

Re: XP Machines in AD don't behave

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From: Tatjana Aggoussi (*taggoussi*)

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Hello Thomas,

If your network config (DNS, Default Gateway) is ok, you should note a few things:

1. Disable asynchronous logons according Norbert's link in his post.
2. Set the workstation's nic settings to full duplex and supported higher speed. Do the same on the switch the clients are connected to. Best case is when the settings for both, computer nic and switch, match to same values without auto detection.

The problem with 2.) is a conflict between a relative fast startup and a delay during auto detection. Being configured for asynchronous logons by default, XP's (super fast OS :-)) boot process passes the check mark for domain logon while the nic is lagging behind, so the computer account logons with cached credentials to AD and no computer spec. GPOs are applied anew/refreshed.

3. Even if XP isn't configured for async. logon but instead it operates in a segment with high network congestion or low speed network (caused by switch problem as described above or any other reason), the connection could be interpreted as a "slow link connection", which by default ignores the processing of the mentioned GPOs. Configure the GPOs for the computer object under AdminTemplates\System\GPOs for *Script policy & SW installation processing to apply even across a slow network connection, and/or increase the value for the *GP slow link detection"-GPO.

This might help.

Regards,
Tatjana Aggoussi

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