

Guests intermittently losing ...



EdZ 9 posts since

Jan 3, 2006 I will be glad to post the log and configuration files for this issue, but first I wanted to confirm it is not related to TCP chimney settings and/or the Windows 2003 Scalable Networking Pack which is included in SP2. In the forum FAQ's, there is a mention that it may be necessary to disable some of the advanced features included in Windows 2003 SP2 such as TCP Chimney Offload on a Windows host running VMWare workstation. I am running Workstation 6.02 - build 59824 on Windows 2003 Server Enterprise x64 w/ SP2. Some of the advanced features such as TCP Chimney Offload are turned on by default. However, I am only experiencing issues with the guests on the same VMnet network intermittently losing connectivity to each other. Could this be the same issue? The strange part is that by rebooting the host and guests without making any configuration changes resolves the problem (temporarily). I've run network captures from Wireshark on one of the machines while the problem was present, and it shows that the ARP requests are getting through to the interface on the other guest, but it just doesn't seem able to ping.

Quick summary:

Workstation 6.02 - build 59824

Host: Windows 2003 Server Enterprise x64 w/ SP2

Guests: Windows 2003 Server Enterprise x86 w/ SP1

Network configuration: One guest used three VMnets - Bridged and two private, the other uses one Host only and one private network.



oreeh 9,872 posts since

Nov 30, 2005 **1. Re: Guests intermittently losing communication on VMNet internal networks - related to TCP Chimney?** Nov 2, 2007 2:16 PM

Check the networking section of [Frequently asked questions in the VMware Workstation forum](#) regarding possible solutions.



EdZ 9 posts since

Jan 3, 2006 **2. Re: Guests intermittently losing communication on VMNet internal networks - related to TCP Chimney?** Nov 2, 2007 2:53 PM

👤 in response to: [oreeh](#) Yep - thanks - that's exactly where I saw the note about the TCP Chimney settings. It is not clear from the statement below if this applies to a private VMnet between guests or only to communications from guest to host, bridged and NAT. Would the hosts physical network have any bearing on internal-only VMNet network behavior?

"Q: My guests can't see the host or can't communicate with the network, networking is set to bridged, Host O/S is Windows 2003 SP2

A: If your host is running Windows 2003 SP2, you will want to try disabling TOE and associated settings:


See the MS KB article 912222 for commands / registry entries to modify (i.e. EnableTCPChimney etc...)"



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Nov 30, 2005 3. **Re: Guests intermittently losing communication on VMNet internal networks - related to TCP Chimney?** Nov 3, 2007 2:07 AM

 in response to: [EdZ](#) I would suspect that private vmnets are not influenced by the hosts physical network connection, but I'm not sure - so simply try it (and let us know if it helps).