

## WindowsXP – how can I stop viruses from running their own SMTP engine?

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Hi all,

We're running Windows XP on about 350 desktops. We're very strict with our user permissions and group policies, etc. Users can't see C:\ drive, they can't install apps, they can't write the registry, they can't write to c:\windows, etc, etc.

While we have a corporate firewall in place and desktop anti-virus scanners as a security measure – how can I stop Windows XP from allowing a virus to run its own SMTP engine?

I don't want to license, install and manage personal firewalls on each desktop PC but how else can I stop viruses from bring along thier own SMTP engine? Is there something in Group Policy?

My fear is having a desktop PC where the anti-virus software has stopped running (for whatever reason) and a user opens email from a web-based mail provider. What's to stop the SMTP engine from loading and doing damage? The email isn't coming in through the firewall in this instance – it's just Port 80 traffic.

Any ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,  
Glen