

## Re: Is Windows 2003 firewall safe?

---

*Source:*

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windows.server.security/2006-03/msg00196.html>

---

- *From:* "Roger Abell [MVP]" <[mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx](mailto:mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 23 Mar 2006 22:04:07 -0700
- 

My bad, I forgot ISA06 beta has not quite ended.

"Gaspar" <[gaspar@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gaspar@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:ueax%23IqTGHA.224@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ueax%23IqTGHA.224@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

What do you mean by "The ISA version you mention is dated"?

Thanks again.  
Gaspar

"Roger Abell [MVP]" <[mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx](mailto:mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:%23ND6M0oTGHA.4300@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23ND6M0oTGHA.4300@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Layers are nice, but you rule that out in final comment.  
It is always best to not place critical infrastructure right  
on the edge / external network.

The ISA version you mention is dated.

The W2k3 firewall is good at what it does and it will cause all  
inbound traffic to the external interface to be dropped except  
for what you state to allow, if you configure it correctly.  
In your case I would use both the firewall and IPsec in a  
filtering isolation mode.

"Gaspar" <[gaspar@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gaspar@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:OY4Va4nTGHA.1868@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:OY4Va4nTGHA.1868@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I want to setup Windows 2003 + Exchange 2003 server with  
to network  
adapters: one for the intranet, and the other for the internet.

Is it safe to use Windows 2003 built-in firewall on the  
external adapter  
to block everything but mail and dns ports (53, 25, 110, etc)?  
If not,  
can I install ISA 2004 firewall to protect it (i.e is Exchange  
2003

Re: Is Windows 2003 firewall safe?

compatible with ISA in the same machine?)

Ideally it would be better to have an external firewall but I can't afford it (\$\$\$).

Thanks!