

## Re: Long and quite bizzare network problem

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.networking/2004-03/1154.html>

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**From:** serverguy (nospammers\_at\_spambites.com)

**Date:** 03/12/04

Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2004 08:36:16 -0500

One thing you have failed to mention is what type of network this is. W2K Domain? Is Admin3 the master browser on the network? Usually there will be lots of event log errors when the master browser is offline. But this could be why the packets are going to it. There must be at least one master browser on each subnet for dns to work properly. You can disable the master browser on Admin3 via registry settings, suggest you do some reading on this first so you understand it.

If you do it, another computer will take over as master browser and you could run into the same problem. So, you could disable the master browser setting on all computers except for the main server (which should be online most of the time), and hopefully that will stop the timing out delay.

Of course, this is all speculation, but it wouldn't hurt to check it out.

"Adysthemic" <asifidsay@imprivate.com> wrote in message  
news:1052rjsli1u5rf1@corp.supernews.com...

> *Group,*  
> *I manage a 70 pc lan running win2k server ,win2k Citrix*  
> *server.Clients are mostly win2k with 10 or so XPpro boxes.Only 10 clients*  
> *in*  
> *the remote location are using Citrix over a nailed T1.Main and Citrix*  
> *server*  
> *are identical ,hardware wise*  
> *2gig ram, raid5,Xeons,Intel dual nics.Differ only in HD size.Main server*  
> *is*  
> *perfect,no problems well ,actually, ever.Nary a red in eventid :>).Citrix*  
> *server has periods from one hour to several days intermittently,where any*  
> *application takes up to 180 seconds to open.Once open it functions*  
> *somewhat*  
> *normally.The program we use through Citrix,works fine through ica*  
> *client,the*  
> *users are not aware of the slowdown.Accessing the desktop directly,*  
> *however*  
> *on the Citrix server will show the same slow down.I've tried disabling*  
> *every*  
> *single service and it has no effect,except for TCP/IP Netbios helper.That*  
> *cures the problem.So does unplugging the network cable from the Citrix box*

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- > when I'm working on it.Neither solution obviously,is an acceptable
- > "fix".Task manager shows no undue processor use when opening progs.A packet
- > sniffer shows this server and the main server,even when no one else is
- > logged on as the "biggest talkers",but I'd expect that,nothing I can see is
- > obviously wrong or out of the ordinary.I'm running DNS static IP,although
- > someone told me to have DHCP service enabled even if you are not using
- > it.Enable/Disable has not effect.Do you suppose that Netbios needs something
- > it is not getting readily?Tried setting up a WINS and LM Host server/file
- > for possible name resolution problem!?.But this is all win2kDoesn't really
- > need that..It had no effect?I've stopped this server from participating in
- > MB elections,turned off every service ,to test.Nothing works.If I disable
- > TCP-IP Netbios helper,it fixes the problem but kills access to UNC and
- > security propagation on this server,then I cannot even log on to the Citrix
- > console.Any ideas from a computergod out there?This gets to me so much I'd
- > even spend my own money to resolve it,hehe.I called in a couple local
- > network
- > gurus and they had no ideas that I had not already tried.
- > 1.Changed from 3com dual nic to Intel
- > 2.Stopped server from MB elections
- > 3.Stopped all non essential services,i.e. diskkeeper,NAV,etc.
- > 4.Turned off Task Scheduler.
- > I have many other things I've tried ,just ask,if anyone needs to know.
- > I'm not putting the blame on Citrix at the moment,but I have I not found
- > Citrix to be all that trouble free in the past.Unfortunately,I have been
- > through the tedious time wasting license installation process,the printer
- > hassles etc. that I hesitate to try anything that will upset the
- > appcart.This is only effecting me at the moment but as we add
- > clients...I'd like to have everyone on Citrix as it would greatly simplify
- > all the updates we have to the software we are using.I'm just too gunshy at
- > the moment to trust Citrix.It stopped functioning altogether one morning and
- > they would not even speak to me w/out a 400 dollar hit on the company CC.The
- > "soultion" was to reinstall erm duh.Most of the time was spent re-licensing
- > while all the remote clients were waiting.Not something I'd want to rely
- > on,ya know?
- > Hellllppp!?,Adysthemic
- >
- > Followup...
- >
- >
- >
- > After a year and one half of thinking about this Citrix server problem
- > slowdown almost everday,I've discovered a breakthrough.I d/l ed this little

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- > proggie a very long time ago, and only decided to play w/it this morning. It
- > is called tcpView. Don't know why I tried it. I already had a big ol
- powerful
- > packet sniffer to look at.
- > But honestly, although I understood how to use the sniffer on a basic
- > level, it did not
- > present things in the visual way I needed.
- >
- > With tcpv running, I opened a prog on the Citrix server. After 90 seconds
- the
- > prog opened. Watching the tcpv program, I saw that microsoft-ds sent a SYN
- > packet to one specific computer, Admin3, on the network.
- >
- > The metaframe server is expecting that one box to ACK back, but it does
- > not, if it is not on line, so any program that you try to open will wait for
- > that ACK response, that does not come. It will wait until the ACK
- > times out, then the program will open.
- >
- > This does not seem to be program specific. As a standard I test open event
- > viewer. But anything from ms office, to my packet sniffer to whatever, will
- > cause the Citrix server to send a SYN packet to Admin3, and hang opening
- > until the expected
- > ACK response times out, unless Admin3 is online!?!?! Any computer gods out
- > there have even a remote suggestion why this is occurring?
- >
- > This behaviour of the Admin3 response illustrated why I never had a
- problem
- > on Tuesdays. Sheesh Tuesday was a day I had Admin3 left on overnight for a
- > backup to CDR, so the Citrix server always worked fine on
- > Tues. Mornings as it was available to quickly ACK the SYN packet. (geez no
- I'm
- > NOT stoned :>P). This was what was causing a semi patterned appearance of
- the
- > symptom.
- > If Admin3 was online, the slowdown on the Citrix server, opening any
- program,
- > does not occur.
- > So why is the Citrix server "obsessed" with sending a SYN packet to
- > Admin3, whether or not it is online, expecting an ACK, before it "lets" any
- > program open??! Oh BTW, this seems to all be based on microsoft-ds and ms
- > netbios ssn. The SYN originates on some port in the 4000 range, I forget at
- > the moment. I think the ACK is expected
- > from 445, having something to do with the Server Message Block [SMB]
- > according to the Packet Sniffer, but I ain't too swift in my
- interpretations
- > with that packetsniffer tool yet. Please, please can anyone gimme a clue
- about
- > all this? I'm self taught and cannot find anything after 9hrs of hunting
- > today. This has been my bane for a very long time, I think of it
- everyday, tnx
- > Adysthemic

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