

Re: properly configured windows 2003 server OK without a hardware firewall?

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*Source:*

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windows.server.security/2007-11/msg00086.html>

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- *From:* Leythos <void@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Mon, 26 Nov 2007 09:31:47 -0500
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In article <eCHWcs#LIHA.2208@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx says...

Sorry Leythos, but I have to take exception with that . . .  
While I do believe that the more layers of protection the better, Windows Server, even at 2000 version, can be place directly on the world network and not just survive but remain in the as deployed state. It only takes some informed configuration work. How do I know this? First hand experience from lack of any alternative. Would I recommend not using a separate firewall? No, at least not if that firewall is going to be effectively config'd. But would I say it is absolutely necessary, by no means; it does however make things easier for people that cannot take the time to comb a Windows server config clean for an outward facing deployment.

And we all know there are exceptions to everything, but in this case the exception is that a Win server will remain uncompromised.

Normally, if you are going to properly configure and lock down a Windows server for direct connect to the internet, it's not going to be doing much or providing much. There are few reasons to have a server directly connected to the internet – ISA/Firewall solution would be the only I can think of off the top of my head.

While I've read about the IIS boxes connected in tests/contests, I would never connect a Win web server directly to the public internet without a firewall.

Again, yes, it can be done, yes, you can lock it down enough to keep it from being exploited, but, how many people hitting Usenet do you think will actually be able to do that and get it serving what they wanted, without exposing an exploit path.....

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Leythos

- Igitur qui desiderat pacem, praeparet bellum.
  - Calling an illegal alien an "undocumented worker" is like calling a drug dealer an "unlicensed pharmacist"
- spam999free@xxxxxxxxxx (remove 999 for proper email address)
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