

Re: Can Host Headers with No Default Domain Name?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Internet-Server/microsoft.public.inetserver.iis/2004-06/1870.html>

From: Ken Schaefer (*kenREMOVE_at_THISadOpenStatic.com*)

Date: 06/16/04

Date: Wed, 16 Jun 2004 23:34:01 +1000

Hi,

I'm not sure I understand what you mean by "there is no domain associated with the dedicated server". In the DNS (Domain Name System), each server can have multiple DNS names.

eg:

www.adopenstatic.com

ns1.adopenstatic.com

mail.adopenstatic.com

are all domain names. They all point to a single physical server. This *same* server also have the name careers2.careers.unsw.edu.au

Now, all the DNS does is point a domain name to an IP address. So, you create these by editing the appropriate DNS entries in the appropriate DNS server. On the IIS server, you need to create your websites, and tell IIS which websites should respond to requests for what hostname.

Now, if you are using some kind of "web forwarding" service, this might not work. Web Forwarding has nothing to do with DNS per se. So, host-headers may work, or they might not. If the web forwarding service does not also forward the HTTP Host: header that the client (ie browser) sends, then IIS will be unable to determine which website should answer the incoming request, and will route the request to a website that does not have a host-header defined (typically the Default Website)

Cheers

Ken

"Martin Harran" <nospam@martinharran.com> wrote in message
news:%230k8gR4UEHA.1048@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...

:

: "Ken Schaefer" <kenREMOVE@THISadOpenStatic.com> wrote in message
: news:eYntg83UEHA.2564@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...

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:> If you add host-headers, then that website will respond only to requests
: for
:> hosts defined.
:> If you want the website to answer all requests (no matter what host is
:> used), then you don't need to define a host-header.
:>
:> This is probably clear as mud right?
:>
:> Goto www.adopenstatic.com there's a link on the homepage to the sample
:> chapter from my book. Host-headers are covered in that chapter (towards
: the
:> end). That provides an example of how different websites defined in IIS
: will
:> respond to different incoming requests. That might make it a little
: clearer.
:>
:> Cheers
:> Ken
:>
:
: Thanks, Ken, looks like a pretty good book, must have a closer look at it
:)
:
: I understand the basic principle of host-headers ok, I've done this before
: with a dedicated server with domain name mydomain.com, individual websites
: set up with site1.com, site2.com, etc. When I forward my sites to
: domainname.com they go to the correct site.
:
: The problem here is seems to be that there is no domain name associated
with
: the dedicated server, just an IP address; it doesn't work when I forward
: the site1.com, site2.com to the IP address (as opposed to mydomain.com) –
I
: suspect that this is because the web forwarding is only passing the IP
: address, not the site name so everything goes to the default site.
:
: Since the original post, I've found the following on MS
: <http://tinyurl.com/2t2rb> :
:
: "If the site is used on a private network, the host header can be an
: intranet site name, such as SupIntranet. If the site is used on the
: Internet, the host header must be a publicly available Domain Name System
: (DNS) name, such as support.microsoft.com, and you must register the name
: with an authorized Internet name authority."
:
: So it looks that the dedicated server needs a default domain name, I'm a
bit
: surprised that the host company (ipowerweb) didn't offer this when I was
: buying the package!
:
: I'm wondering if I could get around this with an ASP script on the default

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: site or would this be a cumbersome approach? Possibly simpler to get them
to
: set up a domain name for the server.
:
: Martin Harran
:
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