

Re: ICF -- needed with hardware firewall?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security/2004-01/0071.html>

From: Bruce Chambers (*bchambers_at_nospamcableone.net*)

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Greetings --

No. WinXP's built-in firewall cannot add any level of protection to that of a hardware firewall, as it monitors only inbound traffic.

Even good hardware firewalls (and NAT-capable routers) do nothing to protect the user from him/herself. Again -- and I _cannot_ emphasize this enough -- almost all spyware and many Trojans and worms are downloaded and installed deliberately (albeit unknowingly) by the user. So a software firewall, such as Sygate or ZoneAlarm, that can detect and warn the user of unauthorized out-going traffic is an important element of protecting one's privacy and security. Most antivirus applications do not scan for or protect you from adware/spyware, because, after all, you've installed them yourself, so you must want them there, right?

I use both a router with NAT and Sygate Personal Firewall, even though I generally know better than to install scumware. When it comes to computer security and protecting my privacy, I prefer the old "belt and suspenders" approach.

Bruce Chambers

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<http://www.catb.org/~esr/fags/smarts-questions.html>

You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once. -- RAH

"John Blaustein" <no@spam.com> wrote in message
news:%23ZIxurL0DHA.2116@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...

> I have a home network:

>

> DSL modem connected to DSL line

> SonicWALL 10 connected to DSL modem

> Switch connected to SonicWALL

> 4 PCs connected to switch -- 2 running XP Home, 2 running 98SE

>

> On the two XP machines, is it necessary to enable the Internet
Connection

> Firewall for the DSL connection, even though I have the hardware
firewall?

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microsoft.public.security: Re: ICF -- needed with hardware firewall?

> If so, which Settings should be checked (on)?
>
> When connecting via dial-up, I have ICF enabled. Which of the
Settings
> should be turned on?
>
> Thank you.
>
> John
>
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