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You experience intermittent communication failure between computers that are running Windows XP or Windows Server 2003

System Tip ✕

This article applies to a different version of Windows than the one you are using. Content in this article may not be relevant to you. [Visit the Windows 7 Solution Center](#)

SYMPTOMS

If the following conditions are true, you may experience intermittent communication failure between computers that are running Microsoft Windows Server 2003 or that are running Microsoft Windows XP:

- The network adapter is configured to use checksum offloading.
- Windows Firewall is turned on.

WORKAROUND

Important This section, method, or task contains steps that tell you how to modify the registry. However, serious problems might occur if you modify the registry incorrectly. Therefore, make sure that you follow these steps carefully. For added protection, back up the registry before you modify it. Then, you can restore the registry if a problem occurs. For more information about how to back up and restore the registry, click the following article number to view the article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

[322756](http://support.microsoft.com/kb/322756/) (<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/322756/>) How to back up and restore the registry in Windows

To work around this problem, turn off checksum offloading on the network adapter. To do this, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type **regedit**, and then click **OK**.
2. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters
3. In the right pane, make sure that the DisableTaskOffload registry entry exists. If this entry does not exist, follow these steps to add the entry:
 - a. On the **Edit** menu, point to **New**, and then click **DWORD Value**.
 - b. Type **DisableTaskOffload**, and then press ENTER.
4. Click **DisableTaskOffload**.
5. On the **Edit** menu, click **Modify**.
6. Type **1** in the **Value data** box, and then press ENTER.
7. Exit Registry Editor.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the DisableTaskOffload registry entry, visit the following Microsoft Web site:

<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc959732.aspx>
(<http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc959732.aspx>)

APPLIES TO

- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition (32-bit x86)
- Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Standard Edition (32-bit x86)
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition

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