

MS03-031 Problems

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I manage several SQL Servers (2000 Enterprise Edition SP3a) on Windows Server 2000 SP4. Each server has a default instance and two or more named instances installed as well. These servers run in a Windows NT4 domain. Our clients log into this domain as well as a Novel NDS domain. Our client workstations are either NT4 workstations managed by Novel Zenworks or unmanaged Windows XP machines.

Our systems were recently audited and we were compelled to apply all of the most recent patches. Unfortunately, the cumulative patch correcting the Named Pipes vulnerability (MS03-031) seems to have made connecting to our SQL Servers rather difficult (and in one case impossible). Client machines, running various applications, began returning "SQL Server does not exist or access denied errors" (similar to the ones described in the Knowledge Base article KB823492).

Our SQL Service accounts are configured as domain users (with permission sets like those described in KB283811). I have found that if I configure the service accounts to be members of the local administrator group, I can connect without difficulty. When I remove them from the admin group, I get the error described above. This problem does not manifest itself on the one SQL Server (SP3a) that I have that is not patched with MS03-031.

My question is what permissions do I need to add to my domain user accounts to allow them to create/maintain/utilize a named pipe connections with this patch in this environment?

It is not an attractive option for me to run these accounts as local administrators.

Thanks,

Tim