

## Re: Cannot see computers by name

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2007-12/msg03235.html>

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- *From:* Brian <[Brian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Brian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 25 Dec 2007 14:07:01 -0800
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One more comment: the invisible computers do appear in the WINS DB on the SBS2003 DC. When removed from the WINS DB, they reappear after running netstat -RR run at client and re-displaying records on WINS server.

I can find each of them by name if I right-click on My Network Places and Search for Computers; however, I am still unable to see the stations at the FVS318v3 VPN site remotely via My Network Places.

Still planning on swapping routers to test, but I don't think I understand NetBIOS very well...

"Claus" wrote:

Your troubleshooting is very sound and I agree that it's most likely the router. Before replacing the on router, I would probably first try to switch them so you can verify your suspicion.

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Claus

"Brian" <[Brian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Brian@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message <news:E642D648-4D82-445B-A3C6-FEB1529BF67F@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Here's the short version of the question:

If I can ping a workstation by its NetBIOS name across a VPN and can find it by its IP address doing a Search for Computers in Network Places, but it does not appear in Network Places, what am I missing?

Here's the long version of the same question:

SBS2003 domain.  
Server & 35 workstations local  
Two remote LAN's connected via hardware VPN (i.e. one at host site, one at each client site)  
Each remote LAN has about six workstations

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Windows firewall disabled on all stations.  
DNS is correctly configured on all workstations to point to the SBS. SBS points to itself for DNS with correct ISP forwarders.

Both VPN's work perfectly, except for one thing. All workstations can access the server (e-mail, shared files, printers), I can ping all workstations, including those across the VPN's, from the server by their NetBIOS names (and vice versa, workstation-to-server), but cannot see any of the workstations on one of the remote VPN's via Network Places. I can find them by IP address but not by name. I can see the PC's via the other remote VPN just fine.

The effect is that I cannot distribute Symantec Corporate to the clients on one VPN. Symantec says, "If you can't see workstations in Network Places, then the remote client install won't work." Well, I already discovered that.

So I contacted Netgear about their VPN/router boxes, and they tell me it is a Windows problem and recommended that I Search for Computers using the IP addresses of the PC's. This works but does not solve my Symantec problem. I suspect something in the Netgear FVS318v3 VPN box (FVS338 at host, FVS318 at good site, FVS318v3 at failing site).

Is there anything I am missing in Windows? My next step is to replace the failing VPN box with one identical to the working one & THEN go back to Netgear with proof of the problem.