

## Re: DNS + Forwarders

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.dns/2006-09/msg00161.html>

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- *From:* "Kurt" <[lorentzenkurt@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:lorentzenkurt@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 27 Sep 2006 13:08:15 -0700
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ADI zones, if all servers hold all the same zones, should be identical. Every site with a local Internet connection could have a forwarder to the local ISP's DNS server. As Herb pointed out, it MIGHT have some value to forward from a site that doesn't have it's own internet service to a DNS server in a site that does, so that only one forward query and one reply will traverse the WAN, and further forward queries or recursive lookups are performed from a site with a separate Internet connection to conserve WAN bandwidth. I see no point in having both. Herb?

....kurt

"Adrian" <[Adrian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Adrian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:9FAA110C-BAC3-43E0-924E-254D1389EB56@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:9FAA110C-BAC3-43E0-924E-254D1389EB56@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks Herb for your detailed response.

Our 7 servers are all "Active Directory Integrated Zones"

Unfortunaly I don't know why some of the servers have "enable forwarders" ticked and others dont, Ive only recently moved to this firm so Im trying to make sense how/why it was setup this way.

All the sites are connected to the internet through our proxy server at head office, the WAN links are all quite good running at 512 -1Mb on dedicated lines so I dont think its a bandwidth issue.

All the sites have the exact same hardware and should be identical to each other configuration wise but some where along the lines someone has made changes so now I trying to get them all back looking the same again.

How do you think we should be setup in terms if best practice?

"Herb Martin" wrote:

Re: DNS + Forwarders

"Adrian" <Adrian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
news:E1CDE7B2-4207-460B-A90C-E1C98BB156CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hey all,

A little unsure about DNS and forwarders could you check to see if my logic is flawed.

Win 2000 domain, 7 Dcs, 5 around the country and 2 in head office

Under the DNS mmc some of the servers have "Enable Forwarders" ticked and some don't. The two DCs in head office are the main DNS servers.

Why do you enable Forwarders?

If the answer is that your DNS servers don't hold ALL of your internal zone, or that you wish to resolve THE Internet then likely EVER DNS server should enable forwarders if any of them do.

There are two general ways for a DNS server to resolve names it doesn't 'know directly' (i.e., for zones it doesn't hold):

- 1) Recurse physically (root down)
- 2) Forward

Theoretically some of your DNS servers might be recursing and others might forward but why would they be different?

Shouldn't all the DNS servers have "Enabled Forwarders" ticked and pointing back to our main DNS servers? Any reason why they shouldn't?

You don't want your forwarding chains to be TOO long but this might make perfect sense if your WAN lines are fairly slow since your branch DNS will only make ONE forwarding request to the "Main DNS" which may have the answer in cache (since other DNS servers and it's direct clients may recently have asked the same question) OR it will make all of the subsequent requests (either forward or recursing) for the name and likely be "closer"

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to the Internet.

If every branch had its own direct connection to The Internet then this might not be so helpful.

Shouldn't it be PC -> local DNS server, if this cant resolve it, it should point it back to the main DNS servers which if again cant resolve then goes to the root hints.  
So PC -> Local DNS -> Main DNS -> Root hints

That can work, but without a full reading of (and perhaps testing on) your actual WAN lines we cannot say for sure.

Hope this makes sense, thanks

How does it work currently?

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Herb Martin, MCSE, MVP  
Accelerated MCSE  
<http://www.LearnQuick.Com>  
[phone number on web site]

Regards  
Adrian