

## Denied Connection Errors for NetBios Name and Session (137 and 139)

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I am not certain this is a VPN issue, but it is driving me crazy trying to get it to work.

Scenario: Customer and Supplier offices. ISA 2004 running as a front end server at each site. Different 2003 domains at each site (not in same forrest), plus customer has a NT domain on the same internal network. Companies want to have bi-directional trusts. Customer site has a dedicated static IP, supplier has a dynamic IP but running on public DDNS.

Verified all connections work fine, and seemingly no problems after fine tuning some protocol access while watching logging on each side. Established two-way trust between 2003 sites with no problem. But proved unable to establish trust between 2003 in supplier and NT domains in customer. Error is that it could not find the domain controller (same causal error on either side).

Logging on supplier side reveals that the following network attempts are getting "denied connection" with no rule associated with the log entry:

1. TCP 139 NetBios Session from Local Host to Customer VPN. the IP address on the local host is the internal network IP as seen by the supplier internal client machines.
2. TCP 139 NetBios Session from Local Host to Customer VPN. The IP address on the local host is a DHCP address given out by RAS.
3. UDP 137 NetBios Name Service from Local Host to Internal. The IP address of the local host is the same DHCP address given out by RAS as in 2. The IP address of the internal destination is the internal IP address of one of the domain controllers and is running WINS and DNS for active directory.

Lastly, there is a "denied connection" error associated with the default rule as follows:

UDP 137 NetBios Name service from External to Local Host. The external address is the public and dynamic IP address (although it has remained static for months) of the supplier ISA server and the Local Host IP address is that same IP address except that it seems to be a broadcast on xxx.xxx.xxx.255.

The Netbios rule being used is: NetBios Datagram, NetBios Name Service and

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NetBios Session from Customer VPN/Internal/Local Host to External/Customer VPN/Internal/Local Host for all users. This is the same rule being used on the Customer site and none of this traffic gets logged there as denied connection, but rather we can see the traffic initiate.

Just to add, we have carefully analyzed the WINS records, and they all look great. The domain and domain controller records for the NT domain are there, and no junk at all. Network browsing of course works fine. And because the 2003 domains have two-way trust, authorized users can get to whatever resources they need. To wit, I can run any domain-level admin tool on any server in either domain from either side.

I can think of only one difference of any consequence between the two sites: on the supplier site, where the difficulty lies, DNS forwarding has been set up so that all DNS requests from the two DCs (only ones running DNS) are forwarded to the ISA front end. And there is a VoiP gateway that has a few specific protocol rules but no where near any of these ports (I had better check!).

Help, please. This just makes no sense, and any logging error like this we have had before we can immediately impact (even if we dont want to) by adding that protocol to a rule. But it seems like nothing, including allowing all traffic, affects these errors.

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