Knowledge Base

Enabling the Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol (CHAP)

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server

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SUMMARY

This article describes enabling the Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol (CHAP) on a Microsoft Windows 2000-based remote access server.

MORE INFORMATION

To enable CHAP on a Windows 2000 remote access server, you must use the Routing and Remote Access snap-in and then select the appropriate setting on the 'Security' tab of the server properties.

For a stand-alone Windows 2000 remote access server, you must also enable **Store password using reversible encryption for all users in the domain** in the **Local Computer Policy**. To enable storage of passwords using reversible encryption, follow these steps:

1. Start the Microsoft Management Console (MMC) and add the Local Computer Policy snap-in.
2. In the Local Computer Policy MMC snap-in, go to:

   Local Computer Policy\Windows Settings\Security Settings\Account Policies\Password Policy
3. In the right side of the MMC, double-click **Store password using reversible encryption for all users in the domain**.
4. Click **Enabled**, and then click **OK**.

NOTE: Reversibly encrypted passwords are saved during the change-password process, so existing users must change their passwords to use CHAP. For a Windows 2000-based remote access server that is a member of a domain, you can select the **Store password using reversible encryption for all users in the domain** option on the domain server as described above.

Alternatively, you can enable reversible storage of passwords for individual users. By using the Directory Services snap-in, you can select this feature through the properties of an individual user. Again, note that reversibly encrypted passwords are saved during the change-password procedure, so existing users must change their passwords to use CHAP.

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