

Knowledge Base

"Could Not Locate a Time Server" After Setting SNTP Time Server Using NET TIME Command

PSS ID Number: 243574

Article Last Modified on 11/21/2003

The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter Server
-

This article was previously published under Q243574

SYMPTOMS

When you use the **net time** command, you may receive the following error message:
Could not locate a time-server.
More help is available by typing NET HELPMSG 3912.

CAUSE

This error message can occur even if you set a valid Simple Network Time Protocol (SNTP) time server using the **net time /setsntp** command and network connectivity to the external time server exists.

Windows servers that are not domain controllers and Windows-based computers attempt to locate a domain controller to synchronize the network time. Domain controllers attempt to contact the domain controller that holds the primary domain controller (PDC) Flexible Single Master Operation (FSMO) role. Only the domain controller that holds the PDC FSMO role can query an external time source to set the time.

Keywords: kbenv kberrmsg kbprb KB243574

Technology: kbwin2000AdvServ kbwin2000AdvServSearch kbwin2000DataServ kbwin2000DataServSearch kbwin2000Pro kbwin2000ProSearch kbwin2000Search kbwin2000Serv kbwin2000ServSearch kbWinAdvServSearch kbWinDataServSearch

[Send feedback to Microsoft](#)

© 2004 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.