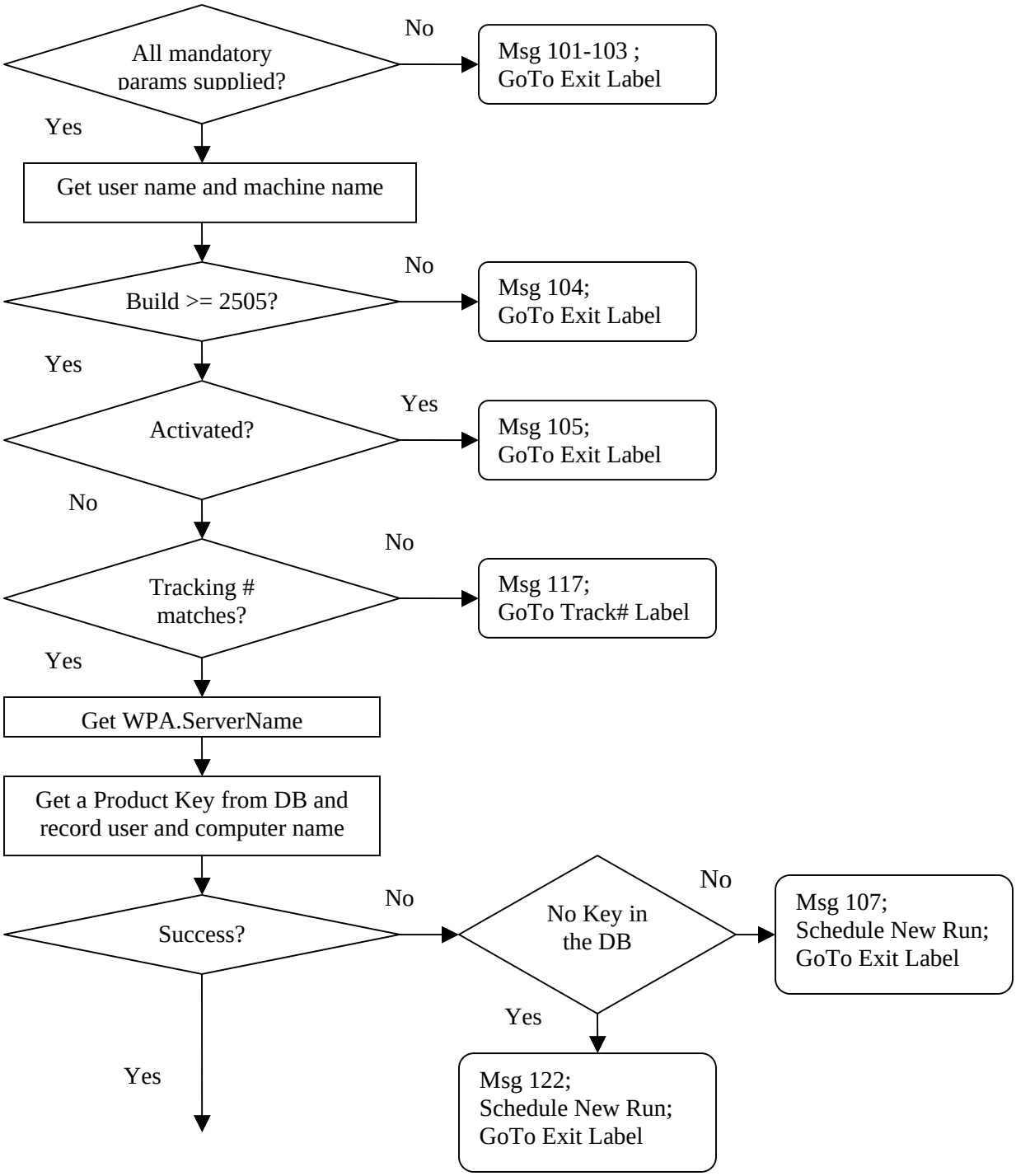
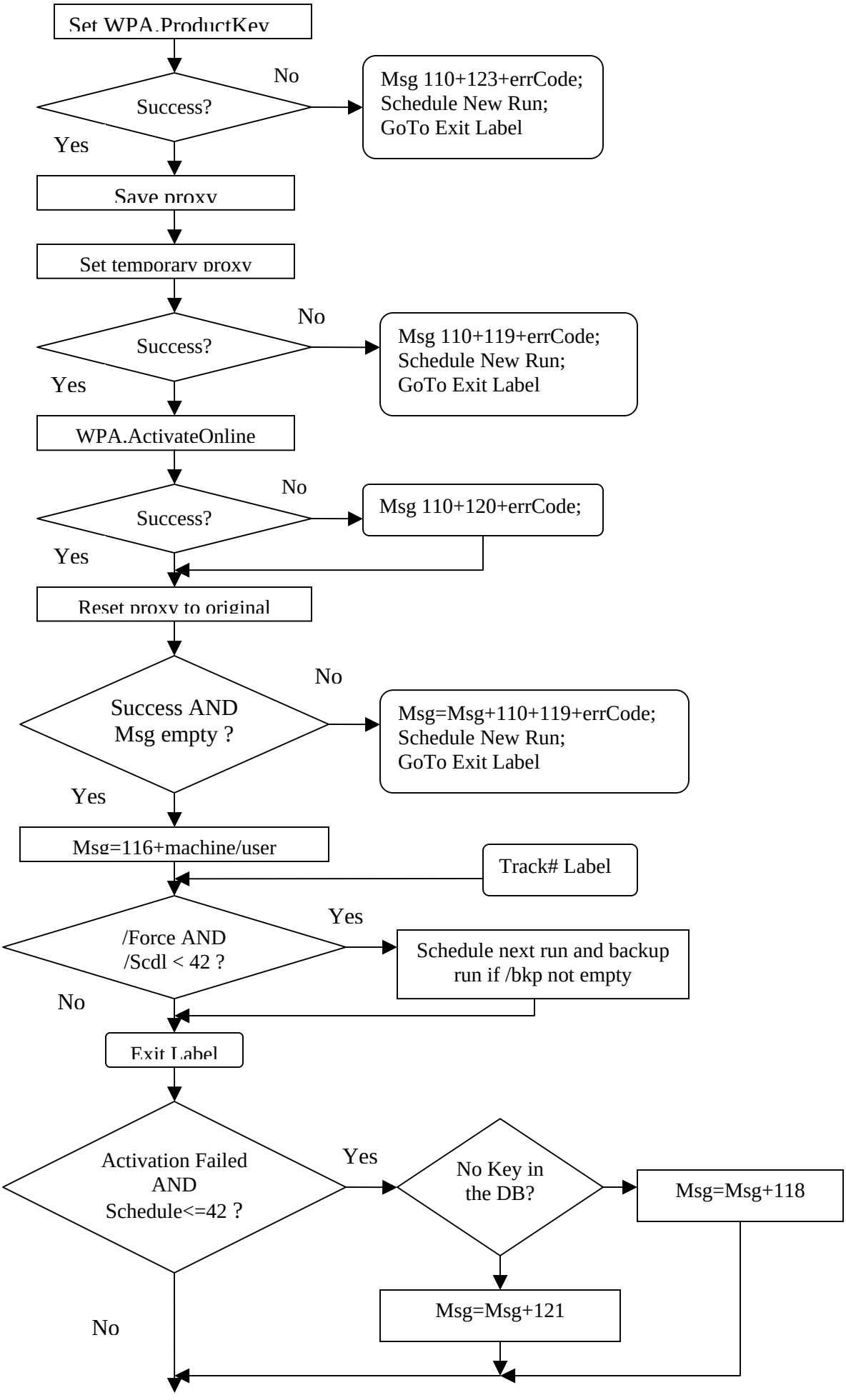
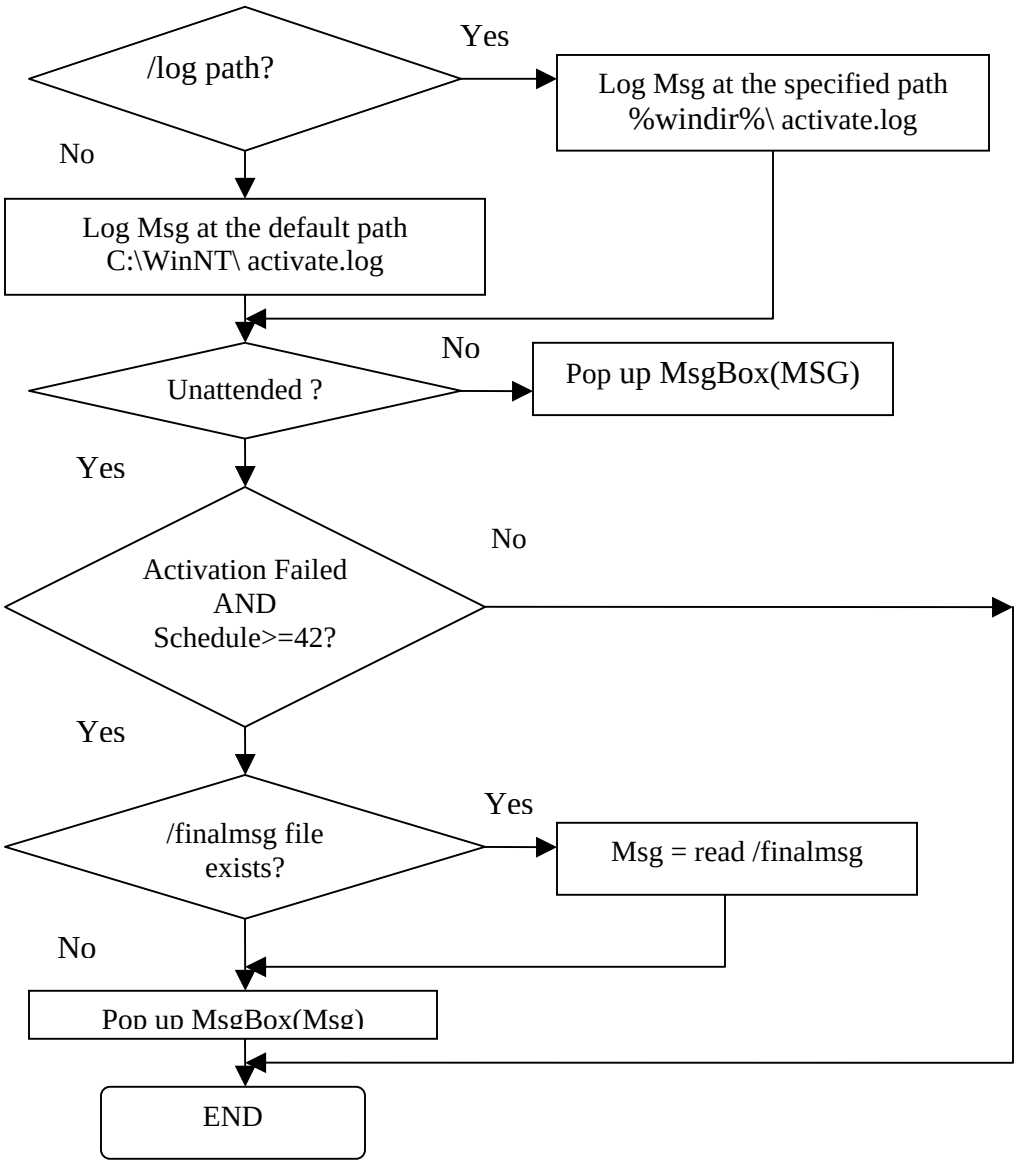
Activate.exe
An Auto Windows Product Activation Tool

Overview:
This tool is developed to automatically activate Windows XP Professional. The auto_product_activate.exe is supposed to run after the operating system installation is complete and activate it silently for the user.

Activation Logic:




Set WPA.ProductKey
Success?
No
Msg 110+123+errCode;
Schedule New Run;
GoTo Exit Label
Yes
Save proxy
Set temporary proxy
Success?
No
Msg 110+119+errCode;
Schedule New Run;
GoTo Exit Label
Yes
WPA.ActivateOnline
Success?
No
Msg 110+120+errCode;
Yes
Reset proxy to original
Success AND
Msg empty ?
No
Msg=Msg+110+119+errCode;
Schedule New Run;
GoTo Exit Label
Yes
Msg=116+machine/user
Track# Label
/Force AND
/Scdl < 42 ?
Yes
Schedule next run and backup
run if /bkp not empty
No
Exit Label
Activation Failed
AND
Schedule<=42 ?
Yes
No Key in
the DB?
Msg=Msg+118
Msg=Msg+121
No



When the application runs it logs its activity into the log file. By default the location is C:\Winnt\Debug\activate.log. This location can be overridden by the /log switch.
If the activation fails on the first run it copies itself locally to C:\activate.exe and reschedules the next run according to the schedule (see the scheduling logic).

The application does not rely on any DLLs.

Messages:

101	WPA Failed: Missing mandatory parameters /srv /db.
102	WPA Failed: Missing mandatory parameter /srv.
103	WPA Failed: Missing mandatory parameter /db.
104	WPA Failed: You must be running Windows XP RC1 build 2505 or higher.
105	WPA: Your system is already activated.
106	WPA: Activation required for MACHINE_NAME
107	WPA Failed: Error retrieving Activation key from the database.
108	WPA: Single license product key was set.
109	WPA Failed: Error setting the single license product key.
110	WPA Failed:
111	WPA: Proxy Setting:
112	WPA: The proxy was set successfully.
113	WPA Failed: Error setting the proxy.
114	WPA: The online activation completed successfully.
115	WPA Failed: The online activation returned error.
116	WPA: Product successfully activated by DOMAIN_NAME\USER_NAME on MACHINE_NAME.
117	WPA: The tracking number does not match. You will need to manually activate your product.
118	Automatic activation of Windows failed! To manually activate click Start, More Programs, Activate Windows.
119	SetProductKey Method
120	ActivateOnline Method
121	There are no product keys available in the database. To manually activate click Start, More Programs, Activate Windows.
122	WPA Failed: Unable to copy ACTIVATE.exe file locally.
123	on

Command line switches:

/srv server_name	Mandatory parameter; the name of the server where the Product Activation Key database is located
/db database_name	Mandatory parameter; the name of the database from which the Product Activation Key is obtained
/force	Forces the auto_product_activate.exe to reschedule itself even if the system was successfully activated (used for testing purposes)
/unattend	When supplied this switch suppresses the message box popup
/scdl schedule_#	Current schedule ID (for internal use only)
/ usr user_name	User name to register the Product Activation Key for (for internal use only)
/bkp days_#	A number of days to schedule a backup run in (for internal use only)
/finalmsg	A path and a file name containing the final message the application pops up in case of failure
/log	A path to store the application log file

Examples:

1. This will run the activation tool and force it to reschedule itself even if the activation is successful. A message box will pop up at the end of each run indicating the activation results. After the last run the message box will pop up with the message #118 or #121. The log file with the results of each run will be saved in C:\WINNT\activate.log file.

   activate.exe /srv compcentral /db pkd /force /log c:\winnt

2. This will run the activation tool and force it to reschedule itself even if the activation is successful. There will be no message box at the end of the each run. After the last run if activation failed the message box will pop up with the text from the %WINDIR%\WPA.TXT file. If this file does not exist then the message #118 or #121 will be given instead. The log file with the results of each run will be saved in the default location - C:\WINNT\DEBUG\activate.log.

   activate.exe /srv compcentral /db pkd /force /unattend /finalmsg %windir%\wpa.txt

3. The next example is demonstrating how the activation tool is rescheduling itself after the first unsuccessful run:

   activate.exe /srv compcentral /db pkd /scdl 1 /usr a-svetr

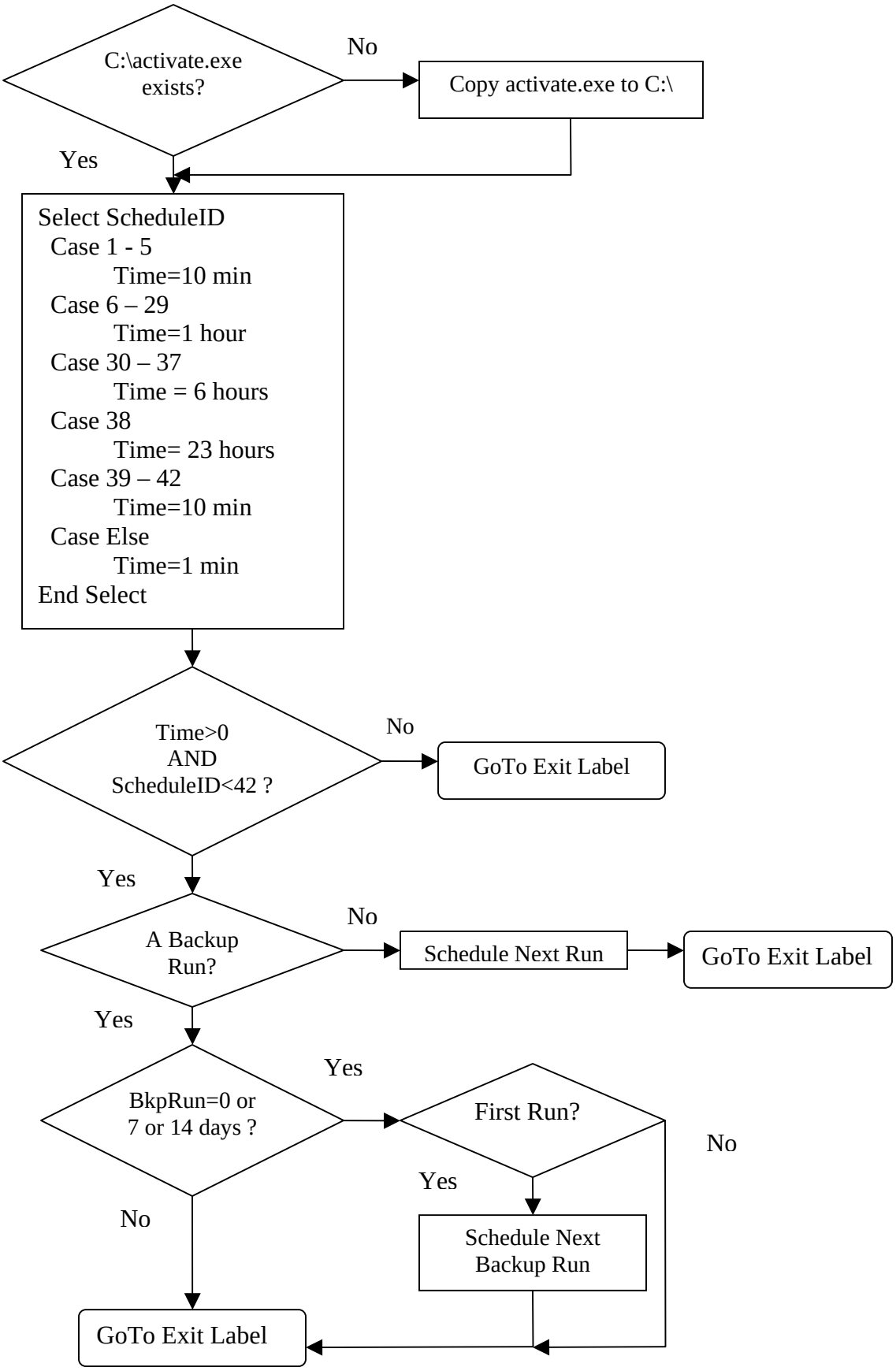
4. The next example demonstrates how the activation tool is rescheduling itself to run in 7 days after the first unsuccessful run:

   activate.exe /srv compcentral /db pkd /bkp 7 /usr a-svetr

Testing:

Testing is in progress.

Scheduling Logic:


C:\activate.exe exists?
No
Copy activate.exe to C:\
Yes
Select ScheduleID
Case 1 - 5
Time=10 min
Case 6 – 29
Time=1 hour
Case 30 – 37
Time = 6 hours
Case 38
Time= 23 hours
Case 39 – 42
Time=10 min
Case Else
Time=1 min
End Select
Time>0 AND ScheduleID<42 ?
No
GoTo Exit Label
Yes
A Backup Run?
No
Schedule Next Run
GoTo Exit Label
Yes
BkpRun=0 or 7 or 14 days ?
Yes
First Run?
No
Yes
Schedule Next Backup Run
No
GoTo Exit Label