



SPHEREboard SecureAD

Identify Active Directory risk and clean it up—quickly and completely

Microsoft Active Directory (AD) is an important element of the IT infrastructure of many organizations. But it's notorious for becoming bloated, disorganized, and messy—creating risk by enabling bad actors to gain access to vital networks. **SPHEREboard SecureAD** helps keep AD organized and secure by identifying significant breach opportunities that can severely impact your organization. Our innovative software solution zeros in on known (and unknown) areas of risk, including overly nested groups, outdated or incorrectly managed distribution lists, mail-enabled security groups, and more. And it helps you retire, correct, and flatten AD groups, cleaning up your AD environment.

That's Identity Hygiene. SPHERE created and pioneered it. Now SPHEREboard SecureAD brings Identity Hygiene to Active Directory, protecting your organization by reducing risk.

To bring a higher level of protection to your Active Directory, SPHEREboard SecureAD delivers:



New insights on risk

Get thorough, clear visibility into your entire AD environment—identifying potential risk.



Actionable intelligence

Identify specific AD risks and clean them up—while ensuring continuity of operations.



Time and cost savings

Automate manual workflows and lower the administrative burden—cutting costs.



Proactive risk reduction

Ensure that your AD environment stays clean—reducing risk on an ongoing basis.

Reduce risk with SPHEREboard SecureAD

SPHEREboard SecureAD significantly reduces your risk profile while strengthening your infrastructure. After all, maintaining Active Directory vigilantly isn't just about reducing risk. It's about staying organized and efficient. With SPHEREboard SecureAD, your AD environment and—and your organization—stay nimble, clean, and protected.

Without Identity Hygiene, Active Directory can create significant risk

Our extensive experience with Active Directory groups gives us a clear vision of the challenges that your organization faces. Even the most capable administrators will admit that managing groups is a real challenge. After all, staying current is difficult for rapidly evolving organizations. Users shift roles, change departments, or leave the company. Groups expand, nest, or grow stale. Access controls leveraging groups can go out of date quickly. Mergers and acquisitions exponentially expand the issues. The result? New vulnerabilities and higher risk of security events—including misuse of assets, unauthorized access to sensitive data, and even shutdowns of core systems.

What risks can be waiting, hidden within your Active Directory?

You may have nested security groups that make it hard to tell who has access to what. Unauthorized employees may have access to applications and data, including the most important and sensitive applications in your organization. These ongoing (and legacy) issues turn Active Directory into the messy closet that no one wants to clean. Here are just a few of the real-world risks that might be hidden in your Active Directory:

- › **Stale and Empty Groups.** The more of these groups you have, the more ways an attacker can find a path to exploit, damaging your organization.
- › **Nested and Circular Groups.** These groups obscure true membership and create hidden access routes into your organization.
- › **Missing Group Ownership.** Missing, incomplete, or inaccurate ownership prevents administrators from performing reviews, approving/rejecting changes—and remediating risk.
- › **Unknown Delegate Permissions.** Without visibility into delegate access, elevated rights can be assigned to unauthorized users or groups.
- › **Outdated or Unmanaged Distribution Lists.** Keeping lists accurate and current reduces the risk of unauthorized information sharing. But it's a challenge.



SPHEREboard SecureAD is ready to clean up your Active Directory

SPHEREboard SecureAD provides an end-to-end solution that enumerates issues and helps clean-up your AD environment. The result? It helps you reduce risk, quickly and easily, now and in the future.

Intelligent Discovery

Risk reduction begins with intelligent discovery, which provides crucial intelligence to identify risk and protect Active Directory.

SPHEREboard SecureAD is a cross-platform solution that can capture complicated AD environments—across forests, domains, and groups—on premises or cloud. During discovery, it aggregates and analyzes your data, providing a full map of all of your Active Directory groups and distribution lists, no matter how many you have or how complex your environment may be. SPHEREboard SecureAD provides new visibility into the relationship between users and group/sub-groups. It searches for issues, such as groups with excessive membership or users who belong to dozens of groups, but shouldn't.

Once any anomalies and issues are clear, SPHEREboard SecureAD digs deeper with intelligent analysis. It catalogs ownership and usage, identifying the appropriate group owners through automation. It takes a close look at distribution lists, a key potential risk source, looking for issues that provide opportunities for unauthorized distribution of information.

Streamlined Workflows

SPHEREboard SecureAD takes fast action, cleaning up issues and reducing your attack surface.

Identifying the people responsible for groups and distribution lists puts a human face on Active Directory issues, enabling fast, effective organizational action. SPHEREboard Secure AD's virtual workers take action, fixing problematic groups, reducing access and driving standardization of access controls. SPHEREboard communicates with identified owners to simplify complex group and sub-group structures by putting users directly in the groups they need to be members of, flattening heavily nested groups. And it helps ensure that users continue to get access to the applications and other resources they need—avoiding interruptions.

As part of lifecycle management, SPHEREboard SecureAD identifies, prioritizes, and remediates policy violations. So your Active Directory environment stays in an evergreen state—orderly, well-managed, and safe. Lower risk and more protection for your organization as it grows—that's Identity Hygiene.

SPHEREboard SecureAD delivers a wide range of powerful benefits



New insights on risk

Change starts with knowledge. SPHEREboard SecureAD provides a clear map of your Active Directory environment, the relationship between users and groups—and all associated risks (such as complicated group nesting structures). It puts this knowledge at your fingertips, so you can manage your environment more efficiently—and reduce risk.



Actionable intelligence

SPHEREboard SecureAD uncovers intelligence-driven insights about all aspects of your Active Directory, enabling you to identify specific risks and declutter your environment. More importantly, SPHEREboard empowers you to take action—flattening, correcting, and retiring groups—while still ensuring all users have access to the systems they need to work efficiently.



Time and cost savings

To discover, manage, and clean up AD risk usually requires a team of skilled professionals and hundreds (or thousands) of hours of manual effort. SPHEREboard SecureAD automates these tasks, from identifying and confirming ownership via automated workflows to making membership changes in a controlled and scalable manner. Efficient workflows reduce the administrative burden, saving your organization time and resources.



Risk reduction

Once SPHEREboard SecureAD cleans up your Active Directory environment, its sustainability processes ensure that Active Directory stays clean—and risk is reduced—on an ongoing basis. Perform security assessments at any time, monitor current activity among groups and users, pinpoint security risks as they appear—and take action before breaches can happen.

Rely on SPHEREboard SecureAD to clean up your AD, reduce risk—and help ensure ongoing Identity Hygiene

SPHERE is the pioneer and leader in Identity Hygiene, which helps identify and clean up critical identity-related issues within your organization—reducing risk quickly and effectively. Our clients rely on us to protect their organizations from wide-ranging risk—including the many vulnerabilities commonly found within Active Directory.

We have a long history of working with our clients as boots-on-the-ground practitioners of risk reduction in all areas. We know firsthand the challenges and risks created by Active Directory security groups and distribution lists, a major source of access issues and security vulnerabilities. And we have distilled our deep expertise and institutional knowledge into a complete, best-of-breed solution for cleaning up AD and reducing risk—SPHEREboard SecureAD.

We're ready to help you make SPHEREboard SecureAD part of your Active Directory risk-reduction strategy. To learn more please visit www.sphereco.com