

Re: VB app connect THROUGH proxy to a remote SQL database

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2008-02/msg00760.html>

- *From:* "Alex Clark" <alex@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 13 Feb 2008 18:19:39 -0600
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That's a bummer. You might be able to extract just the core elements of your DAL (i.e. just the SQL helper functions that handle actual communication to the SQL Server instance) out into a web-service and redirect your clients calls to it?

I feel your pain in terms of inflexible IT admins thinking the network is their baby. The whole "HTTP proxy is way more secure than allowing outgoing connections willy-nilly!" line is amusing to say the least...

Regards,
Alex

"Gary Shell" <gshell@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:6350753F-5EB0-4107-9C43-D6A4B5175D57@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

You understand the problem just fine. However convincing the end users IT department to make such a change would shall we say be "pissin' in the wind". That's not going to happen, unfortunately. They are a HUGE corporation and are not going to redo things to accommodate my app.

Gary

"Alex Clark" <alex@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:OfWbdSpbIHA.3484@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

While a lot of people are recommending you go through the not-insignificant task of redesigning your entire DAL/mid-tier to work via a web-service, I actually would recommend talking to IT first and seeing if there isn't a quick (and still secure) alteration they could make for you.

If I understand you correctly, the client app and the SQL server are on two separate networks and there is a proxy between them. From what I can gather, incoming connections to the SQL server are not the problem – it's outgoing connections from your client apps which have only an HTTP proxy to go through that's causing the headaches. Had IT configured the

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client-apps network with a router rather than just an HTTP proxy, things would be fine ---- please correct me if I'm wrong.

Real routers, as opposed to HTTP proxies, generally allow outgoing connections on *any* port unless specifically configured otherwise. There is no real threat in allowing a client from behind the router/firewall to initiate an outbound connection to a remote server; many corporations use this configuration.

"Gshell" <Gshell@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:5DEAF5EA-414F-44EA-8AE1-E4A626B0D83B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I have a VB.net app that connects to a remote SQL server via TCP/IP. Most folks can connect just fine. However some enterprise users are in a corporate environment that will only allow connections through a corporate proxy server.

The VB app does the connect to the remote SQL server via a fully routeable IP address over port 1433.

Having no such experience, I have no idea what I need to do to my app to allow that. And what sort of interaction I will personally need to have (if any) with thier IT department to configure the proxy server in any way.

The user mentioned that "Only permissible outbound connection is through proxy server and it is only allowed with TCP/IP port 80 and it is only possible by authenticating with Domain ID and password." I would assume that means the connection from the VB app to the Proxy server is over port 80 and that somehow the proxy server will know (or be told) to then route to IP address of the SQL Server over port 1433.

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Can anyone offer any insight or links that might point me in the right direction?

Thanks!