Internet Storage Name Service

Internet Storage Name Service (iSNS) allows for central registration of an iSCSI environment because it automatically discovers available targets on the network. The purpose of iSNS is to help find available targets on a large iSCSI network.

The Microsoft iSCSI initiator includes an iSNS client that is used to register with the iSNS. The iSNS feature maintains a database of clients that it has registered either through DCHP discovery or through manual registration. iSNS DHCP is available after the installation of the

service and is used to allow iSNS clients to discover the location of the iSNS. However, if iSNS DHCP is not configured, iSNS clients must be registered manually with the `iscsicli` command.

To execute the command, launch a command prompt on a computer hosting the Microsoft iSCSI and type the following: **iscsicli addisnsserver <servername>**, where **<servername>** is the name of the computer hosting iSNS. Exercise 17.7 walks you through the steps required to install the iSNS feature on Windows Server 2012, and then it explains the different tabs in iSNS.

EXERCISE 17.7

Installing the iSNS Feature on Windows Server 2012

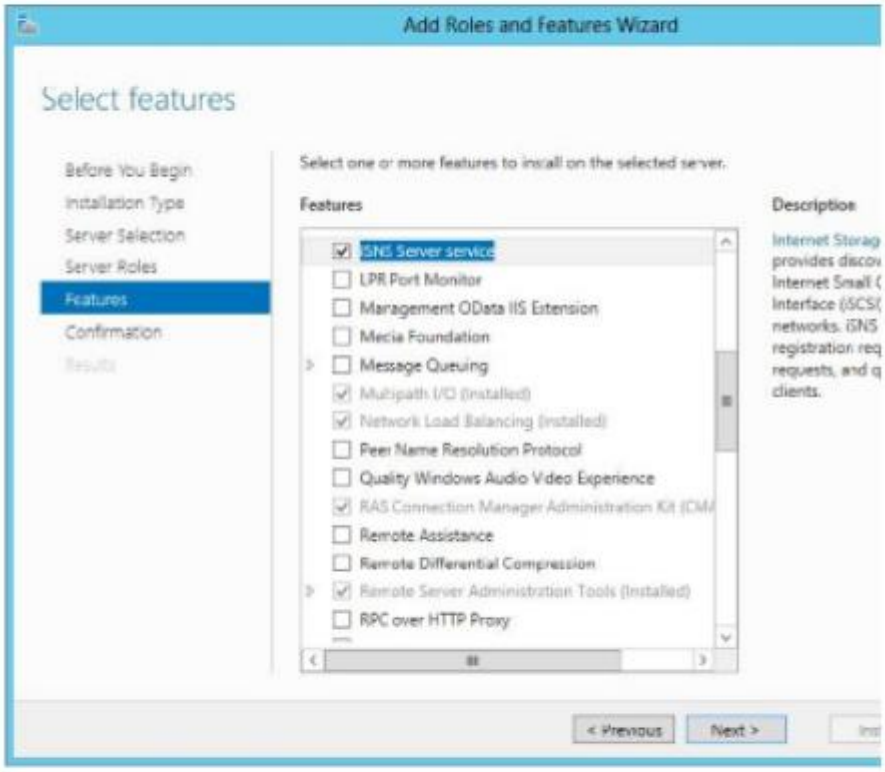
1. Choose Server Manager by clicking the Server Manager icon on the Taskbar.
2. Click number 2, Add Roles And Features.
3. Choose role-based or featured-based

installation and click Next.

4. Choose your server and click Next.

5. Click Next at the Roles screen.

6. At the Select Features screen, choose the iSNS Server Service check box. Click Next.



7. At the Confirmation screen, click the Install button.

8. Click the Close button. Close Server Manager and reboot.

9. Log in and open the iSNS server under

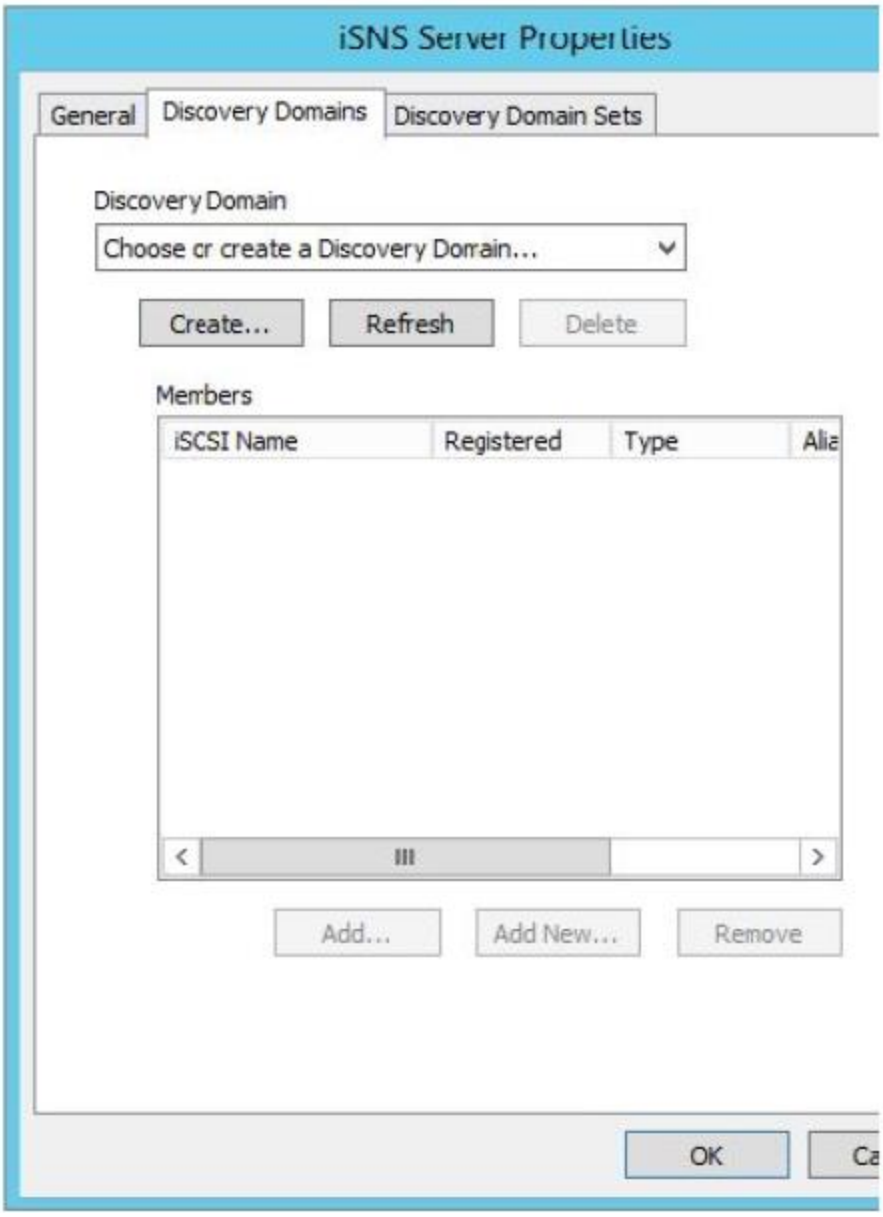
Administrative Tools.

10. Click the General tab. This tab displays the list of registered initiators and targets. In addition to their iSCSI Qualified Name (iqn), it lists storage node type (Target or Initiator), alias string, and entity identifier (the Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) of the machine hosting the iSNS client).

11. Click the Discovery Domains tab. The purpose of Discovery Domains is to provide a way to separate and group nodes. This is very similar to zoning in Fibre Channel. The following options are available on the Discovery Domains tab:

- Create is used to create a new discovery domain.
- Refresh is used to repopulate the Discovery Domain drop-down list.
- Delete is used to delete the currently selected discovery domain.
- Add is used to add nodes that are already registered in iSNS to the currently selected discovery domain.
- Add New is used to add nodes by entering the iSCSI Qualified Name (iqn) of the node. These nodes do not have to be currently registered.

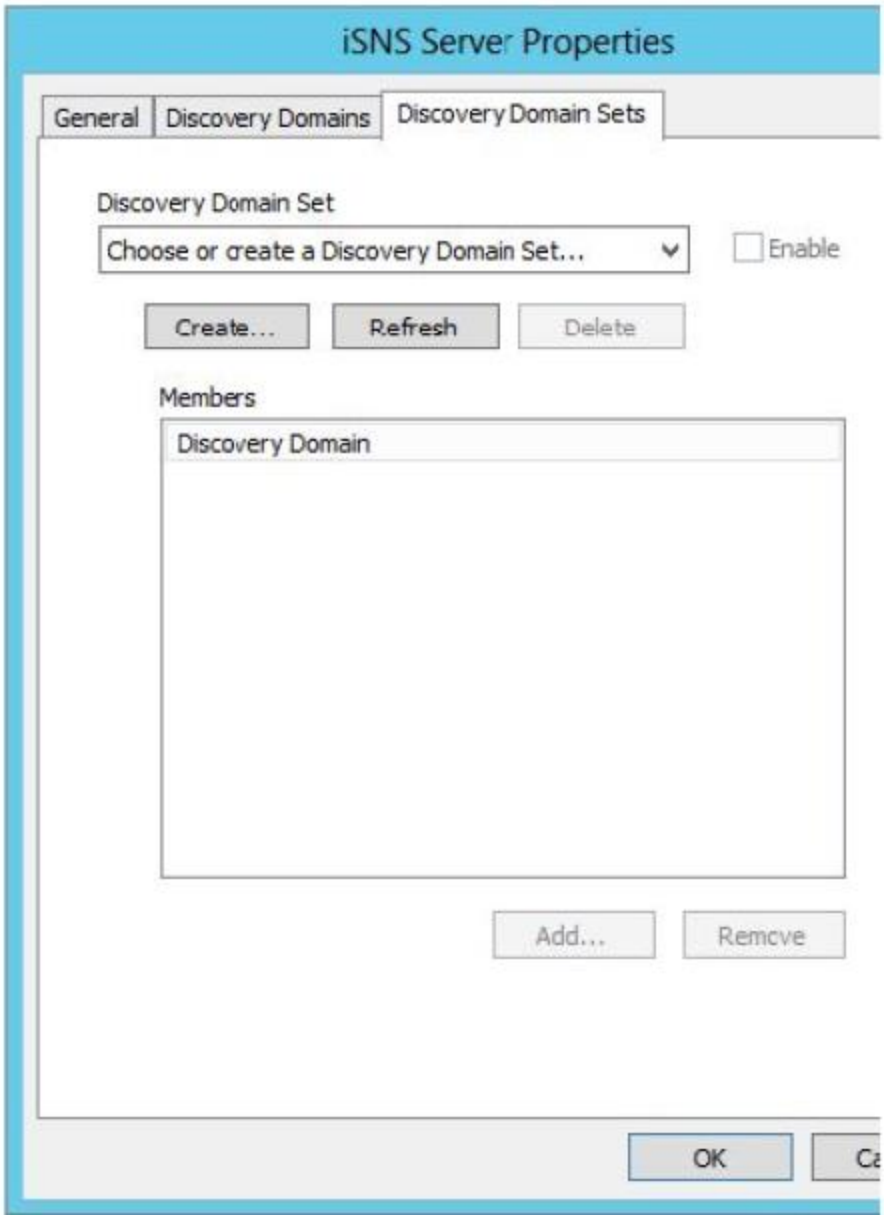
- Remove Used to remove selected nodes from the discovery domain.



12. Click the Discovery Domain Sets tab. The

purpose of discovery domain sets is to further separate discovery domains. Discovery domains can be enabled or disabled, giving administrators the ability to further restrict the visibility of all initiators and targets. The options on the Discovery Domain Sets tab are as follows:

- The Enable check box is used to indicate the status of the discovery domain sets and to turn them off and on.
- Create is used to create new discovery domain sets.
- Refresh is used to repopulate the Discovery Domain Sets drop-down list.
- Delete is used to delete the currently selected discovery domain set.
- Add is used to add discovery domains to the currently selected discovery domain set.
- Remove is used to remove selected nodes from the discovery domain sets.



13. Close the iSNS Server.