

Re: The Windowsupdate site redirects and fails

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windowsupdate/2005-04/msg03001.html>

- *From:* "Robert Aldwinckle" <robald@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 28 Apr 2005 11:34:09 -0400
-

"Michel Merlin" <michel.merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:OU6gMX8SFHA.1040@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> None has a solution?

>

> Meanwhile I also tried to rename:

> C:\WINDOWS\system32\wupdmgr.exe

> into:

> C:\WINDOWS\system32\wupdmgr-exe.old

>

> then to type directly the WU URL in IE address bar:

>

> <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/>

> immediately redirects to

> <http://v4.windowsupdate.microsoft.com/fr/default.asp>

> which immediately redirects in turn to

> <http://test.v5.windowsupdate.microsoft.com/V5Consumer/default.aspx?ln=fr>

> which immediately gives "The page cannot be displayed".

My nslookup indicates that there is no address there.

So you could try adding a lookup entry for it in your HOSTS file

instead. E.g. use nslookup to get an address for just

v5.windowsupdate.microsoft.com

and then add an entry for that address which associates it with

the bad name.

However, it might be interesting to find out why you are getting
that bad redirect. I would suspect your User-Agent string.

Here is an excerpt from a previous post for how you could check that:

<extract>

> why do Microsoft sites think I'm running Windows 2000 when I'm not?

This could be a question of User-Agent--what is IE sending
with its requests and what is being received.

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(extract from a recent reply concerning a similar symptom)

I suspect it is not your browser which is telling you that but the application your browser is connecting to. The thing that you have to think about then is what might be between your browser and the application. You mention some kind of security package. Can it intercept the requests that your browser makes and modify them? Specifically can it make changes to the User-Agent string that each request contains? If so, that could explain your symptom.

It's pretty simple to test this idea by comparing the User-Agent string which should be sent with the User-Agent string which is received. For example, here are some suggestions I recently gave a user who had two different machines to use for comparison.

<excerpt>

What do you see if you enter this in an IE Address bar on each?

```
javascript:navigator.userAgent
```

(the property name is case sensitive; so notice that uppercase A.)

However, what is more important about the User-Agent string is whether it reaches its destination. Some network security products may modify it; so it is also useful to compare what a remote site claims to actually see, with what the above IE window showed you.

Steve Gibson's ShieldsUP! site has one such remote service.

< <http://grc.com/default.htm> >

(Choose Browser Headers once you allow it to Proceed.)

Another site which you could use for comparing browser functionality is:

< <http://www.gemal.dk/browserspy/> >

Post back your detailed observations if you need more help.

</excerpt>

BTW the last time I made this suggestion it **was** a case of a bad override in the registry but it was in a different branch from where you are looking. This was from the above XP user whose requests were erroneously being interpreted as being from a W2K machine.

<example>

> directions on that site and found a "Platform" string

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> in "HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentV
> ersion\Internet Settings\5.0\User Agent" that had the
> 5.01 in it. I changed it to 5.1 and now the Windows
> Update Version 5 site comes up. Thanks again! :-)
</example>

HTH

Robert Aldwinckle

</extract>

>
> When trying to rename back wupdmgr.exe, I find that Windows
> restored it without asking me, making my try above useless.
>
> Anyone can help? TIA,
>
> Paris, Thu 28 Apr 2005 09:42:10 +0200
>
>
> ----- Parent Message -----
> From: "Michel Merlin" <michel.merlin@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
> Newsgroup: <news://msnews.microsoft.com/microsoft.public.windowsupdate>
> Message: <news://msnews.microsoft.com/OeUVZ8VSFHA.996@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
> Sent: Mon 25 Apr 2005 08:22:00 +0200
> Subject: WU fails (redirects to
> test.v5.windowsupdate.microsoft.com/V5Consumer/default.aspx?ln=fr)
>
>
> Windows update (<http://www.windowsupdate.microsoft.com> or
> <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>) fails on one of the PCs
> I am updating today: WU redirects to
> <http://test.v5.windowsupdate.microsoft.com/V5Consumer/default.aspx?ln=fr> ,
> which is 404-ed.
>
>
> Other PCs, on the same connection (tried LAN and Dial-Up), have
> no problem.
>
> The failing PC:
>
> - is WXP SP2 FR, Works Suite 2003 FR (14" Notebook,
> Fujitsu-Siemens AMILO EL 6800-2408, Celeron D 2400)
> - has remained unused for 4 months (was apparently shutting down
> a few seconds after any reboot. The owner thought her PC was
> lost and stopped trying. I tried once but didn't find).
> - last week I found the cause (someone else had switched display

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> to TV, so each time the PC was actually running fine but
> displaying nothing)
> – I applied all the big updates with the Redistributables I had
> (WXPSP2 multilingual, OXPSP3 FR, OXP–KB833858,
> WMP 10 FR, dotNet FrameWork 1.1, dotNet FrameWork 1.1 SP1,
> Journal FR, Adobe Reader 7.0.1 FR, etc.)
> – the PC is smoothly humming for everything else than WU.
>
> Thanks to any help,
>
> Paris, Mon 25 Apr 2005 08:22:00 +0200

• **References:**

- ◆ **WU fails (redirects to test.v5.windowsupdate.microsoft.com/V5Consumer/default.aspx?ln=fr)**
◇ From: Michel Merlin
- ◆ **The Windowsupdate site redirects and fails**
◇ From: Michel Merlin

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