

VPN tunnel vs. simple remote desktop

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if you are setting up an ipsec vpn tunnel, then I believe you would need to carry a router around – I don't think you can set this up from xp (at least I don't know how – maybe someone else can give an insight). If you are using a PPTP vpn tunnel, this can be set up to dial from Network connections (create a new connection/vpn to workplace), however, this relies on your router at home being able to accept PPTP connections. (most of the Linksys routers only accept ipsec, others accept both types)

A vpn is more secure as you are authenticating the connection as well as the log on, but requires more configuration usually. It also only provides a connection to the remote PC/network. In other words, you would either have to set up shares to specific folders/drives, or use a remote control program if you want full access to the remote machine.

Using RDC is far simpler and allows you to make use of the full PC, almost as though you were sitting there.

HTH

>-----Original Message-----

>Am using WinXP-pro PC's, and Linksys VPN router.

>

>What's the difference in setting up a remote desktop connection by setting

>up a static IP and simple port forwarding so I can key in http:xxx.xx.xxx.xx

>from any PC and "see" my network back home, and get files, and save files,

>and so forth

>

>-----versus-----

>

>Using the VPN router's TUNNEL setup, which I think has

to be done on the

>*both PC's (the laptop I'll have in a hotel to access the home network, as*

>*well as the PC on the home network)*

>

>*-Is the tunnel setup more secure?*

>*-Easier to set up?*

>*-Easier to use while traveling?*

>*-Harder for someone else to get into?*

>*-Anything else?*

>

>*-The tunnel setup requires a VPN router on the home network, would it also*

>*require I lug one around with the laptop and use it on the laptop to access*

>*the home network?*

>

>*Thanks*

>*George*

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