

Strange Startup Slow Networking Behavior

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I am recently experiencing a strange problem during startup on my system. If I startup the machine, everything is well up until I encounter the login screen. I then enter my username and password. Login begins and Windows Explorer loads relatively fast. The problem is that it takes upwards of two to three minutes for the networking subsystem to become "active" for certain applications. During this time, I can ping, telnet, and ftp into remote hosts using command line tools. Applications such as Word 2003, Word Pad, and Note Pad are not affected. HOWEVER, applications such as Internet Explorer, MMC, MS Paint, Network Properties, Windows Live Messenger, AOL Instant Messenger, MS Config, and IIS will hang and not respond until the issue corrects itself. The machine cannot be pinged successfully from another remote host during the problem as well. Another extremely odd symptom of the problem is that Task Manager does not show the user identity of running processes until the problem has corrected itself. The problem occurred in safe mode with networking as well.

I have performed the following tests to determine a root cause:

Antivirus scan was clean. A root kit scan was clean. No spy ware was evident. All Windows updates are installed. The latest drivers are installed. Ran netstat 1 -a during problem; no rogue connections detected. Created a new admin account, no change in problem. Ran sfc /scannow; no issues were reported. Ran netdiag /test:*; all passed. I have disabled all non essential services and no change.

I am wondering if there is a service or driver deadlock, DCOM issues.something outside what I have already tried.

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At this point, I have no clue what could cause this problem. Otherwise the computer runs great. Any advice would be greatly appreciated.

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