



# Installation

**T**he following topics are covered in this chapter:

- Prerequisites
  - Supported operating systems
  - Applying patches
  - Hardware considerations
- Server-to-server communication
  - NetWare
  - Microsoft Windows
  - Linux, Solaris, HP-UX, and AIX
  - General recommendations
- Time-synchronization considerations
- Troubleshooting installation failures
  - NetWare
  - Microsoft Windows
  - \*nix
  - Capturing a DSTRACE log

## Prerequisites

This chapter does not go into detailed eDirectory installation procedures, but rather discusses tips on how you can prevent failed installations and how you can troubleshoot various issues that may arise during the installation and configuration of eDirectory. For general information about installing Novell eDirectory, please see the *Novell eDirectory Administration Guide* for your version of eDirectory at <http://www.novell.com/documentation>.

It is beyond the scope of this chapter to discuss in detail all prerequisites for the installation of eDirectory, but I will discuss in this section the specific issues for you to pay special attention to before you install eDirectory.

## Supported Operating Systems

As new releases of eDirectory are shipped, it is important to read the new README files and current documentation. Most releases of eDirectory, including Interim Releases (IRs), often drop certain operating systems and architectures and consistently add others. A good example of this can be seen with eDirectory 8.7.3 IR3. eDirectory 8.7.3 IR2 supported Red Hat Linux Advanced Server (AS) 2.1. eDirectory 8.7.3 IR3 added support for Red Hat AS 3.0.

Decisions made by Novell to drop support for a particular operating system (OS) or platform are often driven by the OS vendor's support position. As the OS vendor drops support for a particular OS version, eDirectory often drops support for that OS version as well.

## Applying Patches

Another point of consideration is to keep your current eDirectory environment updated with the latest patches. As eDirectory IRs or support packs are released, recommendations of associated security component versions (NICI, NMAS, PKI, and NTLS) are listed in the IR patch README files. In the latest eDirectory IRs (IR4 or greater), the recommended security component patches are bundled with the eDirectory patch. To ensure quality and reliability, it is important to apply all patches together. Novell tests the security components and eDirectory patches together as a suite.

## Hardware Considerations

Novell's documentation for eDirectory (<http://www.novell.com/documentation>) lists the minimum versions of the supported operating system as well as the minimum support packs that need to be in place to install eDirectory. These requirements change often. Make sure that you review the prerequisites listed in the eDirectory documentation before you install eDirectory.

An important note to keep in mind is that the prerequisites listed in the eDirectory documentation are *minimum* prerequisites. Most of the minimums are based on an average system, which is somewhere around 500 users. It is critical that you determine how eDirectory will be used in your environment. Determining what operating system or what platform should be used for each business solution is out of the scope of this book. However, Novell has published good documents on how to determine what resources