

Whether an appliance or a software install, this year's crop of identity management tools continue to seek an identity of their own, says **Peter Stephenson**.

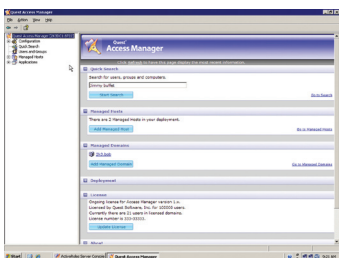
Identity management has been a sort of fuzzy term encompassing a lot of different functionality. That said, the functionality that ID management products include has been increasing, and a picture may be emerging that illustrates what really is meant by the term identity management.

We saw products ranging from simple single sign-on to full-featured appliances that cover all of the functionality currently thought of as required for a solid ID management product. However, the down side is that the nature of the functionality still seems loosely defined. For example, some prod-

ucts included provisioning, single sign-on and authentication, while others added session managers and a shared account manager.

Once you understand the environment in which you will implement ID management, ask the really tough question: do you need to automate ID management at all?

Quest One Identity Solution



Vendor Quest Software
Price generally start at \$7 per enabled user and varies depending on the required solution components

Contact www.quest.com

This product installs quite easily into the environment. The installation itself takes just a few minutes and consists of setting up the ActiveRoles Server and the client applications. Administration is done from management console applications that have the look and feel of working inside Windows Active Directory. This makes administration of the product easy and familiar to system administrators. Everything that is done through the ActiveRoles console is instantaneously reflected in Active Directory.

Quest One integrates across several platforms and applications, which allows for ultimate user management, both at the logon level for workstations, but also in applications used in the environment. Systems that can integrate with this product include all Windows/Active Directory environments; all widely deployed Unix/Linux/Mac operating systems; any application that grants access through login, including web applications; and any OATH-compliant one-time password (OTP) solution.

Documentation is provided in the form of several installation and

administration PDF manuals. All these guides are well organized and easy to follow with a good many screen shots, step-by-step instructions and configuration examples.

Quest includes one year of basic support in the purchase price of the tool. Additional support can be purchased at 20 percent of the license fee.

At a starting price of \$7 per enabled user, this product provides a solid feature set at a reasonable price. We find this product to be a great value for the money based on its solid capability and ease of management.

SC MAGAZINE RATING

Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Documentation	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

Strengths Automated user provisioning with a solid feature set.

Weaknesses None that we found.

Verdict Top drawer product, easy to manage, and a real value for the money. We rate this as our Best Buy for the month.



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The Quest One Identity Solution from Quest Software is an interesting product. It can use not only an existing Active Directory structure to manage users and



user accounts, but it can actually set up single sign-on based on user roles at the time the account is created. When a user is entered into the system and assigned a specific role, this product begins the workflow of giving logon rights as needed with little need for administrative interaction.



Quest Software
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