



**Two-Day Intensive or  
Three-Day Less-Intensive  
Group Policy Essentials Workshop**



## **Why Take the Two-Day or Three-Day Group Policy Essentials Course?**

Microsoft doesn't have its own course dedicated to Group Policy. Microsoft's own Official Curriculum on Active Directory has very little emphasis on Group Policy—arguably the most important part of day-to-day Active Directory administration.

Very few other training courses tap deep into the well of Group Policy to really ensure that students can confidently implement this powerful technology. Not only will the concepts be taught in an understandable way, but they will be reinforced with demonstrations as well as hands-on labs designed to empower students to take the skills out of the lab and put them into practice!

This material has been battle-tested in companies around the world. It has been gathered from hundreds of Active Directory and Group Policy administrators managing thousands of servers. And whenever a new development from Microsoft is on the way, details will be included in the seminar, making the seminar absolutely up-to-the-minute.

Because Group Policy touches every single server, desktop, and laptop, all administrators need to understand these very important theories and concepts! There are hundreds of real-world techniques, skills, and best practices taught in class which can save time and money for your organization.

After you've taken our seminar, your whole staff can be on the same page when implementing and utilizing Group Policy in your organization. The information in our courses is valid for those companies with either Windows 2000–based domains or Windows 2003–based domains with Windows 2000, Windows XP, and Vista clients!

If you have more than 10 workstations and more than 3 servers, you'll need to know how to leverage the power of Group Policy.

*In the Two-Day class we typically “lunch in the lab”—working through lunch on each day to complete the labs.*

## Who Should Be Trained in Group Policy? About Our Two Course Options

The GPanswers Essentials training is available in either:

- Two-Day Intensive training, or
- Three-Day Less-Intensive training

Each option is geared toward different types of administrator and what each plans on doing day-to-day with Active Directory and Group Policy.

The Two-Day Intensive Group Policy Essentials Workshop is primarily meant for:

- **Active Directory Architects:** This administrator needs to know which sections of Group Policy should be addressed and which should be avoided for their rollout.
- **Domain Administrators, Server Operators, and Server Administrators:** These professionals want to plan and manage their Group Policy design the right way, the first time!
- **Security Administrators:** Group Policy touches every single aspect of Active Directory security. If these administrators have a firm foundation in Group Policy they can ensure that security directives are accurately implemented and enforced.

Prerequisites for the two-day class: Students should know how to use Active Directory Users and Computers to create user and group accounts, how to create OUs, and should have a basic understanding of Active Directory sites, domains, and OUs. Some Group Policy implementation is helpful but not required.

*Note: The two-day course is usually taught by Jeremy Moskowitz*

The Three-Day Less-Intensive Group Policy Essentials Workshop is meant primarily for:

- **OU Administrators:** These key administrators need to understand how to create and manage Group Policy just as much as Domain Administrators.
- **Desktop Design Architects:** What will the end-user experience be after your rollout? This administrator needs to know how to leverage Group Policy to design the desktop.
- **Desktop Administrators:** If Group Policy stops functioning, the Desktop Administrator will need the skills to troubleshoot and assist the server administrators.

Prerequisites for the three-day class: None. This class is perfect for people needing some introduction to Active Directory Users and Computers before learning about Group Policy.

*Note: The three-day course is usually taught by James Conrad*

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline**

Note: This course outline is for the Two-Day Intensive Workshop. The Three-Day Less-Intensive Workshop is slightly different, and focuses mostly on the tasks that OU administrators and desktop administrators need to perform the most.

### **Part I: Welcome, Introductions, and Lab Setup (Three-Day Only)**

- Active Directory warm-up
- Understanding Active Directory Users and Computers
- Creating User and Group accounts
- Creating OUs and moving Users and Computers around
- Understanding Active Directory delegation

### **Part II: Group Policy Overview**

Talk and Demo:

- Group Policy functions
- Windows 2000 vs. Windows XP/Windows 2003
- Group Policy processing basics
- Group Policy levels and precedence
- Discussion of where GPOs live (the swimming pool concept)
- Where does Group Policy apply?
- When does Group Policy apply?
- Old-school interface
- The GPMC—quick tour

Labs:

- Lab 2.1: Create domain-linked GPO
- Lab 2.2: Deleting GPOs
- Lab 2.3: Understanding the difference between Windows 2003 and Windows XP management workstations
- Lab 2.4: Creating your own management workstation
- Lab 2.5: Loading the GPMC
- Lab 2.6: Creating a unified console
- Lab 2.7: Modifying Windows 2003 for the GPMC
- Lab 2.8: Creating GPOs with your GPMC/management Station
- Lab 2.9: Understanding filtering
- Lab 2.10: Creating GPOs that are linked to sites

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline** *(continued)*

### **Part III: Group Policy Processing Essentials**

Talk and Demo:

- Linking a GPO to multiple levels in AD
- Link enabled vs. disabled
- Delete vs. unlink
- Enforced (No Override)
- Block inheritance
- Priority
- Security filtering by Group
- Security filtering by advanced properties

Labs:

- Lab 3.1 Group discussion and exercise: Determining the best OU structure based on requirements
- Lab 3.2: Moving machine accounts
- Lab 3.3: Creating and linking GPOs to specific OUs
- Lab 3.4: Block inheritance
- Lab 3.5: Linking GPOs to other OUs
- Lab 3.6: What do you do in an emergency?
- Lab 3.7: Security filtering by Security Group
- Lab 3.8: Security filtering by advanced properties

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline** *(continued)*

### **Part IV: Group Policy Theory**

Talk and Demo:

- What happens when a new GPO is created?
- What is GPO versioning?
- Why do GPOs get processed?
- What happens when Group Policy applies...
  - Initially
  - In the background for members
  - In the background for Domain Controllers
  - During security processing
  - When moving a User or Computer
  - When performing manual processing
  - When processing over slow links
  - Across Forests
- Differences between Windows 2000, Windows 2003, Windows XP, and Vista
- Special processing scenarios
  - What happens when you move a User or Computer in Active Directory?
  - When does security get processed?
  - How does XP process GPOs differently?
- Backup and recovery of GPOs

Labs:

- Lab 4.1: Make Windows XP machines act like Windows 2000 machines
- Lab 4.2: Backup and recovery of GPOs
- Lab 4.3: RsOP skills
- Lab 4.4: Using the GPMC for RsOP

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline** *(continued)*

### **Part V: Special Group Policy Processing**

Talk and Demo:

- Understanding WMI filters
- Can WMI filters be used in Windows 2000 and/or Windows 2003 domains?
- Supported clients
- "Quasi-supported" clients
- How to create WMI filters using available tools
- Backup and recovery of WMI filters
- Loopback processing and modes

Labs:

- Lab 5.1: Creating WMI filters
- Lab 5.2: Backup and recovery of WMI filters
- Lab 5.3: Loopback processing skills
- Lab 5.4: Creating a kiosk machine
- Lab 5.5: Ensuring that specific people are affected by policy on kiosk machines

### **Part VI: Group Policy Troubleshooting**

Talk and Demo:

- Common troubleshooting scenarios
- What happens with multiple Domain Controllers?
- What to expect from Event Logs
- How to enhance Event Log reporting
- How to turn up the juice on GPO output
- How to troubleshoot at the desktop
- A troubleshooting roadmap: Why won't Group Policy apply!?

Labs:

- Lab 6.1: Repairing a broken GPO
- Lab 6.2: Why isn't Group Policy applying?
- Lab 6.3: Finding broken GPOs
- Lab 6.4: How XP "fools" a user logon

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline** *(continued)*

### **Part VII: Group Policy Software Installation**

Talk and Demo:

- Windows Installer overview
- How to create your own MSI packages
- Understanding Group Policy software installation
- How to deploy packages
- What are administrative installs?
- How to upgrade existing packages
- How to deploy Office 2003 (or Office 2007 in the Vista course)
- How to patch an Office installation
- How to customize Office 2003 for your environment (or Office 2007 in the Vista course)

Labs:

- Lab 7.1: Deploying MSI packages
- Lab 7.2: Revoking MSI packages
- Lab 7.3: Deploying Office 2003 (as an example)
- Lab 7.4: Customizing Office 2003 (as an example)
- Lab 7.5: Redeploying Office 2003 after customization (as an example)
- Lab 7.6: Leveraging Group Policy for enhanced customization

### **Part VIII: Group Security Implementation with Group Policy**

Talk and Demo:

- Delegating responsibility for GPO creation and management
- Under the hood of Group Policy security
- The special default GPOs (Default Domain Policy GPO and Default Domain Controller Policy GPO)
- How to recover from damaged default GPOs
- How to manage multiple security settings via templates
- How to keep users from loading and running rogue software
- How to manage multiple servers using the Security Configuration Wizard (SCW)

Labs:

- Lab 8.1: Delegating responsibility for GPO creation and management
- Lab 8.2: Enhancing the "out of the box" security for GPOs
- Lab 8.3: Working with templates
- Lab 8.4: Controlling users' access to applications and installations
- Lab 8.5: How to "shore up" Group Policy's own security
- Lab 8.6: How to leverage the SCW to manage multiple servers

## **Group Policy Essentials Workshop, Two-Day Intensive Outline** *(continued)*

### **Part IX: Creating the Perfect Desktop with Group Policy**

Talk and Demo:

- Managed Desktop overview
- How do you allow users to hop seamlessly from desktop to desktop?
- How do you ensure that users always have access to the data they need?
- How do you restrict how much disk space a user can utilize?
- How do you ensure that a user can recover his own data in a pinch?
- How do you quickly rebuild a desktop from scratch?

### **Time Permitting Labs:**

- Lab 9.1: Building the perfect desktop
- Labs 9.2-9.4: Quick ways to get an effectively managed desktop

*Note: We are constantly improving and updating. Your actual course outline may be slightly different than what is shown here.*

## About the Training and Workshop Labs

### About the Lab Machines

While not strictly required, classes are enhanced if the attendees each have their own machine available or bring their own laptop to class. This is so we can perform real-world workshop experiments to solidify the concepts learned during the lecture and demonstrations. Each attendee should have a laptop or desktop with **at least** the following specifications:

- Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 2000 pre-loaded. User should have local administrative logon rights to the laptop.
- Pentium III at 500Mhz (Pentium 4 at 1Ghz or Pentium Centrino at 1Ghz recommended).
- 1GB *absolutely required* (If the machine has less, the student may not be able to participate in the labs.)
- 2GB of RAM suggested to get the most out of the Vista labs
- 6GB free hard drive space for the Essentials and Advanced classes  
16GB free hard drive space for the Vista Catch-Up class

Everything else required for the labs is provided by Moskowitz, inc.:

- 30-Day evaluation version of VMware Workstation
- 180-Day evaluation version of Microsoft Windows Server 2003
- 120-Day evaluation version of Microsoft Windows XP or Vista
- 180-Day evaluation version of Microsoft Office 2003
- Lab course guidelines and answers!

This way, students can keep practicing for at least a month after learning the material!

## **Training and Workshop Course Composition and Itinerary**

### **Course Composition**

Here is the breakdown of how the classes work:

- 33% Lecture/knowledge transfer
- 33% Demonstration of concepts
- 33% Hands-on lab time—turning concepts into practice
- 1% Time to catch your breath!

This training approach helps students understand the material on multiple levels and reinforces the concepts *before* they put their knowledge into practice in production.

### **Itinerary**

- We generally start at 8:30 or 9:00 and learn until 4:00 or 5:00 each day.
- We have learning, demonstration, and lab time—100% focused on Group Policy.
- Most classes break an hour for lunch each day.
- In some classes we suggest a working lunch in order to complete all the labs. A short lunch is also possible.

## About Your Chief Instructor: Jeremy Moskowitz

### Who Is Jeremy Moskowitz?

Jeremy Moskowitz is chief Propeller-Head for Moskowitz, inc.

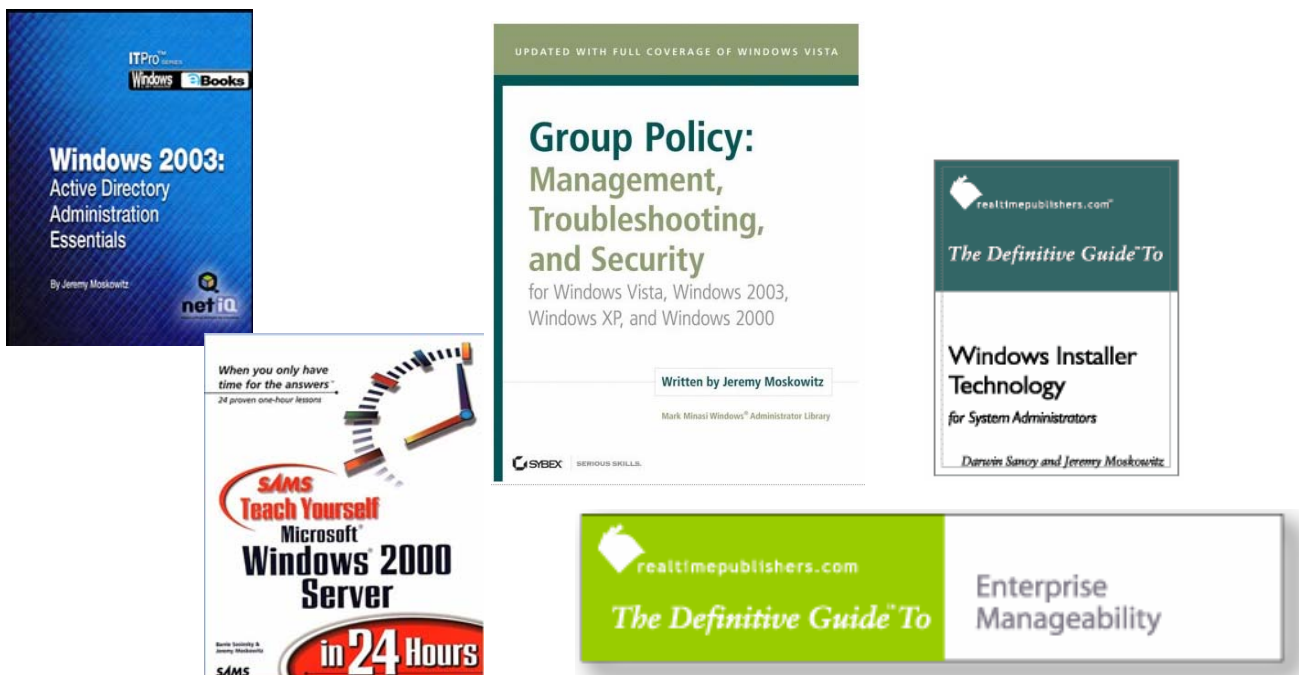
He has co-authored five popular books on Windows technologies, including *Teach Yourself Windows 2000 Server in 24 Hours* (Sams), *Windows 2003: Active Directory Administration Essentials* (NetIQ) and his runaway hit *Group Policy: Management, Troubleshooting and Security*—previously known as *Group Policy, Profiles, and IntelliMirror*—(Sybex).

Since becoming one of the world's first MCSEs in both NT and 2000, he has performed Windows NT and Windows 2000 desktop and server provision implementation for some of the nation's largest organizations. He is one of only six Group Policy Microsoft MVPs (Most Valuable Professionals) and the only one who teaches Group Policy full time. He is also the resident Group Policy Expert at TechTarget.com.

Jeremy is widely considered a "Thought Leader" in the Active Directory and Windows world. He is a nationally recognized authority on Windows 2000/2003 Server, Group Policy, Active Directory, and server and systems management. He runs GPanswers.com to help people get their tough Group Policy questions answered.

His books and articles have been read by millions and translated into multiple languages. Jeremy has written for *Windows IT Pro Magazine*, *REDMOND Magazine*, *Microsoft Technet Magazine*, *Windows IT Pro Magazine*, *Inside Technology Training Magazine*, *PC Magazine*, and *Ziff-Davis' Windows Professional Journals*, among others.

Jeremy has spoken at just about every existing Windows conference about Group Policy, including TechED, Microsoft Management Summit, WinConnections, and TechMentor.



## About Your Chief Instructor: Jeremy Moskowitz (continued)

### Why Use Jeremy Moskowitz from Moskowitz, inc. for Your Group Policy Training?

Jeremy Moskowitz's name is nearly synonymous with Group Policy training! He is the only nationally recognized speaker dedicated to the knowledge transfer of Group Policy concepts.

Jeremy has been featured in and has keynoted at some of the world's most prestigious conferences. He has taught Active Directory and Group Policy to companies of all sizes around the world.

He also runs GPanswers.com, a community forum to help everyone get their toughest Group Policy questions answered.

Jeremy's approach to Group Policy learning and implementation is the same as his approach to his book. Here is what the Group Policy team at Microsoft said about his book:



**“Jeremy’s book is exceptional! It covers the concepts and details of Group Policy, GPMC, and troubleshooting in a clear, straightforward way.”**

*—Michael Dennis, Lead Program Manager, Group Policy, Microsoft*

### Here are some actual comments about Jeremy’s live seminars:

- Outstanding speaker!
- Nothing short of superb!
- Good, fast paced! Covered a lot quickly and at a detailed, advanced level.
- Great speaker, very vibrant and interactive.
- A wizard!
- Excellent topic, excellent presentation, excellent speaker.
- Tons of great material!
- Great for beginners or experts!
- His enthusiasm is catching.
- The tools are useful, the examples/demos help make sense of the abstract and complex concepts.
- Technical yet understandable!
- Great job keeping things going, and not going on tangents.
- Jeremy, your presentation was the best of all.
- By far the best speaker.

## About Your Three-Day Instructor: James Conrad

### Who Is James Conrad?

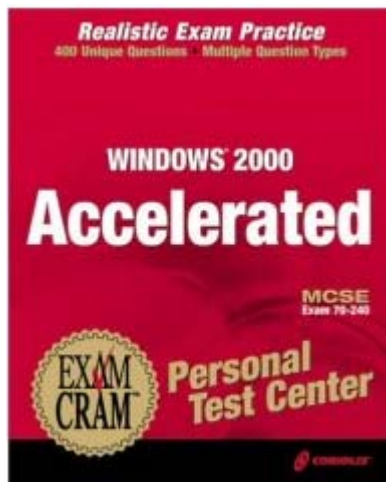
James I. Conrad, MCSE 2003, Server+, A+, Certified Ethical Hacker

For years, James Conrad has been a sought-after consultant and trainer for Fortune 500 companies. James has been an exam writer for Microsoft MCSE exams and was a key contributor in determining MCSE exam objectives in the Microsoft Certification and Skills Assessment division.

He has trained and consulted for Intel, UCLA, Raytheon, Compaq, Hewlett-Packard, MCI Worldcom, Sprint, Exxon-Mobil, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Bureau of Land Management, and many others.

James writes internal training materials for current Windows products and has authored *Windows 2000 Server for Computer Associates*, and *Windows XP Desktop Administration* for the Windows Consulting Group, among others. He has also been a technical editor for many books including *The Tips and Tricks Guide to Securing .NET Server* by Roberta Bragg and *Windows Server 2003 Security: A Technical Reference* also by Roberta Bragg. James also wrote the CompTIA Server+ college curriculum for Thomson Learning.

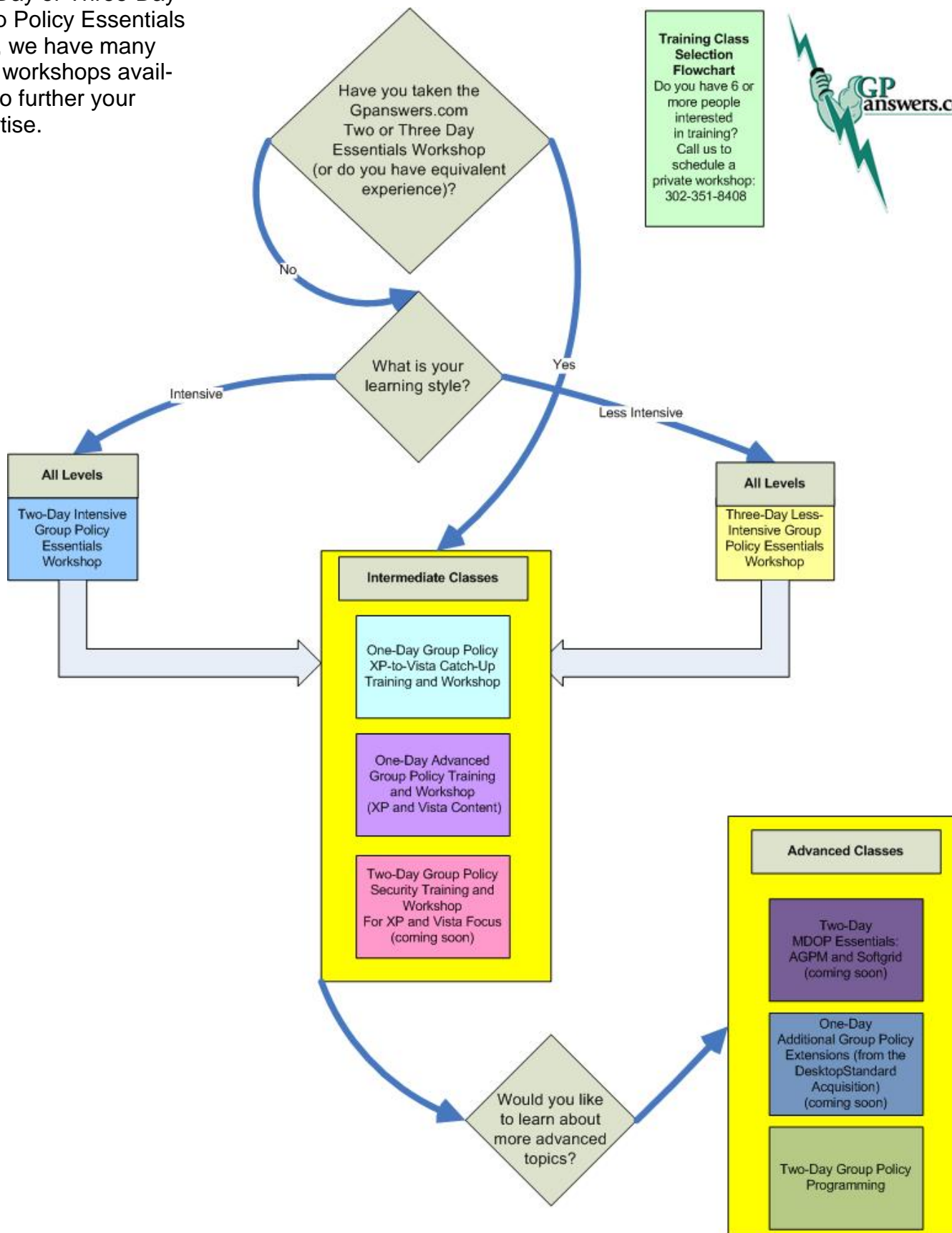
James wrote five Personal Test Center Windows 2000 Professional exam preparation tests for Coriolis. James has also written the popular Windows 2000 Server, Windows 2000 Professional, and CompTIA Network+ certification books for ComputerPrep. James also served as the technical editor for Thomson Learning's Network+ college curriculum. James is currently the lead instructor for CBT Nuggets, a leading Microsoft, Cisco, and Linux video training source.



# Where Can I Go from Here?

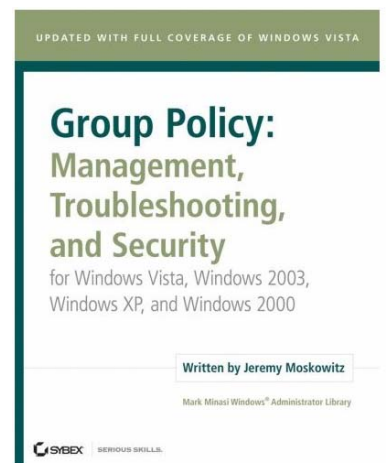
Once you've taken the Two-Day or Three-Day Group Policy Essentials class, we have many other workshops available to further your expertise.

**Training Class Selection Flowchart**  
 Do you have 6 or more people interested in training? Call us to schedule a private workshop: 302-351-8408



## Final Thoughts from Moskowitz, inc.

- When it comes to Group Policy, no one teaches it better than Jeremy Moskowitz.
- Students will learn hundreds of real-world uses for this powerful technology.
- When the classes end, the students can be confident in the skills they've learned.
- The courses are a 1-2-3 punch:
  1. Knowledge transfer
  2. Conceptual demonstration
  3. Hands-on lab time
- This training approach helps students understand the material on multiple levels and reinforces the concepts *before* they put their knowledge into practice in production.
- Each student in the two-day private class gets a free copy of the highly-acclaimed Group Policy guidebook shown here.
- Both public and private classes are available to suit your schedule and needs.
- Book your class online today at [www.GPanswers.com](http://www.GPanswers.com)! You can also call or e-mail. See you soon!



**Moskowitz, inc.**

making **I.T.** easy

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