

ESP packets dropped by Windows Server 2003

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.networking/2007-08/msg00017.html>

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 - *Date:* Wed, 01 Aug 2007 09:49:31 -0700
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We're just using the NAT/Basic Firewall that is a part of Windows 2003, configured via "Routing and Remote Access" for our office firewall and router. There are two NICs in the machine. One is the private interface connected to the private network, and the other is the public interface. We've enabled NAT and the "basic firewall" on the public interface, but other than that have not added inbound or outbound filters to either interface.

However, by using Ethereal to capture packets on both interfaces, I can see that ESP packets sent from a computer on the office network to a computer on the internet are being dropped. I can "see" the ESP packets hit the private interface, but they are not being sent to the remote computer across the public interface. Does anyone know why this might happen?

If the ESP packets are tunneled through UDP or TCP, then they are not dropped.

Background:

I discovered this after having some trouble accessing network resources on a remote network from a machine on our office network after connecting to the remote network using a Cisco VPN client.

I don't have any problems if I use a different firewall. For example, I don't have any problems using a simple 8-port Netgear NAT router/firewall.

-Thanks,
Seamus

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