

## Re: Remote site loses access to member server when WAN goes down

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**From:** Frank McCallister (*anonymous*)

**Date:** 08/13/04

Date: Fri, 13 Aug 2004 08:38:06 -0500

Hi David

"I can't make the remote member server a backup domain controller in an SBS environment, right?" Wrong you can have a BDC in a SBS network.

Frank McCallister  
COMPUMAC

"David Schrag" <david-no-spam@schrag.net> wrote in message  
news:e4OJVZTgEHA.1048@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...

> I have a main office running SBS03 and a remote office with a Windows 2003  
> member server. They are connected with a VPN between two hardware  
> firewalls.

> Yesterday the VPN went down because of a phone line failure and everyone  
> in

> the remote office lost access to the local member server. When they tried  
> to

> access a share on the server, there was a long delay followed by a  
> password

> prompt. If they put in their own password, they got a message to the  
> effect

> of "I tried that one already and there's no domain controller to validate  
> your password; try again." It also failed if they tried to put in a

> different user's password. As soon as the VPN was restored, everything  
> started working fine again.

>

> Fortunately this is the first time the VPN has failed in the few months  
> since this whole thing was set up, but surely it will happen again  
> someday.

> I did not realize that cutting off access to the domain controller would  
> mess up access to the member server like this. I guess I just assumed that  
> since users could still log into their computers using cached credentials  
> when connection to the domain controller was lost, that they'd still have  
> access to the member server as well.

>

> So what do I do to prepare for the next VPN outage? I can't make the

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- > *remote*
- > *member server a backup domain controller in an SBS environment, right? Is*
- > *there anything else I can do to make that server grant access to the*
- > *remote*
- > *office's users?*
- >
- > *Here's something I tried. If I logged into a remote office computer as the*
- > *local administrator, I was able to gain access to the member server's*
- > *shares*
- > *by drilling through My Network Places, Entire Network, etc. -- but only if*
- > *I*
- > *supplied the domain administrator's user name and password when prompted.*
- > *Regular users were denied access. I was thinking that I could create a*
- > *local*
- > *user account on each PC and tell them to log in locally if the VPN failed.*
- > *But obviously I don't want them all logging in as the domain admin when*
- > *they*
- > *want access to their files.*
- >
- > *Any thoughts? I'd hate to go back to the client and say "guess what ...*
- > *looks like SBS was the wrong product for you!"*
- >
- >