

IIS, ODBC, MDAC incompatibility?

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We have some simple ASP web sites on an IIS5 server that connect to MS Access databases. The databases are local to the IIS server and are mostly accessed for read-only purposes. Some of the sites use ODBC; the rest use OLE DB.

While migrating these web sites to an IIS6 server, we noticed bizarre connection errors. Microsoft support recommend against using IIS with Access databases altogether, but said that OLE DB is much more stable than ODBC in this scenario. Our testing revealed the same thing, so we had our users convert their sites to use OLE DB. Of course, this eliminated the need for DSNs for these connections.

I've been asked why ODBC worked fine with Access databases when on the IIS5 server, but not at all when on the IIS6 server. Microsoft support couldn't answer that question. Does anyone know? Could it be attributable to differing versions of MDAC on the servers? What part does MDAC play in accessing an Access database using ODBC, anyway? Thanks!