

Re: SLOW drive access on fileserver

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.general/2005-02/2126.html>

From: Todd J Heron (*todd_heron_no_spam_at_hotmail.com*)

Date: 02/23/05

Date: Tue, 22 Feb 2005 23:48:04 -0500

1) Temporarily disable any real-time anti-virus software to see if that helps, and if it does, re-configure your AV settings to something more appropriate for your environment. Also, in cases of a direct cross-over cable between a client and a server, buy a switch and use regular CAT 6 cable.

2) Verify that you are running the latest and the correct network adapter driver. Obtain and install the latest manufacturer driver for the card instead of using one that Microsoft has provided. (also see if the manufacturer has any utilities you can use to check NIC performance).

3) Verify the network cards of all clients and servers, switches, hubs and routers are set to the same speed and duplex settings (i.e. 100mb/sec & Full duplex). If the hubs or switches have utilities you could use to see if it may be logging errors that will help your troubleshoot if it is a patch cable somewhere on the network

4) 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.

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>

See also:

Slow SMB performance when you copy files from Windows XP to a Windows 2000 domain controller:

<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=321169>

microsoft.public.windows.server.general: Re: SLOW drive access on fileserver

5) Another possibility involving slowness between XP and Windows Server

2003 computers:

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>

--

Todd J Heron, MCSE
Windows Server 2003/2000/NT

This posting is provided "as is" with no warranties and confers no rights