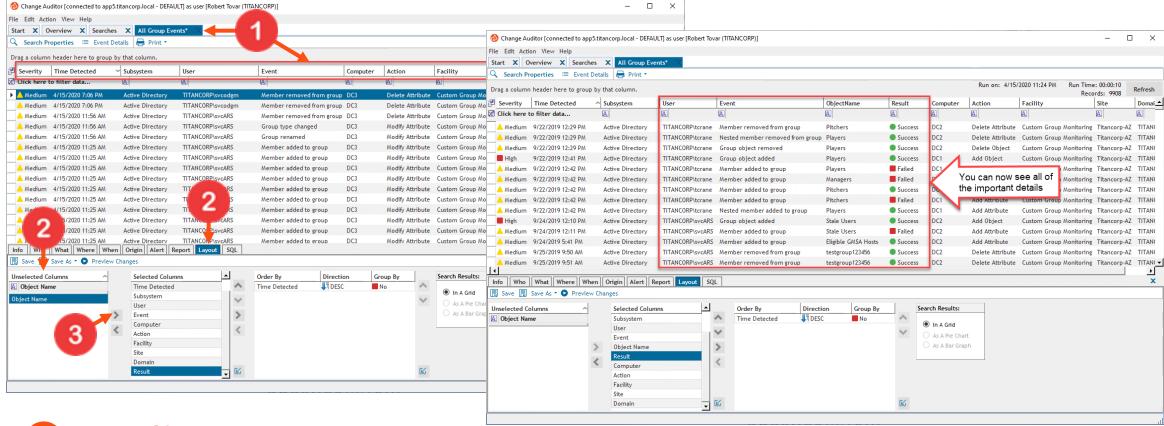
- Certain activities are performed by user accounts and computer accounts filtering out computer accounts can single out the users
 - 1. Run the 'All Services Events' search and you will see a lot of computer accounts in the 'User' column
 - 2. In the 'Who' tab exclude via a 'Wildcard Expression' to filter out computer accounts: **\$
 - 3. In the 'Who' tab exclude 'blank' entries to further clear out non user events: 'Add With Events'





Searches: Layout Tab – Add/Remove columns to provide detailed data

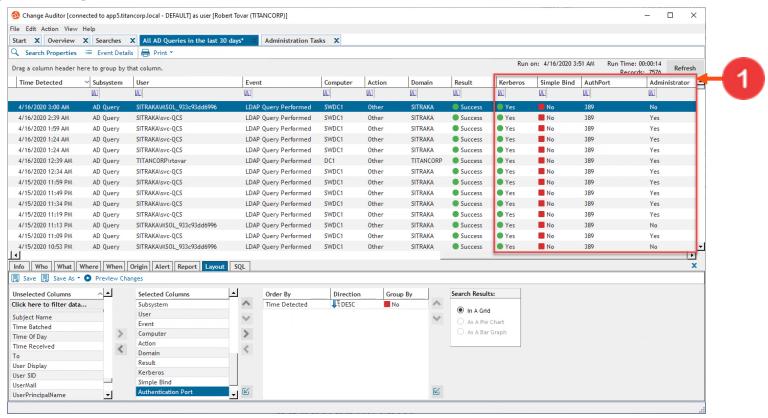
- By default, some event details can only be seen by clicking on the event. Modify the search to include additional columns.
 - 1. In the 'All Group Events' search you can see the user that made the change and activity performed but you can't see the group modified.
 - 2. With the 'Layout' tab under the 'Unselected Columns' type in 'Object Name'
 - 3. Add the 'Object Name' column to the 'Selected Columns' and rerun the search.





Searches: AD Query – Display addition columns for AD Query report

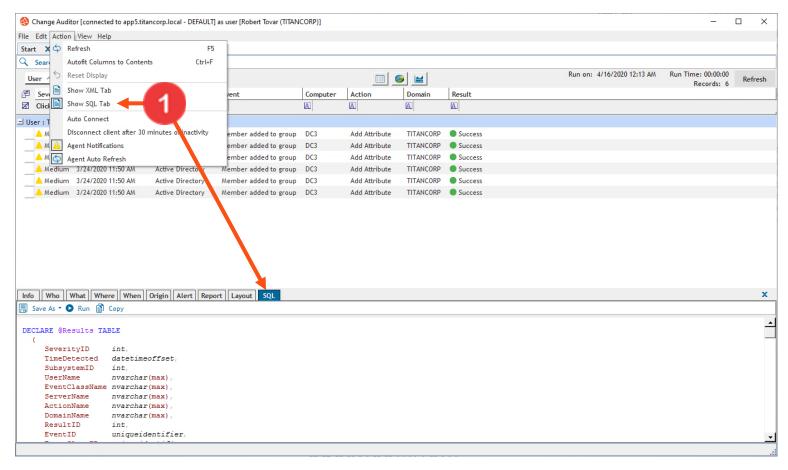
- Add columns to the AD Query Search.
 - 1. Kerberos, Simple Bind, AuthPort, Administrator
 - 2. Many applications performing unsecure LDAP "simple binds" where credentials are transferred in clear text over the network.
 - Those exposed credentials typically include the "service account" used to connect to LDAP, but also include the user credentials used during the application login.





Searches: SQL Tab – Display the SQL Query

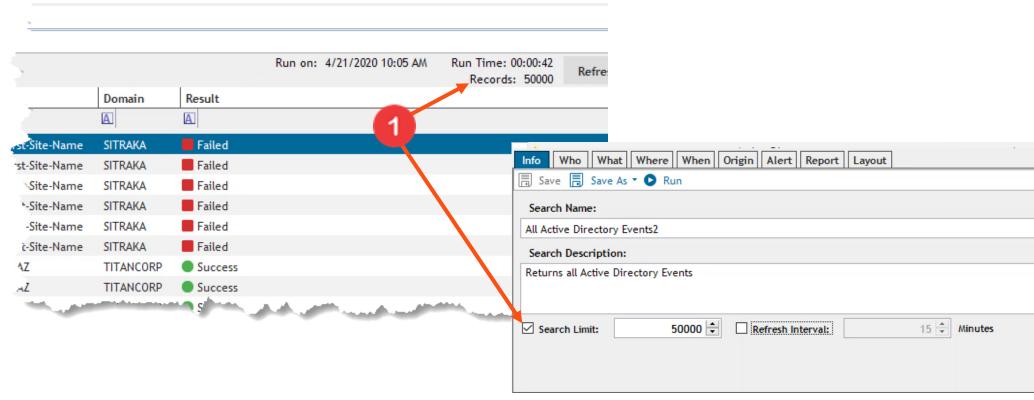
- · The SQL tab is not displayed by default.
 - 1. To display the SQL tab click on the 'Action' tab followed by 'Show SQL Tab'





Searches: Info Tab - Search limit

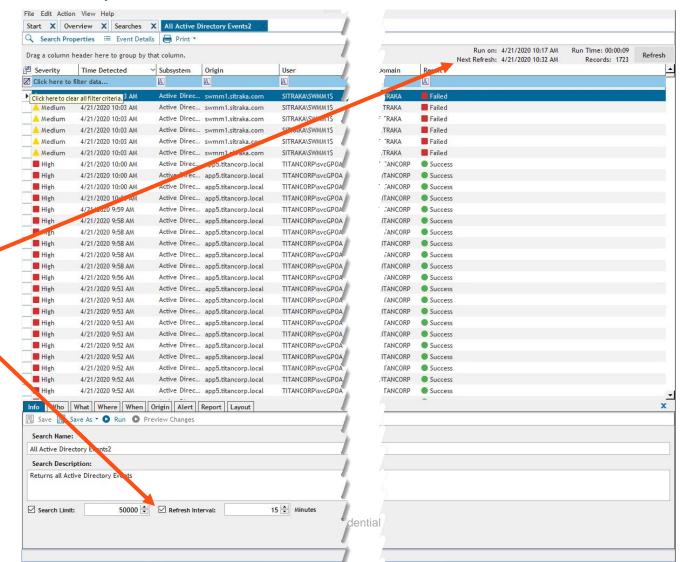
- Search Limit is set to 50,000 by default on all searches.
 - 1. When you search for events by date range you may reach the search limit.
 - 1. Adjust your date range or increase the search limit.





Searches: Info Tab - Auto-Refresh Interval

1. Define an auto-refresh interval for any search.



Quest

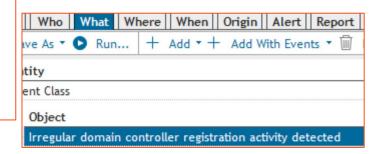
Where Next Meets Now.

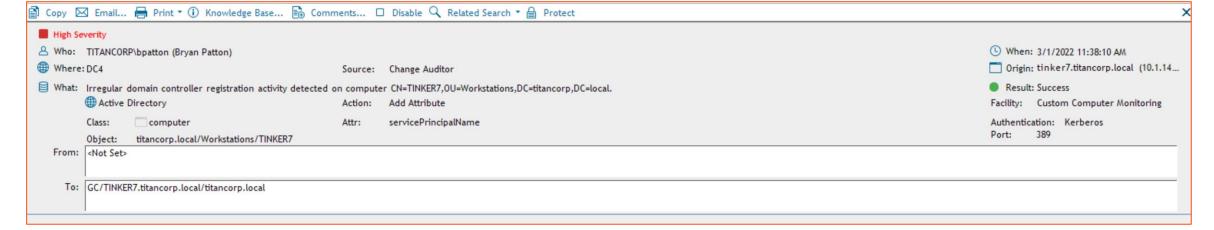
Sample Attack Mitigation Searches



Irregular Domain Controller Registration Events (DCShadow)

This event shows replication changes occurring from a machine that is not a domain controller and hopefully will never generate an event. An alert should be configured for immediate notification if this is triggered. Here is an example of what the event looks like if you have DCShadow performed in your environment



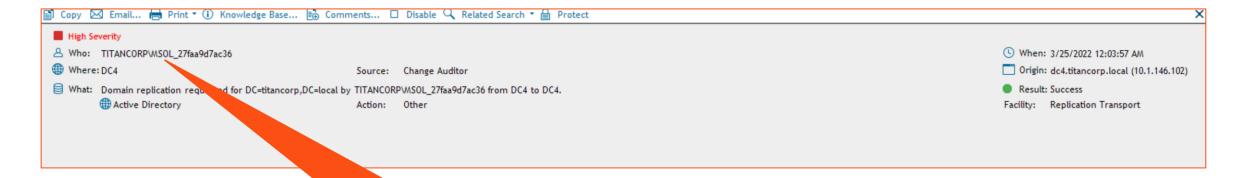




Irregular Domain Replication Activity Events (DCSync)

This event is triggered when password hashes are obtained. If using Azure AD Connect you will likely have many event generated by your MSOL_* account. After an event is generated, it is recommended to create an alert with a filter excluding your MSOL account to see the exceptions.







NTLMv1 & NTLM v2 (Needs Logon Activity Module)

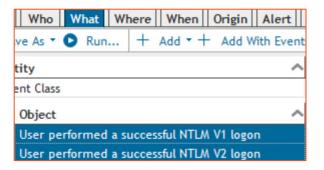
st.com | confidential

NTLM is one of the most iconic and common attacks on Active Directory environments. In this attack, the attacker (Relay-er) captures an authentication and pass it to their desired server.

Change Auditor:

- By default, these event are disabled since NTLM activity it is chatty. It is recommended to enable this event for a period of 20 minutes to see if any NTLM traffic is being generated (Note that this feature is included with the Logon Activity User module of Change Auditor).
- It is also recommended to perform these activites for NTLMv1 first then move to NTLMv2
- After running a search, you can view the origin and see if there are any conflicts. We want to look for any origins that may be mission critical applications and once those have been resolved you can disable NTLM and then setup an alert in the event if NTLM is detected by Change Auditor. If no events are generated for 20 minutes, you can keep the event enabled. Once you are comfortable that no mission critical applications are using NTLM it is advisable to configure a GPO to disable the use of NTLM.

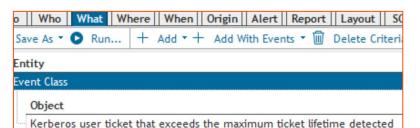
Event Filter to run



Where Next Meets Now.

Kerberos user ticket events that exceed the maximum ticket lifetime (Needs Logon Activity Module)

Golden Ticket Attacks give attackers unrestricted access to networked resources and the ability to forge new tickets, allowing them to reside on networks indefinitely by being disguised as credentialed administrator-level users. While TGTs are usually valid for 10 hours by default, an attacker can make the TGT valid for any length of time up to 10 years.



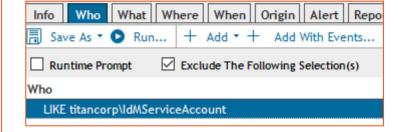
	System Settings Proxy Se	rver File System	AD Query	Exchange	VMware	Defender	Authentication Se	rvices	
	Polling Interval:	900 🕏	seconds	Retry Inte	rval:		300 🕏	second	İs
	Forwarding Interval:	5 🕏	seconds	Max event	s per conne	ction:	500 🕏		
	Kerberos Ticket Lifetime:	10 🕏	hours	Agent Loa	d Threshold	:	10000 🕏		
-	Allowed time for connection								
	☑ Sun ☑ Mon ☑ Tue	☑ Wed ☑ Thu ☑	Fri 🗹 Sat	From: 12	2:00:00 AM	Ť To:	11:59:00 PM 🚖		



Changes by Human vs. IAM

If Identity and Access Management (IAM) processes are in place, changes made by humans should be unusual. Monitoring for changes outside of the IAM process would only generate light alert noise as changes by humans should be an exception. It would be advantageous to have the ability to review alert emails and ignore if you know the change was valid.

If IAM product/process are not in place for AD, this may not be advisable as it would generate many alerts.

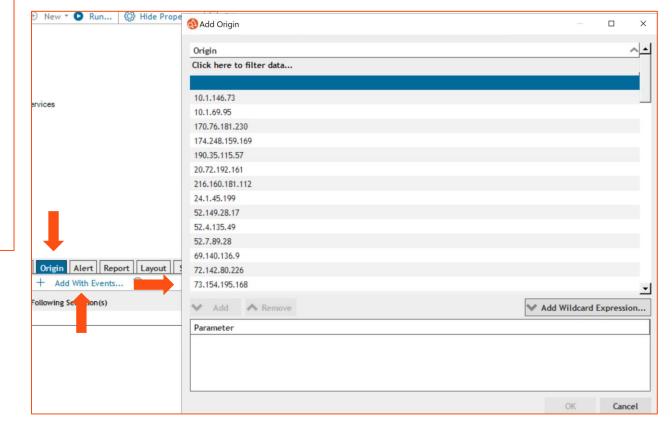




Service account used out of band

Every service should have an origination defined of how that account is to be used. For example, with APPLICARION (GPOADmin) the account originating data should only ever be from the APPLICATION (GPOADmin) server. If change happens outside of that one server, alerts should be configured.

If you are using IAM, an alert could be configured when the IAM service account is made outside of the origin which should be the source server of your IAM system.





Changes to Membership of local "administrators" group

Being a member of the local administrator group gives those objects the ability to go into debug mode on that machine. This is commonly used with Mimikatz to extract information locally on those machines and should be monitored accordingly. Being a local admin gives object ability to execute "privilege::debug" locally on a machine with Mimikatz as default behavior. It's possible to change this via GPO and make an exception group for debug permission.

Who	What	W	nere	When	Orig
ave As 🔻	Run		+	Add 🕶 -	⊢ Ad
ntity					
ent Class					
Object					
Local group added					
Local group removed					
Local group renamed					
Member added to local group					
Member removed from local group					

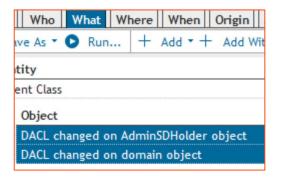


DACL changes on Domain container

DCSync is an attack that allows an adversary to simulate the behavior of a domain controller (DC) and retrieve password data via domain replication.

Generally, Administrators, Domain Admins and Enterprise Admins have the rights required to execute a DCSync attack. Specifically, the following rights are required:

- Replicating Directory Changes
- Replicating Directory Changes All







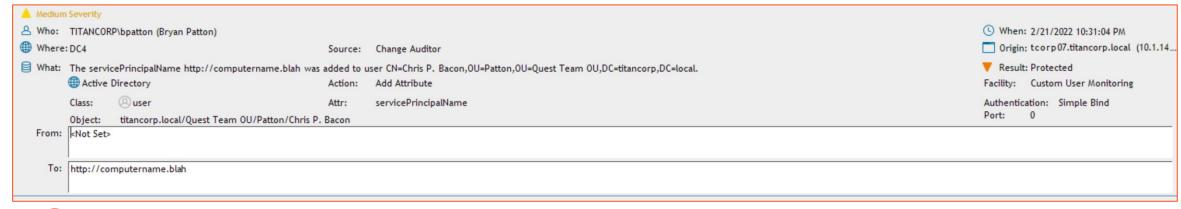
SPN added

Event Filter to run

Silver Ticket Attack and Kerberoasting

Adversaries primarily target service or user accounts, since a successful takeover of such accounts can let an adversary brute-force the password to these accounts or add an arbitrary user to the group of administrator for that service



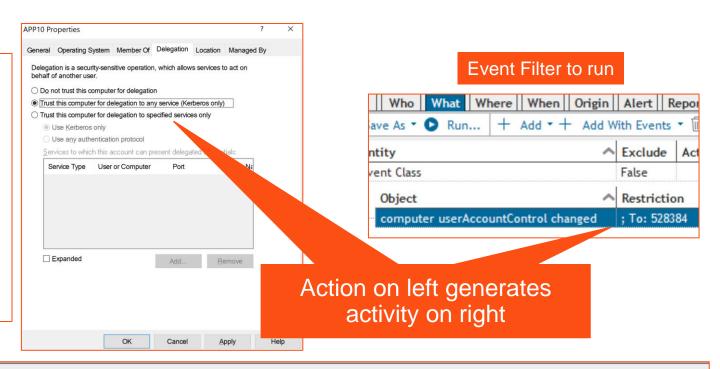




Searches for unconstrained delegation

Credential Theft Leveraging Unconstrained Delegation

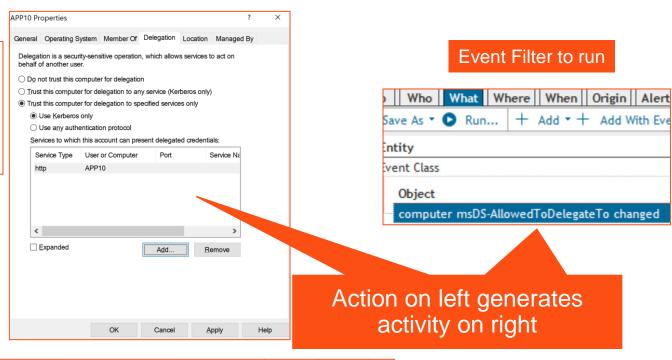
If an attacker finds a server with Kerberos Unconstrained Delegation, they can compromise the server via an admin or service account or Social engineer a Domain Admin to connect to any service on the server with unconstrained delegation.

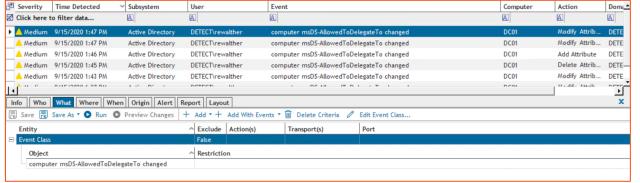




Searches for constrained delegation

Constrained Delegation allows you to configure which services an account can be delegated to. This, in theory, would limit the potential exposure if a compromise occurred





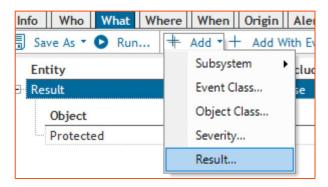


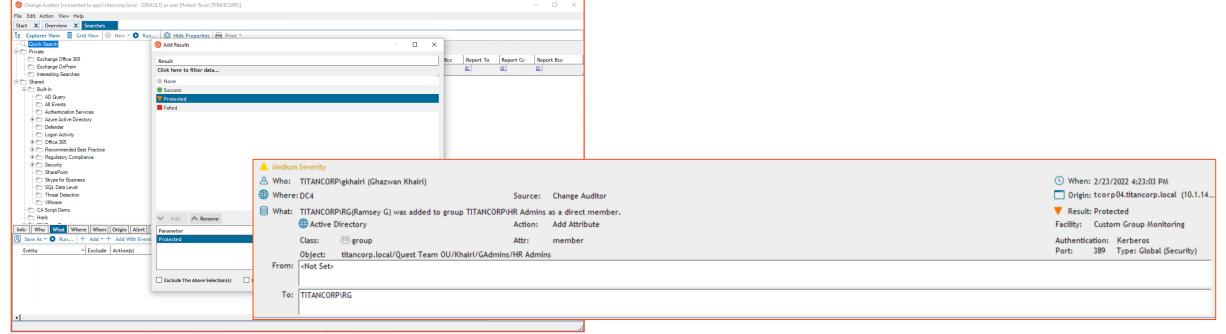
Where Next Meets Now.

Searches for changes to Protected objects

In general, all protected objects are usually critical objects and alerts should be defined.

Rather than create multiple alerts you can create a single alert that includes all existing and future protected objects.







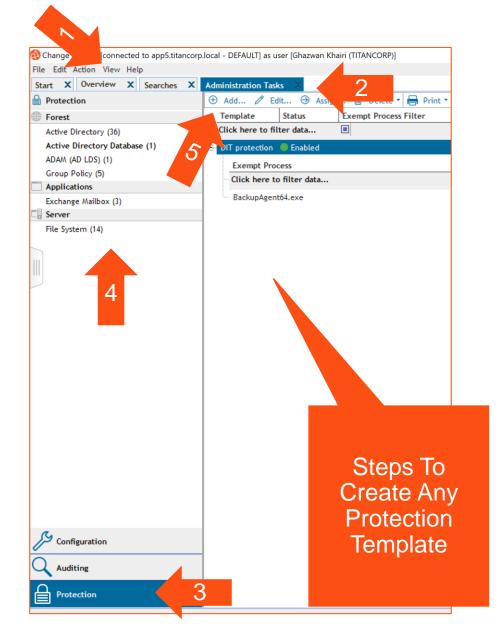
Change Auditor Suggested Protection Templates

- **❖NTDS.DIT**
- Privileged Groups
- AdminSDHolder
- **GPOs**
- GPO Linkage



Setting Up Protection Templates Process

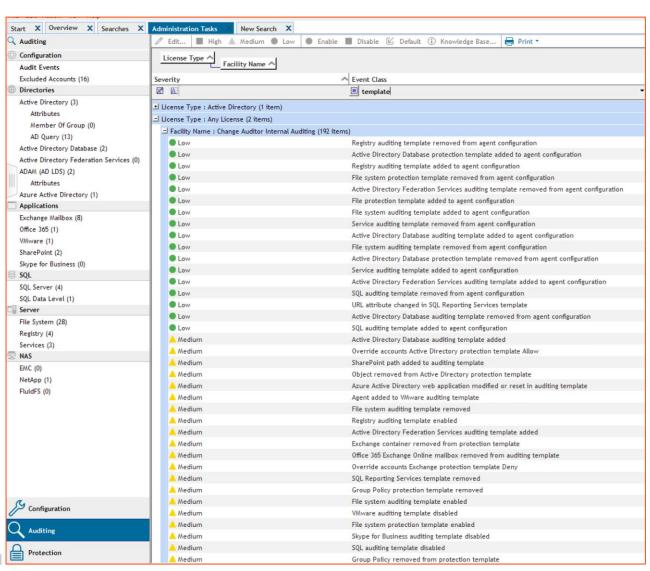
- 1. Start at the 'View Menu'
- 2. Select Administration
- 3. From the administration task page, select Protection
 - You will see a list of all the entities you can apply a protection template against
- 4. Select the object from the list
 - Forest level
 - Active Directory
 - Active Directory Database
 - ADAM (AD LDS)
 - Group Policy
 - Applications
 - Exchange Mailbox
 - Server
 - File System
- 5. Click Add to start the protection template wizard
 - · Based on your selections the screens maybe slightly different
 - Follow the screens
- Use the examples from the next few slides as reference



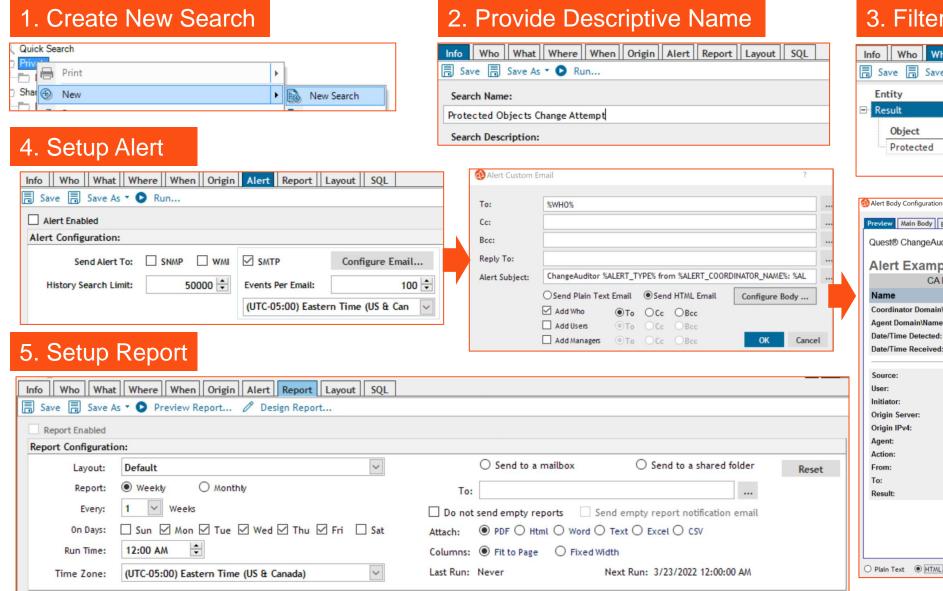
Collection Templates Changes Are Audited!

- A. Change Auditor Internal Auditing captures any changes users trigger against protection templates.
- B. So, if a user adds, edits, deletes, assigns the template to a configuration, removes the template from a configuration, an event is generated
- C. These events, like all other Change Auditor events, can be searches, viewed, reported on, and most importantly alerted on
- D. This ensures that protection of the various security measures and settings throughout your environment are constantly being applied.

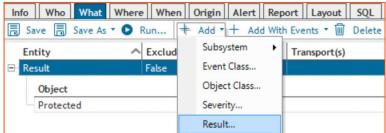


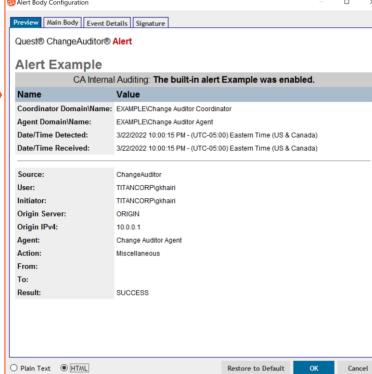


Setting Up Alerts / Reports On Protected Objects Change Attempts



3. Filter Result = Protected

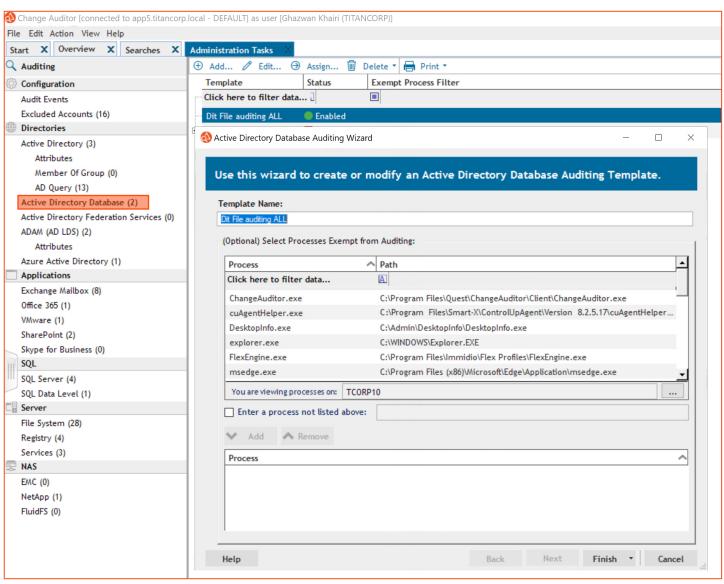




Enable NTDS.DIT File Auditing Template

Change Auditor has a feature to audit access to the NTDS.DIT database. Before these events are audited it must be configured.

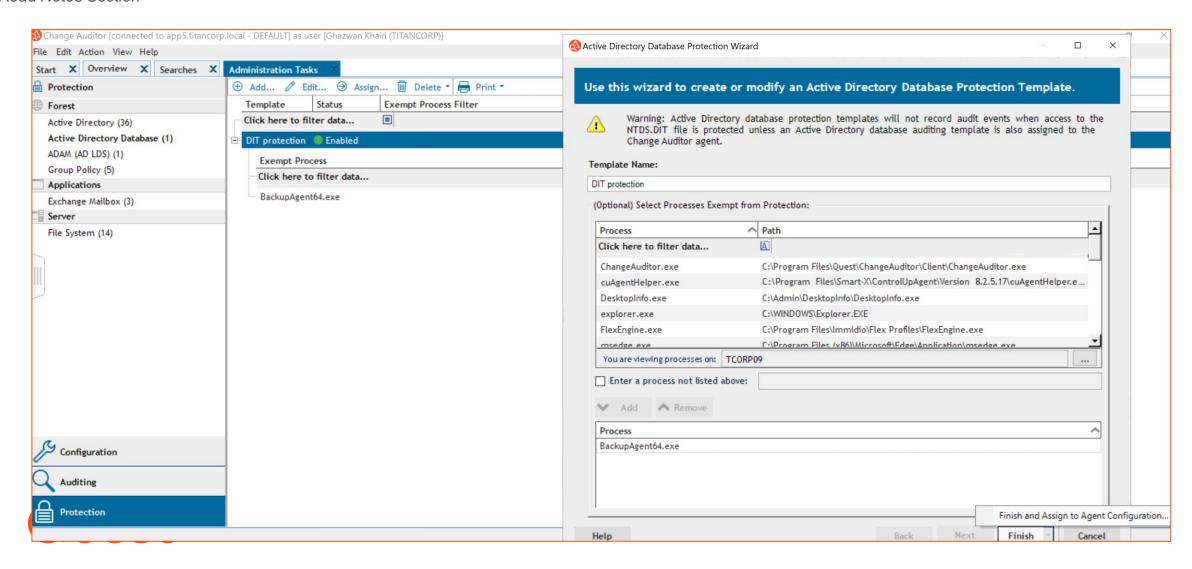
From the Administration Configuration section, select Active Directory Database, Click Add and configure your template





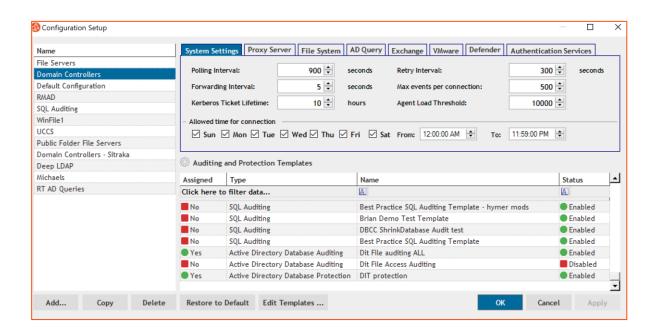
Protect NTDS.DIT File

Extraction of this file could lead to parsing of usernames and passwords resulting in a security breach



Protect NTDS.DIT File

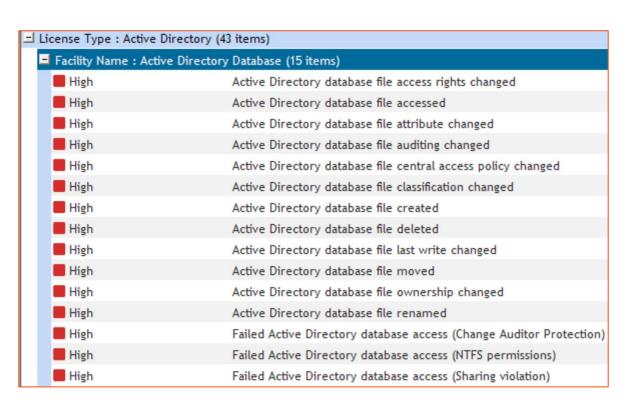
- 1. Configure the protection template (as shown on previous slide)
 - Brainstorm other processes to exclude from the protection
 - Ex: Anti-Virus (read notes section below)
- 2. Finish and assign to configuration
- 3. Choose Default Configuration or Configuration that has the DCs in it





NTDS.DIT File (Events & Built-In Searches)

The ability to audit changes to this file reduces the risk of the user account information from being accessed and tampered with by unwanted processes or users.



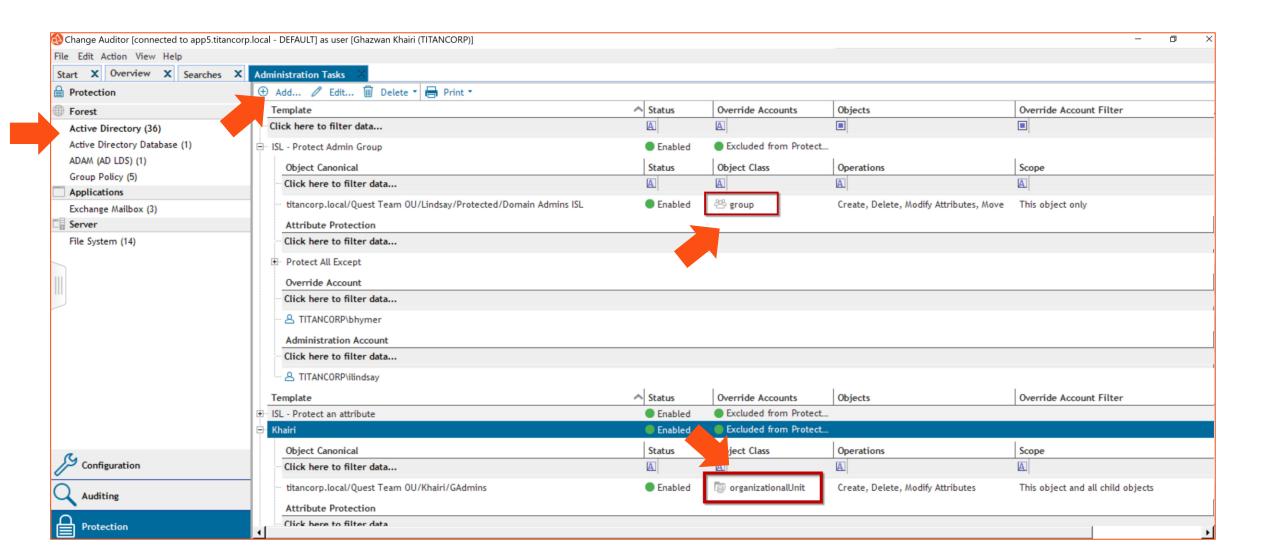
The following built-in searches have been added:

- All Active Directory Database Events under Shared | Built-in | All Events
- Active Directory Database Events in last 30 days under Shared | Built-in | Security | Domain Controller Security
- GDPR Active Directory Database Events in last 30 days under Shared | Built-in | Regulatory Compliance |GDPR | Audit and Accountability | Active Directory
- GDPR 32 Active Directory Database Events in last 30 days under Shared | Built-in | Regulatory Compliance |GDPR |Security of Processing (32) | Active Directory



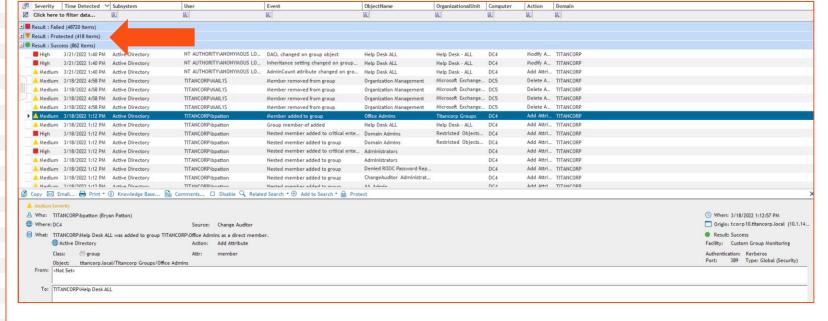
Protect Privileged Groups

Protection of privileged groups or OUs prevents unwanted tampering and unapproved membership changes



Privileged Groups (Events & Built-In searches)

Facility Name	: Custom Group Monitoring	(25 items)
A Medium		AdminCount attribute changed on group object
A Medium		Different domain SID added to group object sIDHistory
A Medium		Different domain SID removed from group object sIDHistory
△ Medium		Dynamic group object added
A Medium		Dynamic group object changed
A Medium		Dynamic group object removed
A Medium		Group member-of added
A Medium		Group member-of removed
A Medium		Group object moved
A Medium		Group object removed
A Medium		Group renamed
A Medium		Group samAccountName changed
A Medium		Group type changed
A Medium		Member added to group
A Medium		Member removed from group
A Medium		Nested member added to group
A Medium		Nested member removed from group
A Medium		Owner changed on group object
A Medium		Same domain SID removed from group object sIDHistory
A Medium		Well-known SID removed from group object sIDHistory
High		DACL changed on group object
High		Group object added
High		Inheritance setting changed on group object
High		Same domain SID added to group object sIDHistory
High		Well-known SID added to group object sIDHistory

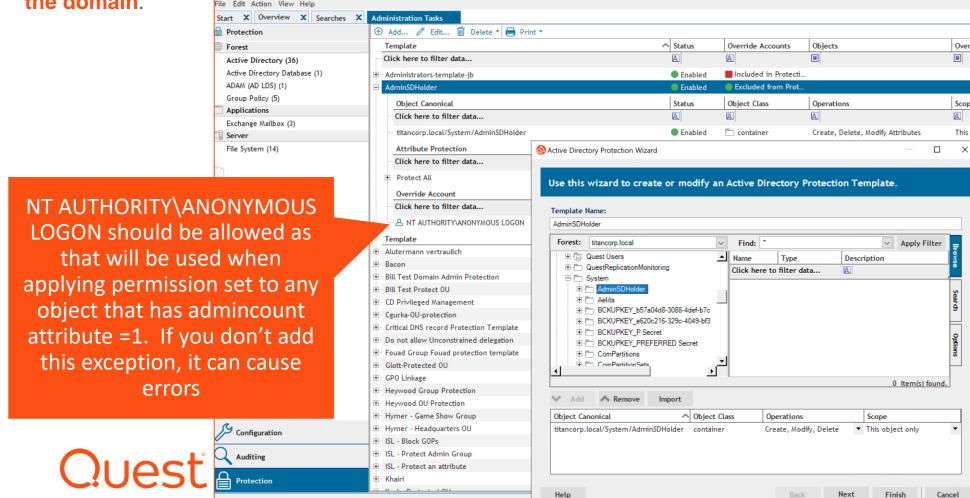




Protect AdminSDHolder

The ACL of the AdminSDHolder object is used as a template to copy permissions to all "<u>protected groups</u>" in Active Directory and their members. If an attacker can manipulate the ACL for AdminSDHolder, then those permissions will automatically be applied to all protected objects. This will give an attacker a way to create **persistent access to privileged accounts within**

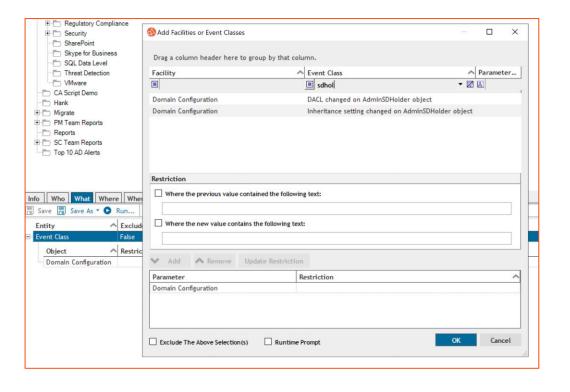
the domain.



Where Next Meets Now.

AdminSDHolder (Events / Searches)



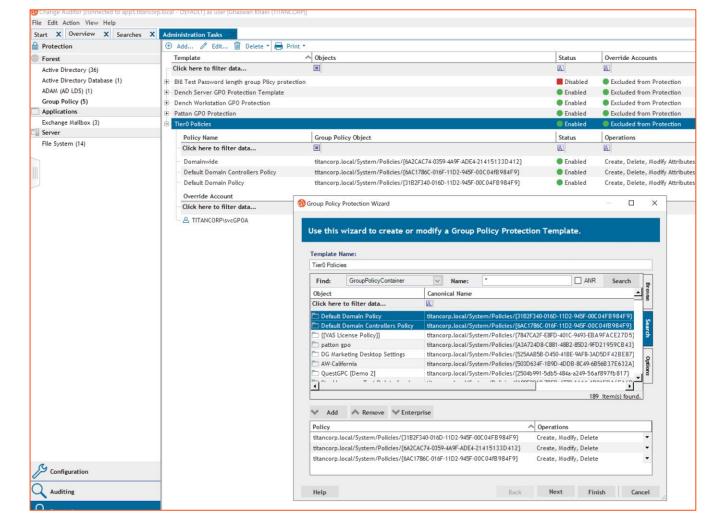




Protect GPOs

A change to the default domain policy or default domain controllers' policy can affect every person in an organization and should be protected. Ideally, a workflow would be configured using a product like <u>GPOADmin</u> and its service account can be excluded from the protection. If no GPO version control system in place, these policies should be protected to prevent

company wide changes.

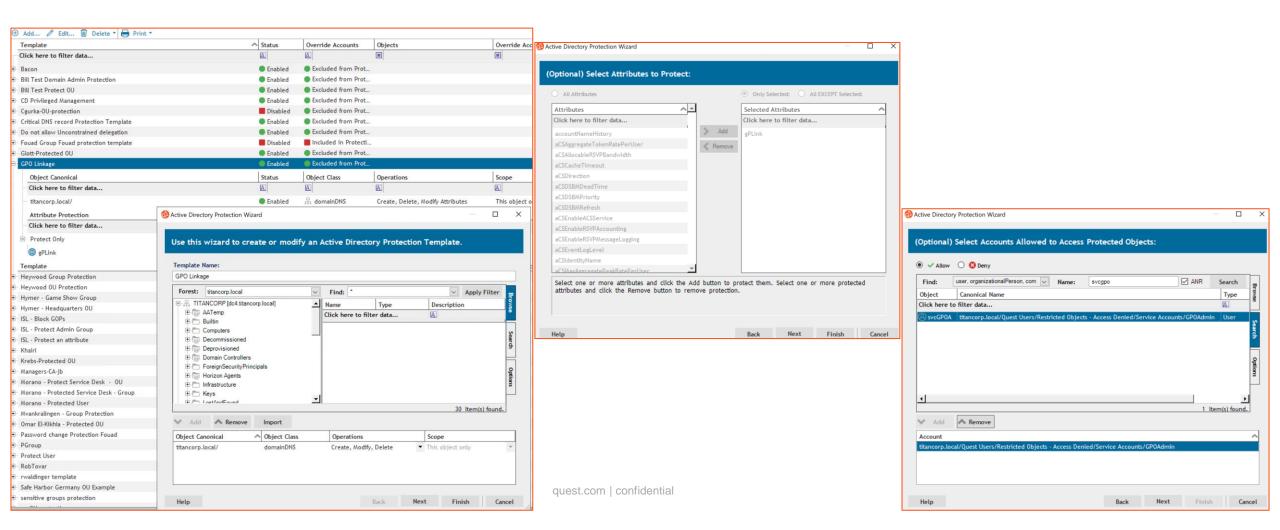




Where Next Meets Now.

Protect GPO Linkage

A GPO linked at the Domain level can potentially harm your organization! It is recommended to restrict the linkage of any GPO at the Domain level and if required should be done with multiple levels of approvals. If using GPOAdmin and/or AGPM it is recommended to add their service accounts to the access for the protection template



GPOs (Events / Searches)



