

Re: Underscore in IIS 6 Host Header definition

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Internet-Server/microsoft.public.inetserver.iis/2004-11/1343.html>

From: Aaron (Aaron_at_discussions.microsoft.com)

Date: 11/19/04

Date: Fri, 19 Nov 2004 08:23:06 -0800

MS DNS allows underscore but IIS Host Headers do not, I just wondered if there was a good reason...nothing spitefull intended. If the standards in this case are not clear, then I see no rational reason for the inconsistancy.

Thanks for response,

Aaron

"David Wang [Msft]" wrote:

> *Hehe... what do you expect when RFCs, designed by public and unbiased*
> *entities, do not agree nor fully flesh out details... are MS products*
> *supposed to follow RFC and not work with each other, or not follow RFC and*
> *work with each other but get blamed for not following standards. Or some*
> *confused muddle in between, which makes everyone mad.*
>
> *Hmm, it is no-win either way -- I think people just want to irrationally*
> *blame Microsoft...*
>
> --
> //David
> IIS
> *This posting is provided "AS IS" with no warranties, and confers no rights.*
> //
> *"Aaron" <Aaron@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message*
> *news:B1AB464A-22A4-440E-B868-76DFCF55232B@microsoft.com...*
> *Thanks for the ideas Seth. I'm not satisfied with the answer though. We've*
> *had underscore in local host names for quite some time, before we switched*
> *to*
> *AD and MS DNS. Its interesting to note the RFC's don't seem to agree, and*
> *neither do MS' products. We won't use underscore going forward however,*
> *dashes will work just fine also.*
>
> Aaron
>
> "srock" wrote:
>

> > *An underscore is not valid in host names. Microsoft removed support in IIS*
> > *6*
> > *for the underscore in host headers because it's not valid. You can edit*
> > *the*
> > *server binding manually to get it to 'work' if you really want to do*
> > *something non-standard. If I were you, I'd spend the time to rename the*
> > *site(s) in question.*
> >
> > *just do a google search and you'll find 100's of posts saying that an*
> > *underscore n a host name is not valid.*
> >
> > *Seth*
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > *"Aaron" <Aaron@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message*
> > *news:955DAF21-9210-4EA8-85A9-AC110FB4EDFE@microsoft.com...*
> > > *Thanks for checking that Seth. In RFC1033, the DNS Admin Guide it states*
> > > *otherwise...any 8 bit character but specifically mentions underscore.*
> > *Since*
> > > *the RFC's are guidelines, who is right? I'm of the thinking that since MS*
> > *DNS*
> > > *lets you use underscore in host name records, why wouldn't their own web*
> > > *server allow them?*
> > >
> > > *Excerpt from RFC1033:*
> > >
> > > *NAMES*
> > >
> > > *A domain name is a sequence of labels separated by dots.*
> > >
> > > *Domain names in the zone files can be one of two types, either*
> > > *absolute or relative. An absolute name is the fully qualified domain*
> > > *name and is terminated with a period. A relative name does not*
> > > *terminate with a period, and the current default domain is appended*
> > > *to it. The default domain is usually the name of the domain that was*
> > > *specified in the boot file that loads each zone.*
> > >
> > > *The domain system allows a label to contain any 8-bit character.*
> > > *Although the domain system has no restrictions, other protocols such*
> > > *as SMTP do have name restrictions. Because of other protocol*
> > > *restrictions, only the following characters are recommended for use*
> > > *in a host name (besides the dot separator):*
> > >
> > > *"A-Z", "a-z", "0-9", dash and underscore*
> > >
> > >
> > >

> > > *"srock" wrote:*

> > >
> > > > *An underscore is not valid in host names. See section 2.3.1 of RFC
> 1035:*
> > > > *<http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1035.html>*
> > > >
> > > > *Seth*
> > > >
> > > > *"Aaron" <Aaron@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message*
> > > > *news:54FB41BF-65FE-4D5D-B553-5A232B669F79@microsoft.com...*
> > > > > *Underscore (_) is perfectly valid in DNS, so why is it disallowed in*
> > *the*
> > > > *IIS*
> > > > > *Host Header definition? It seems that the validation in IIS 6 only*
> > *allows*
> > > > > *A-Z, a-z, '.', and '-'.* *Why not '_'?*
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