

RE: Secure FTP setup on SBS 2003 for external site backup

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2004-12/1004.html>

From: James Hallam (*JamesHallam_at_discussions.microsoft.com*)

Date: 12/03/04

Date: Fri, 3 Dec 2004 10:55:14 -0800

My original post is wordy, so I'll ask one question I hope I can get answered:

If you *absolutely have to* install some kind of FTP service on SBS 2003, that is locked to one allowable incoming IP address, is it better to use the built-in IIS FTP service (which uses Domain users to authorize in clear text, so may be a security risk), or a 3rd party FTP app that uses authentication completely separate from the Domain users (will that minimize risk at all)?

If there's time for a second question, does changing the port # from the standard 21 help mitigate the risk at all?

Thanks for your help,

James Hallam

"James Hallam" wrote:

- > *I know that setting up an FTP server with external access on an SBS machine*
- > *is never encouraged, but I'm looking for any advice I can get on how to*
- > *provide limited service in the most secure way. Besides not offering it at*
- > *all..*
- >
- > *Because running a public website is never a good idea on SBS, I have kept*
- > *our website off-site with a web host. The ISP provides an automated back-up*
- > *utility that backs up the site, compresses it to a tar.gz file, and uploads*
- > *it to a remote FTP server. They also have a one-step restore utility that*
- > *will take this tar file and restore the site.*
- >
- > *I would like to have this backup tar file automatically backed up with the*
- > *rest of our files by SBS. The ISP's backup service has a static IP, so I can*
- > *limit the incoming connections to that IP on both the Firewall and FTP*
- > *application. Are there any other steps I can take that would make a*
- > *difference? Unfortunately, the nature of this task is that I need to allow*
- > *Upload/Write access.*
- >

- > *While I was researching this, I found this quote on another forum:*
- >
- > *"From what I understand, if you install IIS on a PDC, the*
- > *IUSR_<ComputerName> account becomes a member of Domain Users, because any*
- > *user account created on the PDC automatically becomes a member of the Domain*
- > *Users group. As a result, anonymous users have the same access as the Domain*
- > *Users."*
- >
- > *Is this something I should be concerned about? For my specific application,*
- > *as the remote FTP agent is the only thing that needs external access to the*
- > *internal FTP site, is it better to use a 3rd party FTP app, that doesn't*
- > *transmit any unencrypted user information from the Domain Users Group?*
- >
- >
- >
- > *If anyone has accomplished something similar to this, I would appreciate*
- > *your ideas.*
- >
- > *James Hallam*