

# Delays Browsing local and network folders

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- *From:* [developmental2@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:developmental2@xxxxxxxxxx)
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Hi all..

There is a problem I have been having on my 5 PC 100MBPS LAN for some months, where users of Excel and Word experience long (0.5-1 minute) delays when doing a "file>open" and browsing the drives structure on a home Windows 2000 machines network.

All machines have Win2k SP4 FAT32, IE6 SP1 with all updates.

I have mapped drives on all of the machines pointing to one machine which is a 'server' (it is connected to the printer).

Anyway I have noticed that the delays occur when a machine is turned off and consequently some of the central machine's mapped drives don't work. The machines all have a script at boot which creates the mapped drives with a Net use T: \\Machine2\C /user:User1 /persistent:no  
etc.

I have looked around the web and saw that this problem is common however I don't have many of the causes usually described except the possible issue of disconnected network drives.

Saw this article <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/138365/EN-US/> on setting up auto disconnect delays in Windows, but I'm not sure that's a solution to my problem.

Currently the only idea I have is setting up a script at shutdown on all the machines that will remove any foreign mapped drives to them on the other machines.

The delay could be caused by something else, but I have tried everything:  
put HOSTS and LMHOSTS files on all machines with all of the IP's set all of them to use only TCP/IP protocol with auto-DHCP configuration.

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(I have a 3COM router which also gets internet from a cable modem via L2TP VPN connection).

I also tried static IP/DNS configuration.

The rest of the network configuration is :

Client for MS Networks

File and provider sharing

Enable LMHOSTS Lookup

Enable Netbios over TCPIP

I have set security accounts on all machines (no drive is set for 'everyone' access).

By the way another problem I have which could be related is that sometimes my internet connection drops the surfing ability (with IE) and one can only do email, skype and FTP.

That occurs several times a day and then it rights itself after a few minutes. (As mentioned, I have tried static DNS/DHCP and dynamic settings).

If there are better ideas, I'll be grateful.

Thanks

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