

Re: Blocked Domain?

Source:

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There's a quick way to find out.

Get on the Exchange server.

>>*From a DOS prompt, you'll want to nslookup on the domain name to ensure the details are correct. You'll then want to telnet into the mailserver listed and ensure you can drop off a mail. I'll give a rough outline of how to do this, but some commands may be diff't, I don't have any NT3/4 boxes to verify this on. Play it by ear :) :*

Log onto the Exchange server.

First, we'll check DNS and get their mailserver address.

Open a command/MSDOS prompt

Type: nslookup

You should see a ">" prompt.

Type: clevelandtime.com

Verify the IP address is correct (www.dnsstuff.com has lookup tools)

Type: set type=mx (no spaces before and after the = sign!)

Type: clevelandtime.com

You should see a couple of MX records the one with the lowest preference is the main mailserver (10)

Type: set type=a (again, no spaces)

Type: mail.nacs.net (this should be the record for preference 10)

I show:

Name: mail.nacs.net

Address: 207.166.192.19

This should be the IP in question. Next, we'll try to telnet in and drop off a mail to see if they're actively blocking you.

Open another command/MSDOS prompt.

Type: telnet

You should see a command prompt: "Microsoft Telnet>"

Type: set ?

You should see some option of "localecho" or "local_echo" in the list.

Type: set localecho (in the same way it's spelled from last step)

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Local echo should report as "on".

Type: open 207.166.192.19 25

This will try to open a telnet connection to their mailserver on port 25.

If it fails, you have something blocking you – on your end, theirs or in between.

If successful, you should see an SMTP banner such as this:

```
220 node1.nacs.net ESMTP Microsoft MAIL Service, Version:
5.0.2195.2966; Wed, 12 Jan 2005 16:39:34 -0500 – This server is in Ohio
and under Ohio law sending unsolicited mail can cost you up to $
500,000. This banner serves as our notice to you that we will
prosecute any parties sending unsolicited mail to this server. You
must have proof that the recipient subscribed to the list, and
double-check by sending an approval code, otherwise your message is
unsolicited and is in violation of this law.
```

At which time, if you comply with their banner (!!!), you should continue

Type: HELO yourdomain.com (where your domain is the current domain)

If your domain is invalid, they will terminate the connection (this is protection feature on their end).

Type: MAIL FROM: youremail@yourdomain.com (again, fill in accordingly)

It should be accepted, otherwise error will be generated.

Type: RCPT TO: recipient@theirdomain.com

It should be accepted, otherwise error will be generated.

Type: DATA

You will then enter the contents of your message. When you finish, hit <enter> followed by period (.) and <enter> again.

Type: Quit

This should go off without a hitch. If it does, they are accepting mail from you, but you have a misconfiguration on your Exchange server.

Most likely culprit, IMHO, is you probably have your Exchange server configured to "HELO" with your active directory domain, which, obviously, is probably not able to be reverse-lookup'd on.

Other possible scenario is you don't have a reverse lookup record for the IP of your mailserver.