

RE: Poor XP network performance 2003 LAN

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.general/2006-06/msg00354.html>

- *From:* Devin M. <dphosting@xxxxxxxxxxxxx(hold-the-spam)>
 - *Date:* Thu, 8 Jun 2006 20:11:02 -0700
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Vicky,

We have 3 meg bonded T1 in Corp office and the network is as follows, internet-cisco 2621 dual wic-cisco PIX 501 firewall-cisco 2950 12-port catalyst-LAN Clients & Dell Poweredge Windows 2003 Standard.

So here is the thing, when I remote VPN (Cisco L2TP DES) into the LAN I can pull data from shared drive on the server or shared folders on PC's. And when I pull/push data to the server I can do it @ 350KBps and with the VPN overhead that is pretty damn good. However if I connect to a shared folder on ANY XP pro box I can only push/pull data @ 115KBps +/- and this is consistant on 8 XP boxes of diff type/manufacture. However if I setup a Linux or Mac OSX box again I get 330-350KBps consistantly. We duplicated this issue by removing PIX and crossconnecting XP-Boxes to router so they had public routable IP and again same problem? I even built a new XP Pro box for additional testing and I cannot figure it out.

We have spent weeks troubleshooting this problem replacing routers, switches and 2 firewalls only to find out a few days ago that it was only happening on XP Pro PC's (because that is all that is in the office) and the whole time transfer to the server was super fast and we didn't know why. And I am still scratching my head because I can internally pull files from the server at 100Mbps and it fine. I can recreate this problem every single time. Weird huh,,, We ran into this issue because customer is remotely accessing network from home and branch offices. We upgraded to bonded T1 and we had no performance increase. So we started troubleshooting network, bonding of the T1's and throughput performance testing to no avail. It just happened that the day I went to test earlier in the week I had my new Mac laptop so I thought heck lets stop testing with SMB and test with FTP and whoa it was crazy fast so then I started pulling data from my Mac via SMB and again it was super fast just like pulling data from the server. So the whole time we have been doing this the speed from alternate OS's has been great like Linux, OS X and even the Windows 2003 server has great performance but from outside the network from XP to XP it sucks. And we need to be able to remote into the network for remote sessions, pc anywhere and file transfers. Sorry for the long reply but I wanted to be complete.

Thankss

—
Devin M.
Network Engineer
Digital Planet
Detroit, MI.

"Vicky" wrote:

Please elaborate more on what is your LAN config like?

"Devin M." wrote:

This is my second post as my first was probably a bit wordy. We have a small situation where a customer of mine is trying to use PC-Anywhere and FTP from home and from a remote office. When they connect to the office via CISCO L2TP VPN or even via STATIC PUBLIC ip the users from home or remote office can transfer files faster from a Macintosh or Windows 2003 server than they can from ANY of the connected Windows XP computers on that LAN. So my question is why is there a limitation on the XP-Pro-SP2 boxes in transferring files to these remote users? All XP boxes in this LAN are SP2 running different AntiVirus, Firewall programs. We even tried a virgin box for grins and the same thing happens. When a remote user pulls files from these PC's either by FTP or SMB the transfer is 1/2 that of the Mac OS or 2003 Server. And the same goes for pushing file from the LAN to a remote user. Server and Mac fly but 8 XP boxes get about the same performance..... WHY IS THIS HAPPENING???? I have not been able to find a single article on this. Please help I have spent 3 weeks rebuilding routers, switch configs, and firewalls to test this only to find it is an XP problem.

Thanks,

—
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