

DTC on XP SP2

After installing SP2 on an XP workstation DTC (Distributed Transaction Coordinator) will not work. DTC only needs to be configured if the XP workstation is hosting the server side components and SQL server is running on a different box, or if SQL Server is running on XP and the server components are running on a different box.

Configuring DTC

Go into component services and right-click on My Computer and choose properties. Select the MSDTC tab and then the Security Configuration button. This will open up the security settings for DTC.

First the checkbox for Network DTC Access must be checked. Now the other options can be set. Settings in the Transaction Manager Communication box can now be set.

If this machine is hosting the server-side components and SQL Server is on another box the Allow Outbound check box must be set. If the machine is hosting SQL Server and server-side components from another machine will be accessing this box then the Allow Inbound checkbox must be checked.

The radio buttons in the middle of the Transaction Manager Communication frame set the authentication level. If a XP SP2 machine is communicating with a server 2003 machine then the 2 should be set to the same authentication. Mutual authentication is the highest/most secure and is recommended if both OS's support that level. If any other OS is involved then No-Authentication Required must be selected.

After setting these up the DTC service must be stopped and restarted.

Windows Firewall

If the Windows Firewall is being used it also must be configured to allow DTC to communicate through it. To do so go to the control panel and open the windows firewall. Go to the Exceptions tab. Then click Add Program. Browse to C:\Windows\System32\msdtc.exe to select the DTC component. The MSDTC component should be listed and have a check in the box next to it.

This information can be found at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/winxppro/maintain/sp2otech.msp#ECA>
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