

New to SBS 2003 and really struggling

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Hi

I am new to client/sever networks in general (and all the terminology) and SBS 2003 having always had Peer to Peer networks.

I decided to upgrade our peer to peer network to SBS 2003 with I have to say many regrets so far because despite many many hours and late evenings for a whole week still do not have anything working properly.

When I saw the setup had wizards and to do lists I was hopefull all would go smoothly but unfortunately not. Perhaps its my configuration but it is one thats listed in the document which lists network configurations that are suitable.

Simply, we had a peer to peer network using Internet Connection Sharing to a broadband connection via an ADSL modem.

I worked out this was the connection requiring username password (PPPoE) and that is how I have set things up using the Inter/Email connection wizard.

I have a server installed with SBS 2003 which is connected to a broadband connection via an ADSL modem and at the moment 1 client PC connected by Ethernet to the server.

I have gone through all the wizards time and time again and no joy. Here are the problems (thanks for getting this far :-))

1. The server does not automatically connect to the ADSL modem. I have to click the ICON supplied with the Modem software to get a connection going or run Internet Explorer on the server. This brings the connection for dialup networking OK but I have to press Connect to get it to connect. Even if I tick the Connect Automatically checkbox, this is not remembered next time.

I had assumed that my server would automatically connect to broadband without any user intervention. I dont want to be logging onto the server every day just to kickstart the INternet Connection.

2. The client will not connect to the Internet whatever the state of the connection on the server. It will connect to the server OK for shared folders and will connect to the default intranet page. I can also ping the server IP OK and get 4 packets sent, 4 received, 0 retries. I cannot connect to a simple external internet page. There does not seem to be any settings in Internet Connection options that indicate the client should be going to the server.

3. The exchange fax software on the server will only receive an incoming fax if I login on the server and run the fax console and select the option to receive a fax, thus again requiring unsatisfactory user intervention on the server.

4 I have posted this next problem before and kindly got some answers which I tried but to no avail. When the server boots up it waits for ages with the message "Preparing Network Connections". The previous answers suggested something wrong with DNS but I have run and run the Internet Wizard and all details look OK.

Thanks for any answers. A lot of the terminology means nothing to me so if anyone answers can you kindly use simple language.

I am on the point after a weeks efforts of giving up and going back to peer to peer which would be a shame.

Thanks

Desperate Steve from UK