

Re: 2003 Server slowed to a crawl

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.general/2005-01/1221.html>

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<http://support.microsoft.com/?scid=kb:en-us:821265>

<http://support.microsoft.com/?scid=kb:en-us:821008>

Might want to check those out :)

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Rod

<http://www.thelazyadmin.com>

"DK" <darrylann@northstate.net> wrote in message

news:F94EDDF9-7EA4-4822-A379-0E57A3E2533B@microsoft.com...

> Thank you so much for the ckecklist. I will start ruling each out tomorrow

> at

> the office and let you know, it may take several days and our tech guy

> will

> be back in to check the monitors he set up on Tuesday. Hopefully, we can

> get

> this new machine back up to snuff again.

>

>

>

> "Todd J Heron" wrote:

>

>> 25-step improvement plan for: Windows runs too slowly, hangs or freezes:

>>

>> 1. Check system uptime (pagefile.sys modified date or in Task Manager:

>> CPU

>> Time, or remotely with Uptime.exe). A reboot may be needed if the system

>> has been up for several days.

>> 2. Check free disk space; delete Temp files/ Temporary Internet files &

>> Netscape cache

>> 3. Check then clear the Event Viewer

>> 4. Check size of user's profile

>> 5. Turn off unneeded services

>> 6. Check Virtual memory (pagefile size) locally (Control Panel > System >

>> Performance tab > Change) or remotely: (Remotely: Regedt32 to

>> \\computername

>> then navigate to: HKey Local Machine\System\ CurrentControlSet\ Control\

>> SessionManager\Memory Management. The pagefile size may need to be

>> increased.

>> 7. Open Task Manager, click Processes then CPU column to sort by

>> processes

>> using the highest percentage of CPU time in descending order (highest at

>> the

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>> top). A common culprit is NTVDM.exe. DOS-based and 16-bit applications
>> have to run inside NTVDM.exe. As they may try to access the hardware
>> continually, such as non-stop keyboard polling, CPU cycles will be used
>> up
>> quickly. There are very few good solutions to this problem, other than
>> upgrading the application to 32-bit. Also, a scheduled task invoking a
>> CMD
>> or BAT file which is running continuously in the background due to script
>> logic error or a resource the script is calling cannot be found.
>> 8. Lower video resolution via Control Panel > Display > Settings tab >
>> lower
>> Refresh Frequency
>> 9. Turn off any OpenGL screensaver or change to a system default
>> screensaver
>> 10. Check for real-time Anti-virus running (no need to run more than one
>> type of AV engine simultaneously)
>> 11. Turn off FindFast (via Control Panel & "All Users" Startup folder)
>> 12. Remove unnecessary network protocols (NWLink IPX/SPX is often at
>> fault
>> in networks no longer running Novell NetWare)
>> 13. Defragment (and ensure not defragmentation is not running in the
>> background as a process - DiskKeeper is notorious for this. A badly
>> fragmented hard drive or MFT, a corrupted MFT or FAT, or physical damage
>> to
>> the drive (particularly if the MFT or page file is trying to use a bad
>> sector) are possible causes of slow performance
>> 14. Check Control Panel > System > Performance > and verify that the
>> total
>> amount of paging is equal to at least 12MB greater than physical RAM.
>> Determine how much RAM is installed via Control Panel > System >
>> Performance
>> > General. Setting the MIN and MAX size of the pagefile to the same
>> number
>> will prevent pagefile fragmentation.
>> 14. Recreate the user's profile
>> 15. Investigate a possible Network problem (is there a broadcast storm
>> somewhere, is someone copying large files (such as movie files), over the
>> network, or from the Internet? Is a deployment team or a Helpdesk
>> downloading or copying images (such as those built using Norton Ghost)
>> over
>> the network, are backing up large amounts of user data during production
>> hours?
>> 16. Ensure client NIC speed is equals the same setting as all switches
>> and
>> servers in the network (for example, every client workstation and network
>> device set to 100mbs/full duplex)
>> 16. Look into a Wiring closet problem
>> 17. Add more RAM (open Task Manager, verify that the Total Physical
>> Memory
>> is greater than Total Commit Charge during normal system operation. If
>> it
>> isn't, more RAM is needed)
>> 18. Hard drive is slow or there is a mainboard problem
>> 19. Verify proper SCSI termination
>> 20. Run CHKDSK to verify the physical integrity of the disk. A bad
>> sector
>> in an area used by a critical file - such as pagefile.sys - can slow the
>> system to a crawl
>> 21. Stop and restart the Spooler service
>> 22. Investigate whether this could be a poorly-written, unsigned, or
>> out-dated device driver which is not releasing the CPU. Each device
>> interacts with the computer by interrupting the processor so that the

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>> device
>> can send or retrieve data or carry out a function. A device must have a
>> method for telling the computer's processor that it needs attention. A
>> hardware device must have a method for telling the computer's processor
>> that
>> it needs attention. A hardware device tells the CPU it needs attention
>> through an interrupt request (IRQ) line. By using this method of
>> interruption, the CPU can function without the need to ask a device every
>> few seconds whether it needs service. When a device interrupts a CPU,
>> the
>> CPU stops what it is doing and handles the service request. Because each
>> device is assigned an IRQ number when the device is configured, the
>> system
>> knows which device needs attention. After the CPU has attended to the
>> device, it returns to the function it was performing before the
>> interruption. Now, what if a device is constantly requesting the
>> attention
>> of the CPU? Other devices would not get attention and hence the
>> appearance
>> of a "freeze". A technician can investigate whether an unsigned driver
>> is
>> the source of the problem by running the File Signature Verification
>> utility. To run this, go to Start > Run > enter Sigverif then click OK.
>> After pressing Start on the resulting dialog window, the process will
>> notify
>> you if it finds any unsigned drivers on the system. Note, this can also
>> be
>> outputted to a log. Remove any unsigned drivers and replace with devices
>> which have signed drivers (such hardware is sold with a Microsoft Windows
>> compatible logo on it).
>> 23. The problem may be SMB signing or LAN Manager authentication level.
>> In
>> Windows 2003, default server policy forces all SMB traffic to be
>> digitally
>> signed which seems to cause a problem in some configurations of XP Pro.
>> In
>> Local Security Policy (Start > Run > secpol.msc > OK) navigate to
>> security
>> options (Security settings > Local policies > Security) and try disabling
>> the option for Microsoft network server:digitally sign
>> communications(always). Ensure you do this on all machines involved
>> (such
>> as via a GPO for an OU). Run gpupdate /force on the server after making
>> the
>> change and do the same on the client machine afterwards.
>>
>> 321169 Slow SMB performance when you copy files from Windows XP to a
>> Windows
>> <http://support.microsoft.com/?id=321169>
>>
>> Security settings that can cause a problem with downlevel client access:
>> <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;%5BLN%5D;811497>
>> <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;823659>
>>
>> 24. Or this, if XP and/or Windows 2003 computers are involved:
>> New registry entry for controlling the TCP Acknowledgment (ACK) behavior
>> in
>> Windows XP and in Windows Server 2003:
>> <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?kbid=328890>
>> 25. Have you run an adware/spyware scan?
>>
>> Dealing with Unwanted Malware, Parasites, Toolbars and Search Engines:

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>> http://mvps.org/winhelp2002/unwanted.htm
>>
>> See also:
>> http://www.Microsoft.com/spyware
>>
>> Free online spyware scanner:
>> http://download.zonelabs.com/bin/promotions/spywaredetector/index\_email.html
>>
>> --
>> Todd J Heron, MCSE
>> Windows Server 2003/2000/NT
>> -----
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