# Replicate Data Between Servers

July 18, 2012

Backing Up a Primary Domain Controller (DC)

It is very necessary to backup data on a Primary Domain Controller (DC), so in this exercise we will use the Distributive File System to replicate a data folder from the Primary DC to the Secondary DC.

DFS Management Window

On the Start menu, we pick Administrative Tools and we choose DFS Management to open the Distributed File System Management console. On the left pane, we expand the folder and right click on Replication. We choose New Replication Group from the popup menu.
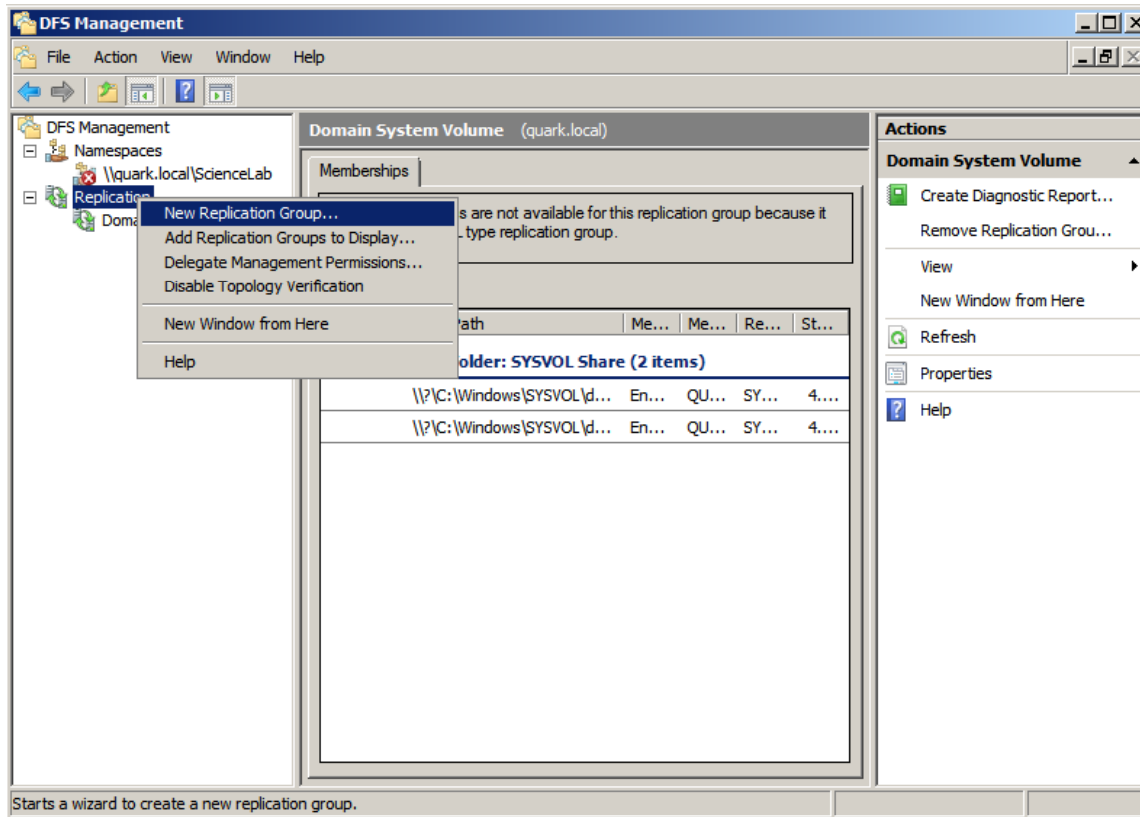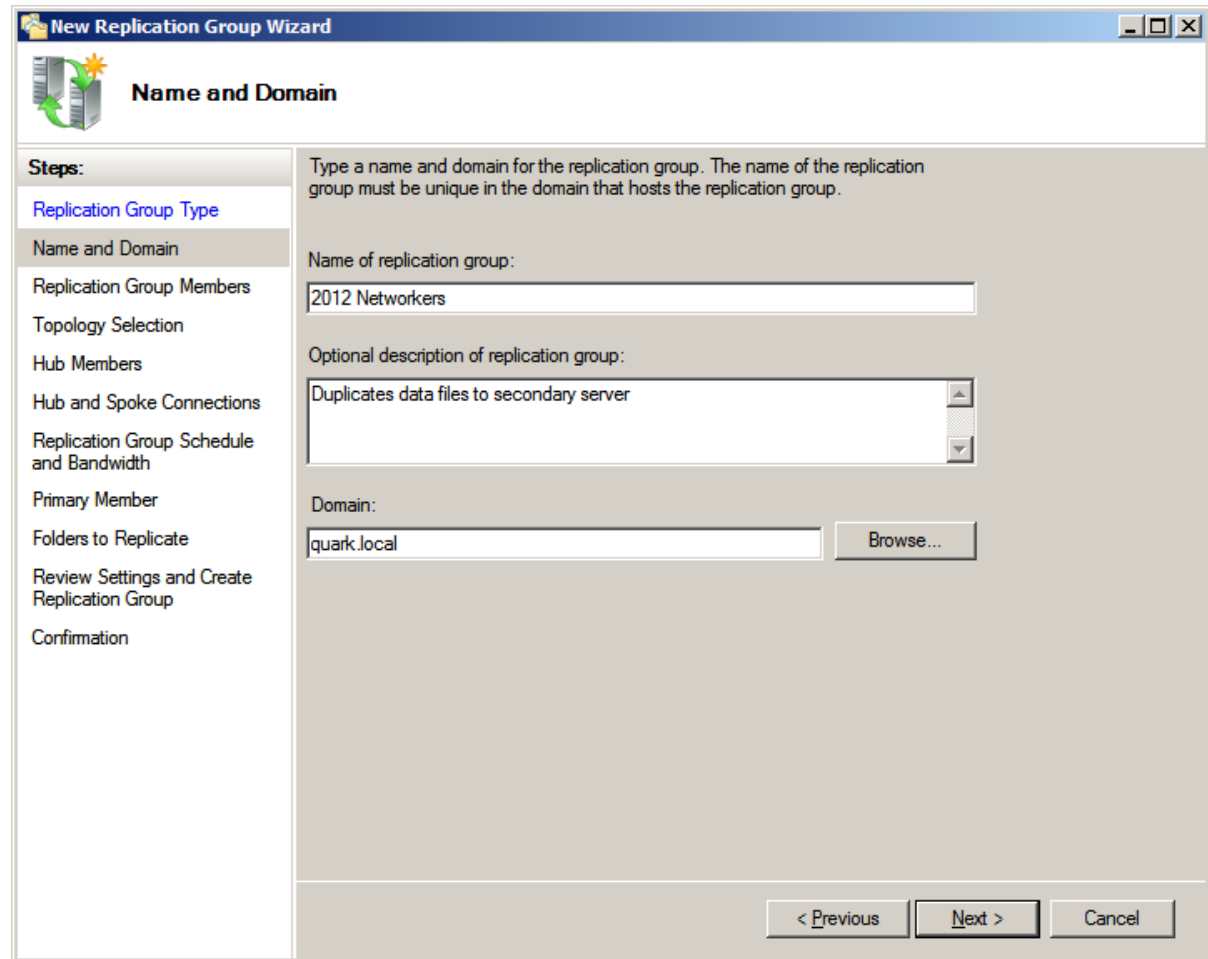
Replication Group Type

The Replication Group Type window will open and we opt for the Multipurpose replication group.

We choose the Next button to continue.
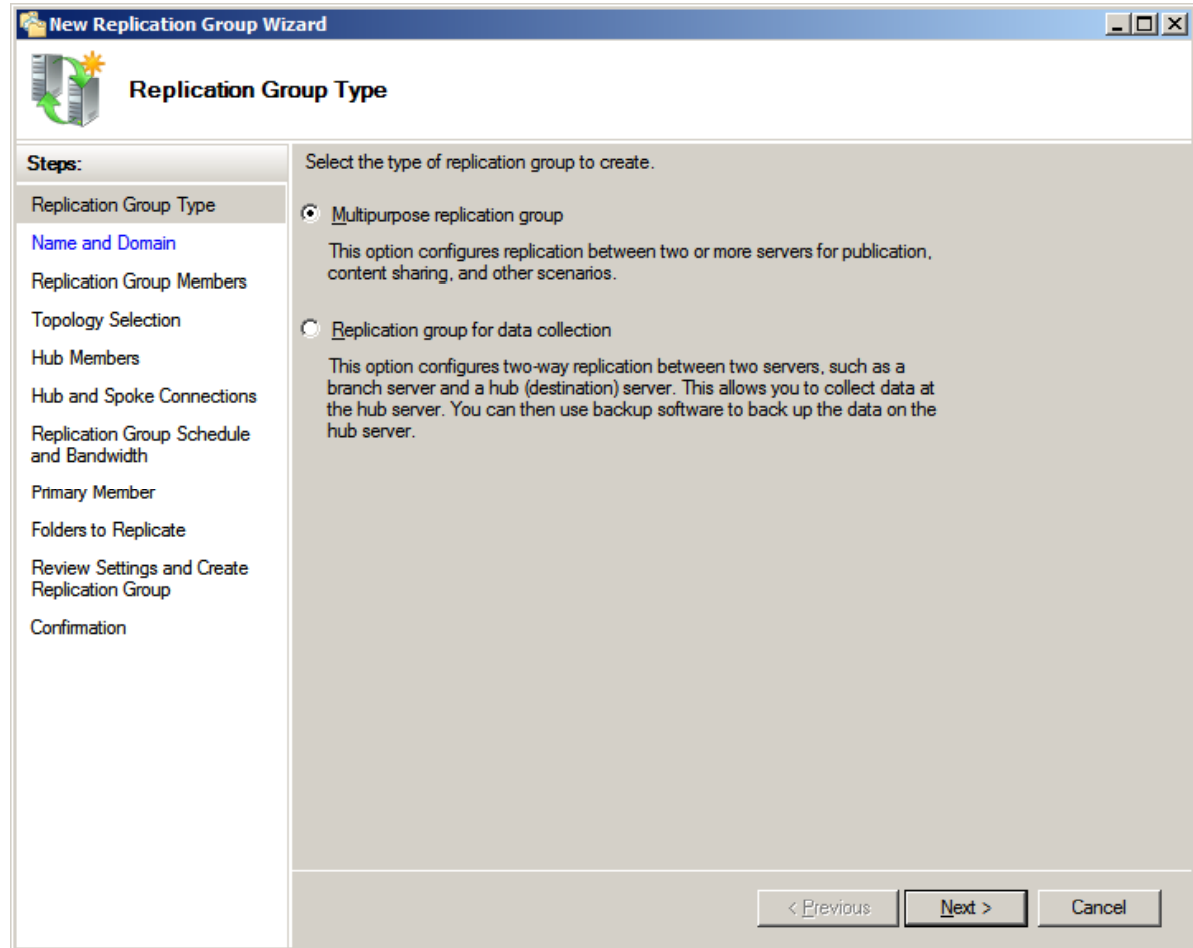
Name and Domain

Next, the Name and Domain window will give us the chance to name the replication group, add a description, and to pick the domain. We will be replicating data from the Primary DC to the Secondary DC, so we will stay in the current domain.

Replication Group Members – First Server

We choose the Add button and on the select Computers window, and we type the name of the Primary DC. We select the name of the Primary DC from the list and push the OK button.

Replication Group Members – Second Server

Again we choose the Add button and this time we select the name of the Secondary DC for our forest.

Topology Selection

On the Topology Selection window, we will choose the Full mesh option, so we can write the files from our Primary DC to the Secondary DC.
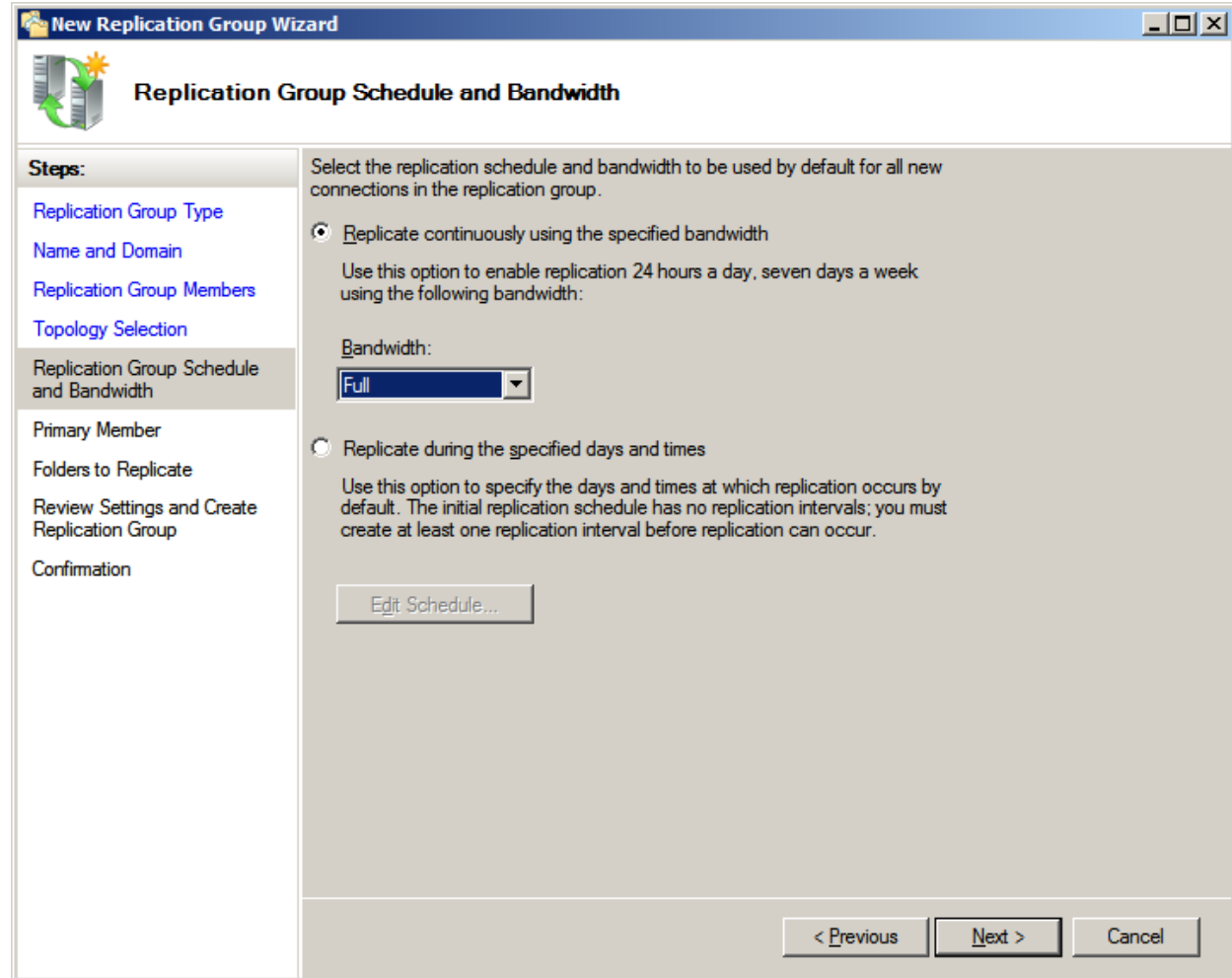
We push the Next button to continue.
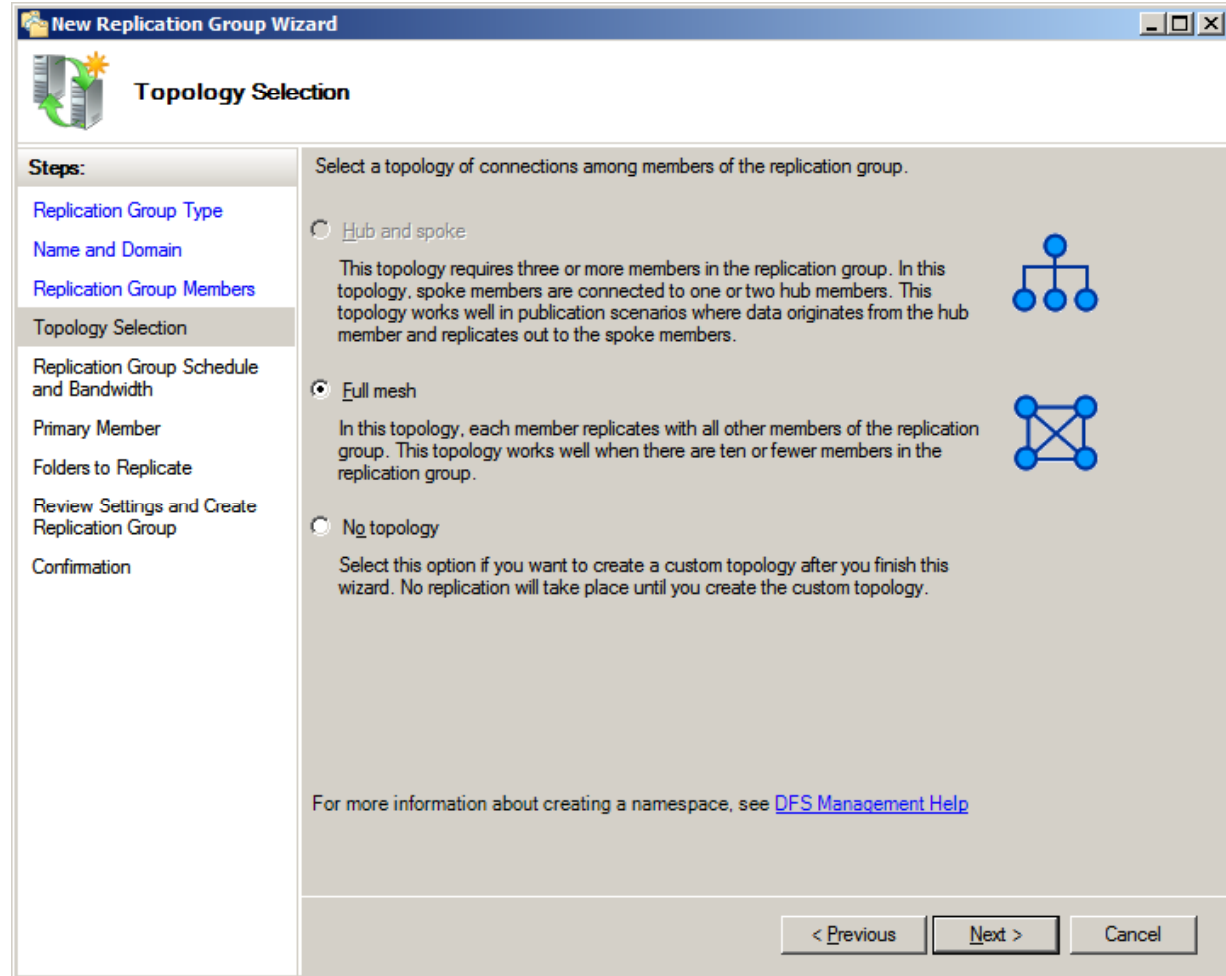
Replication Group Schedule and Bandwidth

On the Replication Group Schedule and Bandwidth window, we will opt for using the full bandwidth and continuous replication.
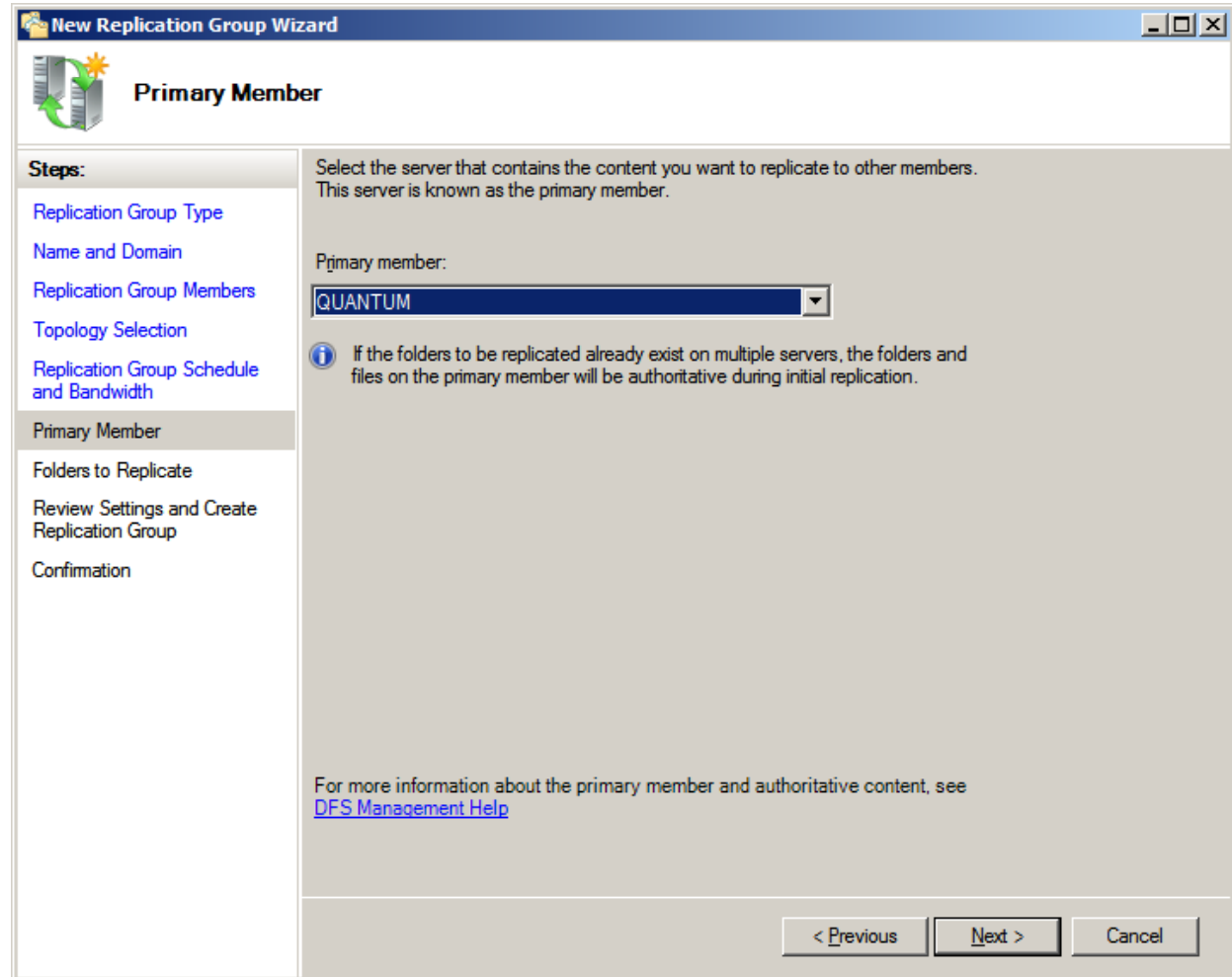
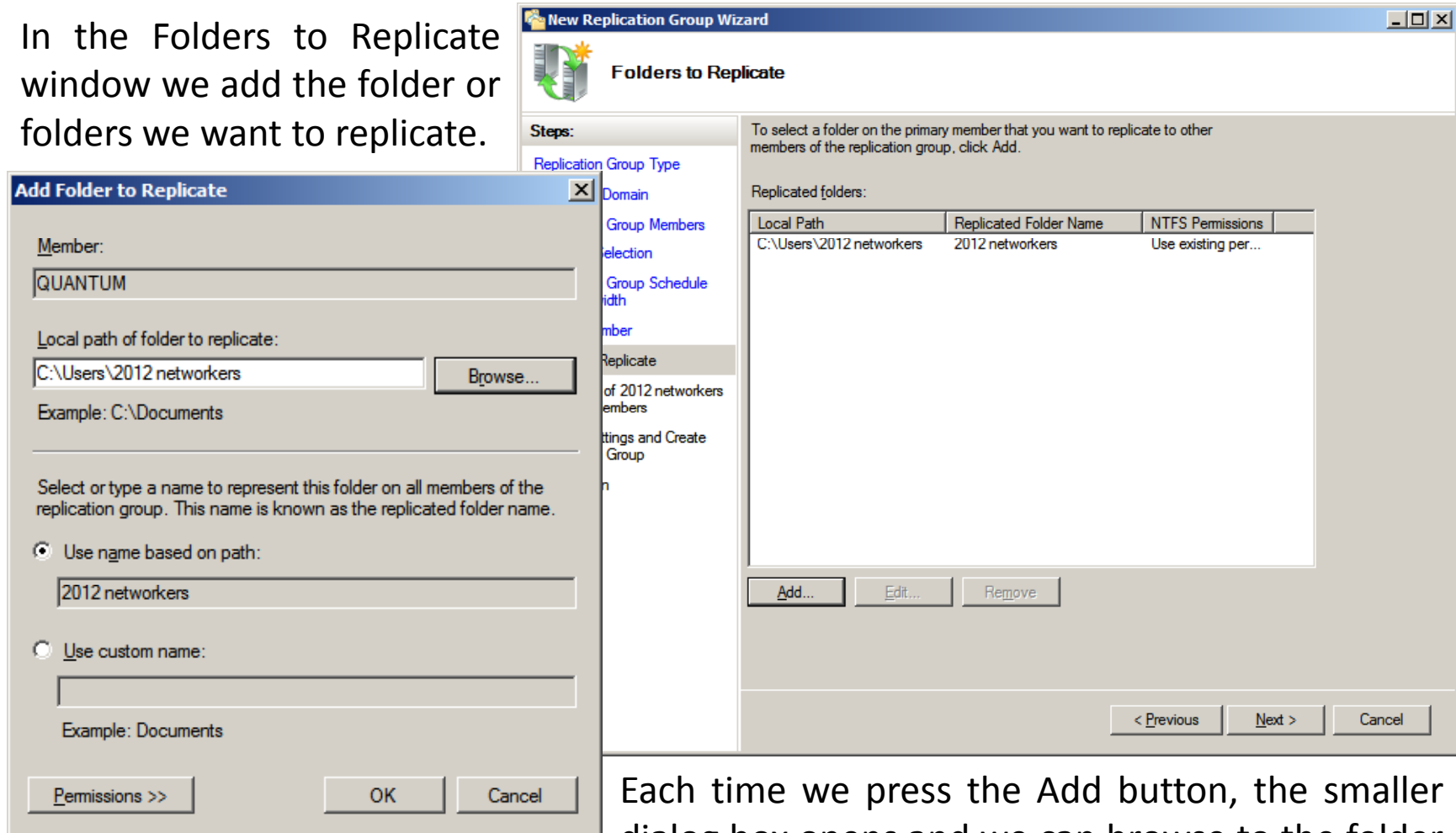We press the Next button to go on.

Primary Member

On the Primary Member window, we will choose the name of the Primary DC.

We indicate the Next button to advance.

Folders to Replicate

In the Folders to Replicate window we add the folder or folders we want to replicate.

Each time we press the Add button, the smaller dialog box opens and we can browse to the folder we want to replicate.

Secondary Member

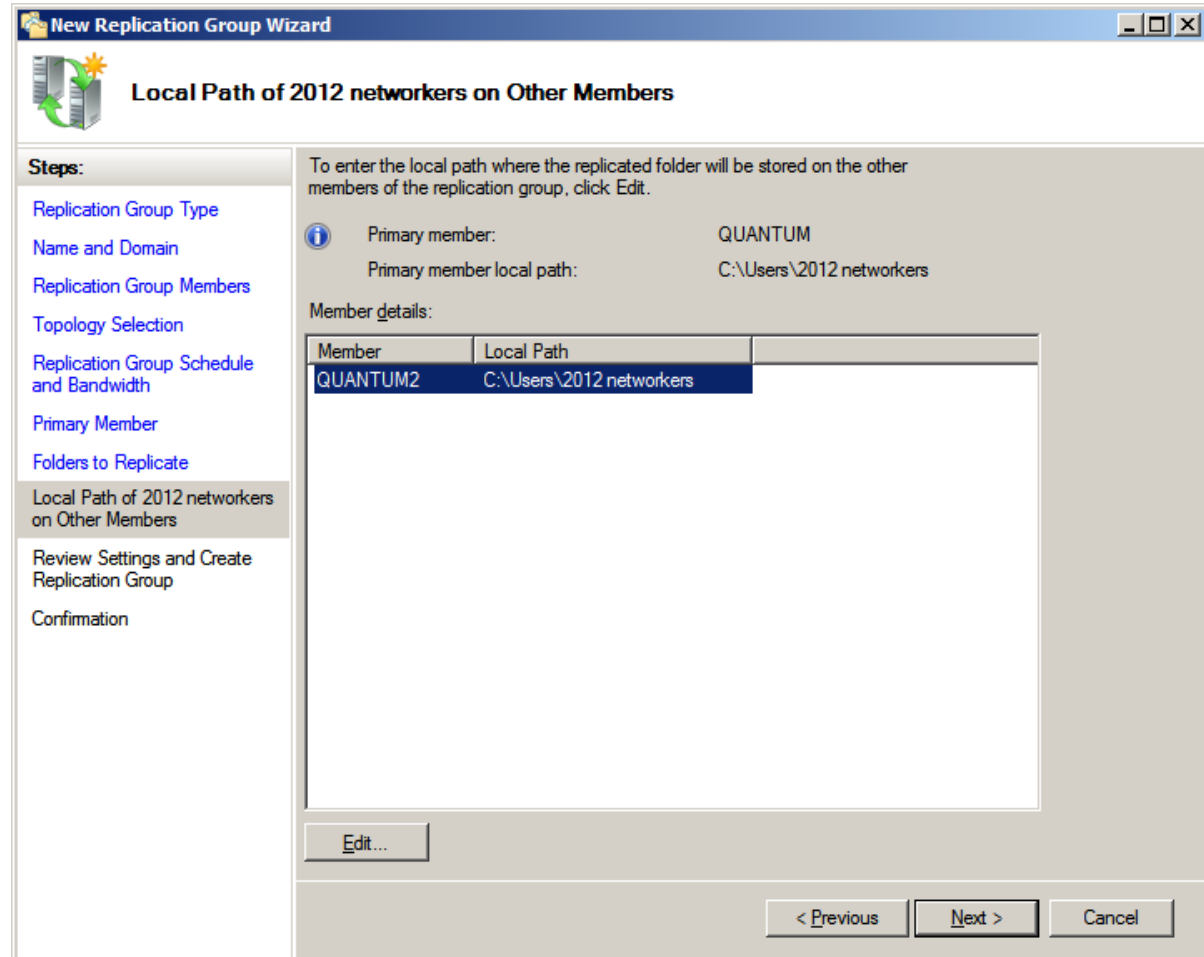On this window, we will see the name of the Secondary DC. We select the Edit button.

We browse to the folder we want to write the data from the Primary DC.

Folders to Receive Replicate

We can see the name of the Secondary DC and the local path to where the data files will be written.

We choose the Next button to continue.

Review Replication Settings

We now have the prospect to review all of the settings we made to replicate the files in the 2012 Networkers folder on the Primary DC to the Secondary DC. If we agree with the information, we should push the Create button.
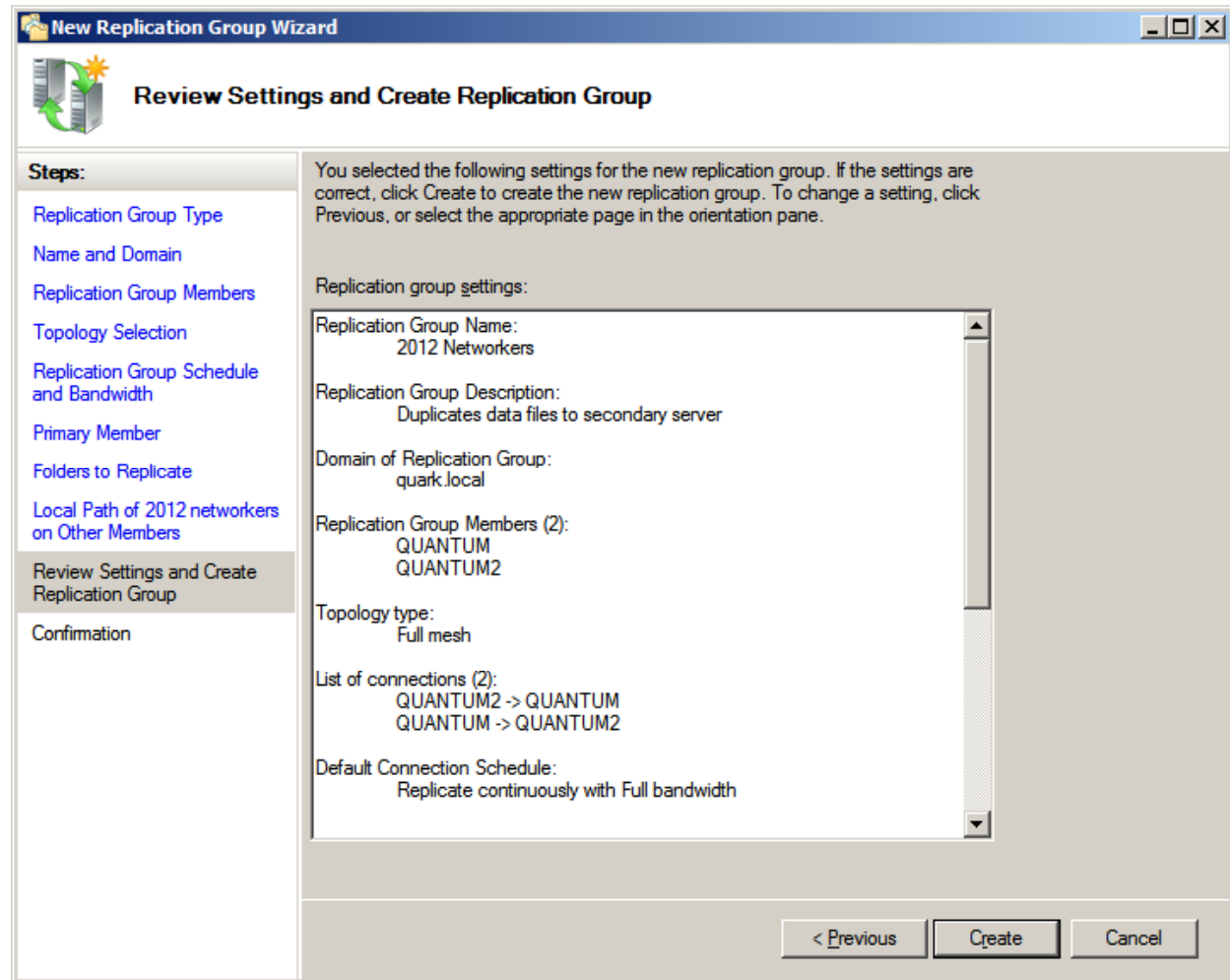
Confirmation

When we setup a connection to another server, we always feel good when we see the green check marks that show a successful setup and connection with another machine. A message will appear when we close the confirmation to tell us to expect an initial replication delay.

DFS Management

We can see the new replication group.

After several minutes, we can check the hard drive on the Secondary DC and we will see that the data from the Primary Dc is written to it.

We can repeat the exercise for other data folders on the primary DC if we desire.