

L2TP/IPSEC – error 678

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From: JJ (iamjimjones_at_earthlink.net)

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I am in the middle of a win2003 RAS rollout...with an end goal of L2TP/IPSEC for both VPN and wireless connections (802.1x). I've waded through the PKI setup...certs are issued to my IAS/RAS servers and my test client machine.

Servers are all win2003...client is winXP (sp2). RAS server has a public IP (firewalled) and a private IP (for corporate LAN)...authentication is via IAS installed on win2003 DC's...client is using standard dial-up (no NAT).

I can establish a VPN connection through PPTP...with either CHAP or EAP-TLS...with no problems.

When I attempt to connect via L2TP/IPSEC I consistently get 678 errors (server did not respond)...this is the case for both preshared key and certificate attempts.

When I attempt the L2TP connection it behaves as if it were a firewall problem...client sends out an L2TP request on 1701...and then seemingly nothing happens...error 678 server did not respond. However...I have tested with the client and RAS server on the same (public) subnet...as well as opening all traffic to/from the RAS server from another known public IP. So I am fairly confident it is not a firewall issue.

The fact that PPTP works with EAP-TLS would seem to imply that it is not a certificate related problem. As would the fact that L2TP also fails with preshared key attempts.

I've not been this stumped in quite some time...would appreciate advice on where to focus troubleshooting efforts.