

Tips & Tricks

April 1, 2009

- 1) Explanation of Shell Command in Windows Vista
- 2) How to reset TCP/IP in Windows operating systems
- 3) No more POP3 in WS08. Now what?



Zubair Alexander

Microsoft MVP – Directory Services

Microsoft Certified Trainer



Explanation of Shell Command in Vista

- The shell command in Vista gives you quick access to various folders
- To access the shell command you use Start, Run and then type "shell:command"
- If you try to use the shell:command at the command prompt (cmd.exe) it will fail because shell:command is not recognized by the command interpreter

Explanation of Shell Command in Vista

Examples:

- To open the Downloads folder, type "shell:downloads" at Start, Run
- If you want to look at the folder where Internet Explorer saves cookies, instead of going through Windows Explorer and locating the folder, you can quickly access it by typing "shell:cookies"

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

- In earlier versions of Windows, TCP/IP was a separate optional component that could be added or removed like any other protocol.
- In Windows XP/Vista/2003/2008, TCP/IP can't be removed because now it's a core component of the operating system.
- TCP/IP functionality is critical because the entire Active Directory architecture is based on DNS hierarchy, which relies on TCP/IP.

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

Problem:

- If you encounter a corrupt TCP/IP stack you can't remove and reinstall TCP/IP anymore.

Solution 1:

- Reinstall the Operating System
Yeah! easier said than done!

Solution 2:

- Reset TCP/IP to the default state at the time the OS was installed by using NetShell (netsh.exe).

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

- When you reset TCP/IP, it will rewrite all the important keys in the registry, which has the effect of removing and reinstalling the entire TCP/IP stack.
- NetShell utility is a command line tool (`netsh.exe`) that allows you to monitor and configure networking components on Windows XP/Vista/2003/2008.

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

```
C:\>netsh
```

```
netsh>?
```

The following commands are available:

Commands in this context:

.. - Goes up one context level.

? - Displays a list of commands.

abort - Discards changes made while in offline mode.

add - Adds a configuration entry to a list of entries.

alias - Adds an alias.

bridge - Changes to the `netsh bridge' context.

bye - Exits the program.

commit - Commits changes made while in offline mode.

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

delete - Deletes a configuration entry from a list of entries.

diag - Changes to the `netsh diag' context.

dump - Displays a configuration script.

exec - Runs a script file.

exit - Exits the program.

firewall - Changes to the `netsh firewall' context.

help - Displays a list of commands.

interface - Changes to the `netsh interface' context.

offline - Sets the current mode to offline.

online - Sets the current mode to online.

popd - Pops a context from the stack.

pushd - Pushes current context on stack.

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

quit - Exits the program.

ras - Changes to the `netsh ras' context.

routing - Changes to the `netsh routing' context.

set - Updates configuration settings.

show - Displays information.

unalias - Deletes an alias.

winsock - Changes to the `netsh winsock' context.

The following sub-contexts are available:

bridge diag firewall interface ras routing winsock

To view help for a command, type the command, followed by a space, and then type ?

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

- You can use abbreviations, or just the beginning part of a command instead of typing the entire command. For example, you can type int for interface, h for help, and either q or b to exit the program.
- To reset TCP/IP, type the following at the command prompt:
netsh interface ip reset logfile_name
where logfile_name is the name of a log file in the current directory, e.g. resetlog.txt. You can also create a log file in a different folder if you provide the full path.

How to Reset TCP/IP in Windows OS

- If you notice that your log is empty, it could be because the TCP/IP entries on your computer have not been changed since the default installation.
- When you reset TCP/IP, the two areas of registry that are affected include:
SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\DHCP\Parameters\
SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\Parameters\
 - For Windows Server 2003 DCs follow the instructions in this KB article: <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/325356>.

No More POP3 in WS08. Now What?

- Microsoft doesn't offer POP3 service in Windows Server 2008. Bummer! ☹️
- If you want to test e-mail functionality in a Virtual PC environment or with MOSS 2007, installing Exchange server could be too taxing as far as resources are concerned (not to mention the cost) for just using SMTP in a development, testing or training environment.

No More POP3 in WS08. Now What?

Solution #1

- Use a freeware mail server, such as ArGoSoft Mail Server.
- Download ArGoSoft mail server at <http://www.argosoft.com/RootPages/Download.aspx>.
- Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008 users should read [this](#) document.

Drawbacks

- ArGoSoft is a freeware product so use it at your own risk.
- Most businesses won't allow usage of a freeware product in a production environment.

No More POP3 in WS08. Now What?

Solution #2

- Use Visendo SMTP (POP3) extender for Windows Server 2008.
- Download the x64 and x86 versions from Visendo's Web site.
- This solution is ideal for development, training or testing environments.
- Download links:
 - [Visendo SMTP Extender for x64](#)
 - [Visendo SMTP Extender for x86](#)

Tips & Tricks

April 1, 2009

Questions & Answers

www.winnetusergroup.com

Windows Networking User Group

