

microsoft.public.win2000.networking: Re: How can I connect one laptop to two different domains?

## Re: How can I connect one laptop to two different domains?

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.networking/2004-10/1221.html>

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**Date:** 10/26/04

Date: Tue, 26 Oct 2004 10:00:19 -0400

Ivan Yordanov wrote:

- > *I have a user who works for two different companies. There are two*
- > *different domains and he would like to be able to logon at both*
- > *sites. One at a time.*
- >
- >
- >
- > *How can I configure his laptop to connect to two different domain*
- > *controllers just by choosing the domain controller during the logon?*
- >
- > *He is using a Dell Laptop X300, Windows XP Professional.*

A computer cannot belong to more than one domain at a time. If there's a trust between the domains, both will show up in the login screen, but otherwise, no. If this is a real need, see MultiNetworkManager from [www.globesoft.com](http://www.globesoft.com)

Frankly, though, I simply see no need for this. Why can't the user always log into the same domain (with cached credentials when not connected on that network) and then just access resources on any other network by passing the credentials along? This is easier in a lot of ways – only one Windows profile to manage, doesn't add in anything else that could possibly cause problems. I like the KISS principle.

For example, once he has an IP address on the other domain's network, he can map drives, connect to printers, etc. as he pleases – one way is

```
net use x: \\server\share /user:otherdomain\username
```

Once he's been authenticated for that share, he can connect to any other share on that server without being prompted, within this login session. If he needs Outlook access to an Exchange mailbox, he can have another Outlook profile for it, have Outlook prompt him for the profile to use, and make sure that profile is set with "logon network security=none" in the Exchange server properties.

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