

Very slow response when MDB stored on Small Business Server 2003 network share

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2004-09/2346.html>

From: Chris Wilson (*chrisnews_at_nospam.exceldsl.net*)

Date: 09/08/04

Date: 7 Sep 2004 21:13:29 -0700

Hi All,

This is post with my challenge and the solution to my problem.

Background:

I have a client running Windows XP sp1 workstations and a Windows 2003 Small Business Server (Standard).

The PCs are PIII 866 to PIV2.4/533s with a minimum of 384Mb ram.

The Server is an Intel PIV Xeon with 512Mb Ram and RAID 5 SATA.

The network is a 100Mb switched network.

My client develops stand alone management applications in MS Access XP/2002.

There are two MDB files. One with the App and one with the data (linked tables I am told). Each file is around 10-12Mb when compacted by Access.

The Symptoms:

When the MDBs are on the local drive. They run like lightning (< 2 seconds to load).

As soon as they are moved over to the server, they take in excess of 90 seconds to load.

The files copy over to the server in around 8 seconds each, and transfer back in around 6, so its not the network.

If I move the files over to a workstation share. The performance is around twice as slow as running from the C: drive or about 20 times "better" than running from the server.

microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs: Very slow response when MDB stored on Small Business Server 2003 network share

Word / Excel / Adobe files all open without a hitch.

Remember this is one 10Mb program file, one 10Mb data file and one person trying to open them.....and it is taking almost 50 times longer to open across the network !

I transferred the files to another Windows 2000 SBS network with and the same symptoms occurred.

The Solution:

The key was the difference in performance between the workstation share and the server share. I investigated the

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lanmanworkstation\ key in the registry on both the SBS box and the workstation and noticed the following differences

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lanmanworkstation\Parameters\enablesecuritysignature and

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lanmanworkstation\Parameters\requiresecuritysignature were both enabled (1) on the server but disabled (0) on the workstation.

After changing both of these values in the registry from 1 to 0 and restarting the server, the problems went away. The time to open a file went from 90 seconds to around 4–5 seconds.

Much better thank you.

Further Information:

After searching through Google Usenet archives, I found lots of interesting stuff on MS Access network optimization. especially here.

<http://www.granite.ab.ca/access/performancefaq.htm>

Details of a similar problem with network share performance can be found at this page

<http://www.tangent-systems.com/support/delayedwrite.html>

Conclusion:

I hope this is of use to someone. I spent a couple of hours trawling through Google Groups as well as the regular web search and came up with very little that directly reflected my issue with a real solution that didn't involve hacking at the Access DBs. It took me a few good hours to test the solution, deploy it for my client and test again on their system. Had I known this, I would be that many hours younger :-)

Good luck all.

Any comments would be appreciated especially from MS people

microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs: Very slow response when MDB stored on Small Business Server 2003 network share

Kind Regards
Chris Wilson
21c Technology Consulting
Sydney NSW Australia
<http://21c.tc/>

(Just to push up the relevance a little for words I may have missed)
Keywords: MS Access, Microsoft Access XP, Microsoft Access 2002, Small Business Server 2003, SBS 2003, SBS, extremely slow network performance