

Re: Exchange IMF Settings Question

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2008-07/msg02680.html>

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 - *Date:* Tue, 29 Jul 2008 19:18:32 -0400
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Setting them both to the same number effectively prevents the junk mail folder part of the rule from working. All the 8's are blocked, so there are no messages hitting the part of the configuration that moves things to the Junk Mail folder. (Outlook junk mail settings may still be using this folder, but Exchange is not).

I reject (as oppose to block) 8 and move 4 to junk. Reject bounces the message back to the sender, while block just deletes it. We need legitimate senders to know their message was not received, so we use reject instead of block. If that didn't apply, I'd prefer block, and it's extremely rare to get an SCL of 8 on a legitimate message.

You can configure Outlook to show you the SCL of messages you receive, which can be quite useful in making decisions about filtering.

http://www.petri.co.il/display_scl_level_in_outlook_2003.htm

I recommend configuring Connection Filtering as well as the IMF. I use the Zen blacklist from <http://www.spamhaus.org/> and, between that and the IMF, I'm getting great spam filtering for free and without installing 3rd party software.

Lastly, you can configure Performance Monitor to give you some great statistics on spam filtering effectiveness. I can add more on this tomorrow, but the short version is to go to Performance Monitor on the SBS and add all the counters under "MSEExchange Intelligent Message Filter" and "MSEExchange Transport Filter Sink." Select the "View Report" view from the toolbar, and click the big + to add the counters. When you close, it should prompt you to save the settings – I just give it a name and save to the desktop.

"Richard K" <Rkokoski@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:OIRj4tc8IHA.4864@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I'm spending more time looking at the Exchange component on the SBS 2003 R2 server that I have. In particular the Intelligent Message Filtering. I know how to turn it on but I want to be sure I understand some things.

I use the default SCL level for IMF of 8 and Junk Email of 8 as well. I also have it set up to "Block Messages – No Action". Is this valid? Should I be deleting or rejecting instead? I don't fully understand how messages are handled and how adjusting the SCL level and actions affects things.

Thanks!

–Richard K

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