WINDOWS 2003 SERVER MIGRATION GUIDE
MOVING A COMPLETE DOMAIN CONTROLLER TO ANOTHER SYSTEM WITH NEW OR DIFFERENT HARDWARE – WHILE ALSO RETAINING THE ORIGINAL SERVER

My scenario…. a local non-profit organization needed to expand their networking and e-mail. I set up a server at MY location to house their e-mail and public folders.   A few months later, they were ready to house the server at their own facility. They purchased new hardware and my task was to transfer the system from the old hardware to the new. However, I still needed to maintain MY "version" of the server. This is how I proceeded. Method 1 was a suggested "repair-in-place" method, and is included for completeness. I ended up using Method 2, which was derived from the first procedure. In these steps **server 1** refers to an AMD Athlon 1.8 GHz machine with IDE, while **server 2** refers to an Intel P4HT 3.0GHz machine with SATA.

METHOD 1
1. Prepare Windows Server CD slipstreamed with the latest Service Pack.
2. Write down network configuration.
3. Take Server 1 offline, clone boot drive to temporary disk.
4. Boot from imaging restore CD, and restore image to Server 2.
5. Do not boot directly from Server 2 – instead, boot from your Windows Server CD
6. Use the recovery console – type bootcfg /rebuild.
7. Reboot from Windows Server CD. Do not choose repair install; continue normally until after the EULA.
8. Windows will find the "old" install" and offer to repair. Do so.
9. Boot from HDD into Windows Server.
10. Re-configure networking.

METHOD 2
1. I first made an image file of Server 1. Called it ORIGINALIMG. This serves as my failsafe backup, but was also used later, as you will see below.
2. I then performed an in-place upgrade of <u>Windows Server 2003 Standard</u> on Server 1. I used my own R2 CD, slipstreamed with SP2 - what Server 1 was running. I let the windows-based wizard complete. Upon first reboot I SHUT DOWN SERVER 1.
3. I then created another image of Server 1 – called it INPLACEIMG. This is the "setup in progress" image that I planned to move to the new hardware.
4. I restored the INPLACEIMG file to the new hardware….SERVER 2.
5. I then booted Server 2 – the new hardware. I let in-place upgrade complete. I then verified and tested basic operation, and cleaned up any device manager conflicts.
6. If I was planning to move Server 2 to another location, I would have to shut it down and disconnect it, or at the very least disconnect it from the network AND DON'T RECONNECT IT while Server 1 is active.
7. If I was planning to move Server 1 to the new location, my best bet would be to restore the image of original boot drive made in step 1 to Server 1. Otherwise, the original server will complete the in-place upgrade started earlier. This may or may not be a good thing.

Epilogue – I ended up giving Server 2 to the non-profit organization, and restoring the image made in step 1 **to** Server 1; thus I retained my original server setup and hardware and Server 2 can be tweaked as needed for the new organization. I uninstalled all components from Server 1 that were no longer being used for this organization, such as Exchange, since everything was sitting on the new server.   I then verified that new media and license/product key information was present on Server 2, so I could activate properly. The only caveat is that Server 2 bears the NetBIOS name of my original server, but e-mail recipient policies were set up separately, and still work as before.