

How can I configure Exchange Server 2003 to block spam? By Daniel Petri (<http://www.petri.co.il>)

Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 now has built-in Open Relay Filter (ORFilter) or DNS Blacklist and Realtime Blackhole List (DNSBL, RBL) capabilities, which releases us from the need to rely on 3rd party software for the spam filtering.

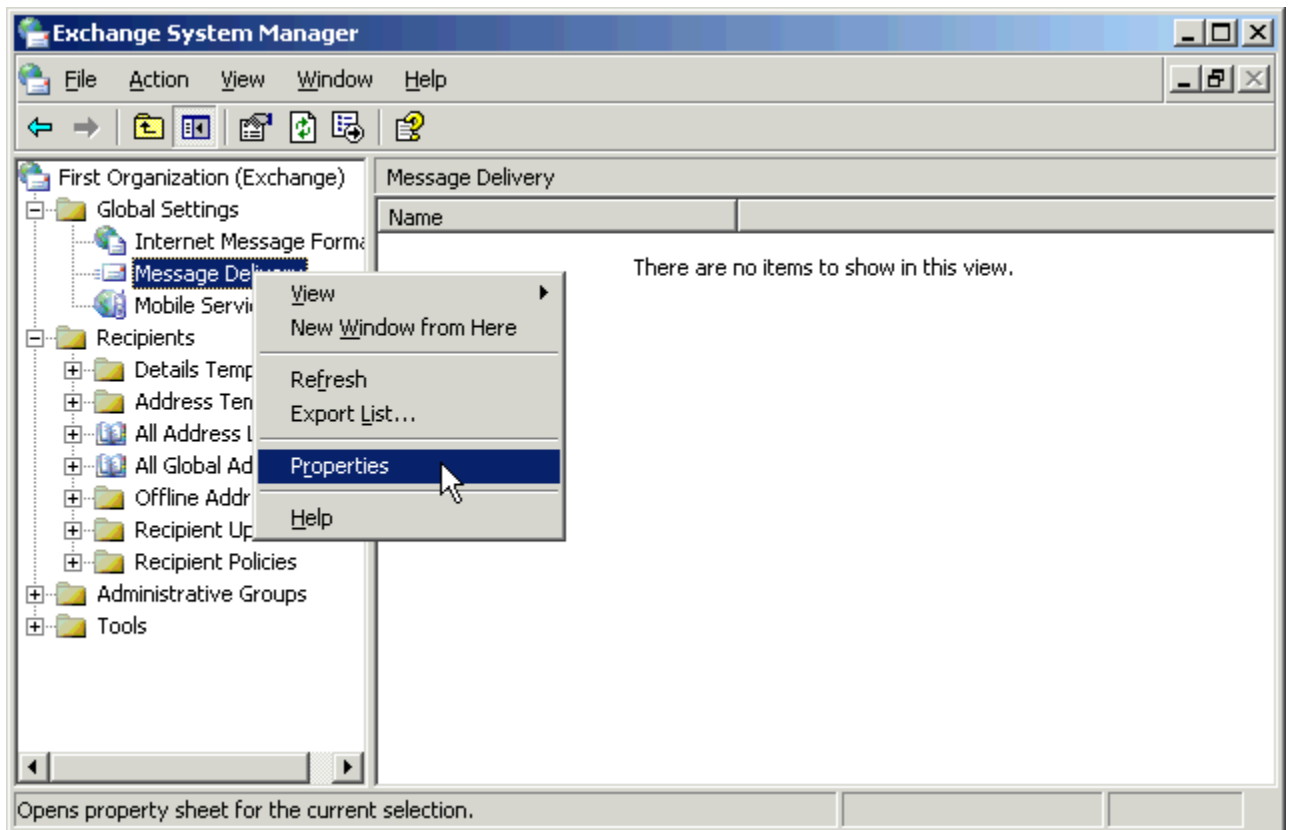
These features are far from complete, and using software like [Policy Patrol](#) and others is still recommended, but for small businesses or companies that cannot afford these products - Exchange Server 2003 can now handle most the job.

For example - One bad thing about the Exchange Server 2003 Spam protection options is the fact that there is no GUI-easy way to import or export blocked email addresses or sending domains.

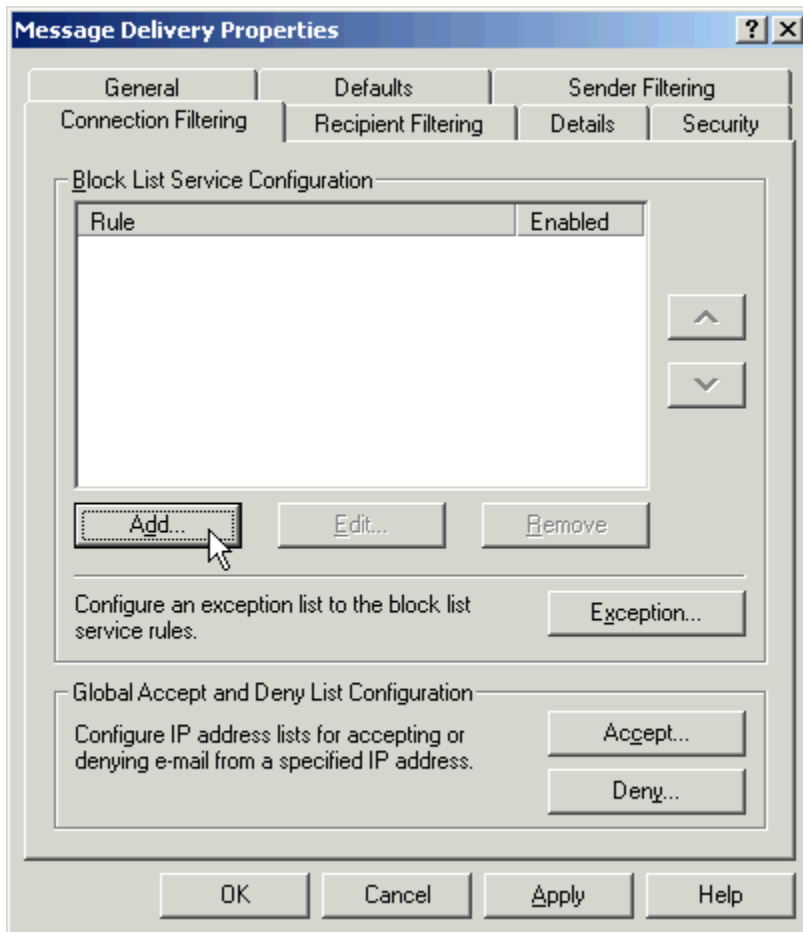
Another bad thing is that there is no default way to see if the filters are working, and how much spam is blocked.

To configure email blocking do the following:

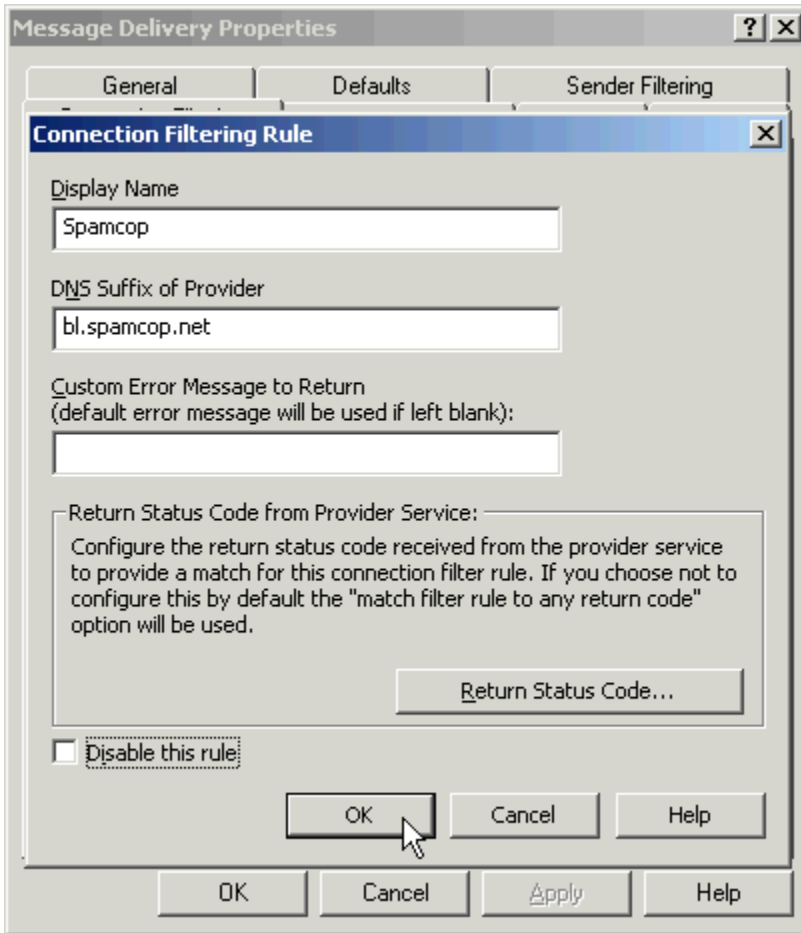
1. Go to the properties of the Message Delivery settings.

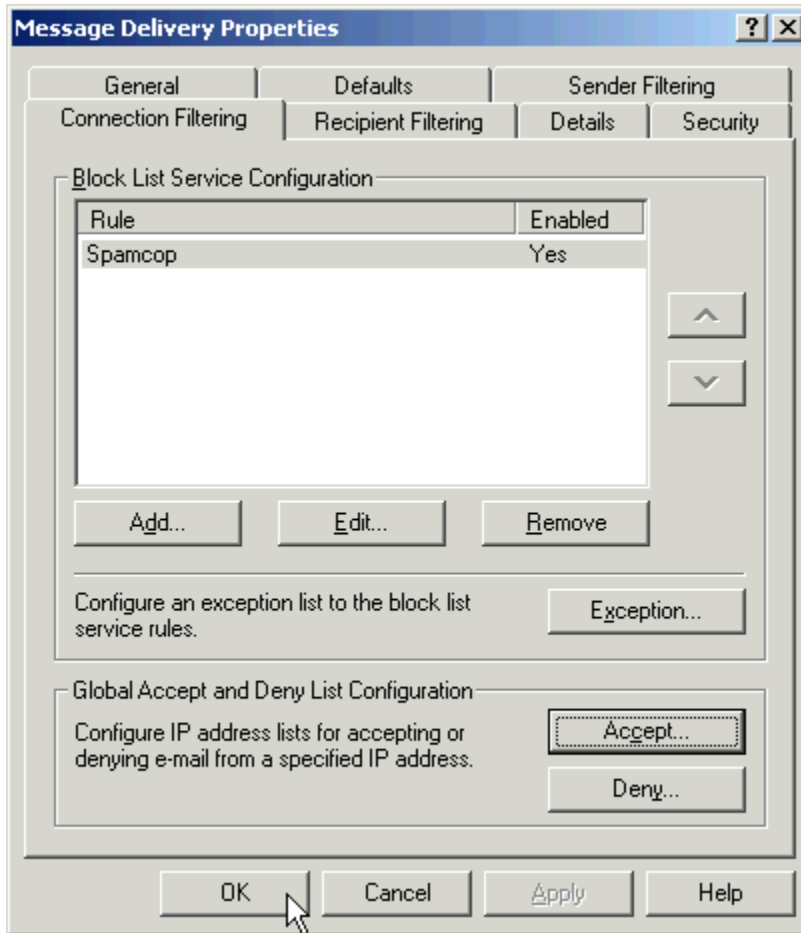


2. Click new to add a connection filter.

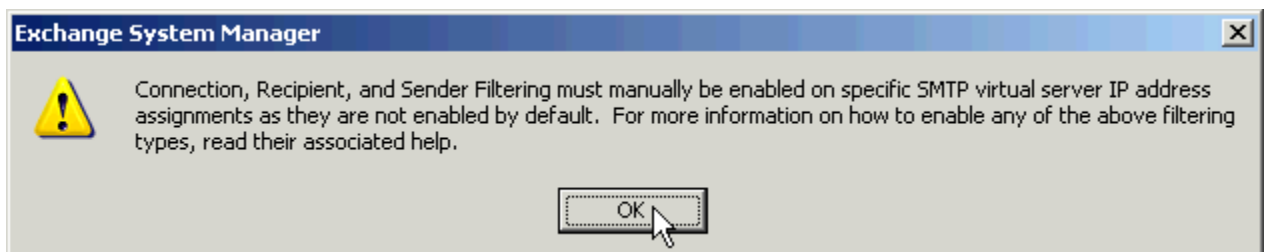


3. Add the desired RBL service and click OK.

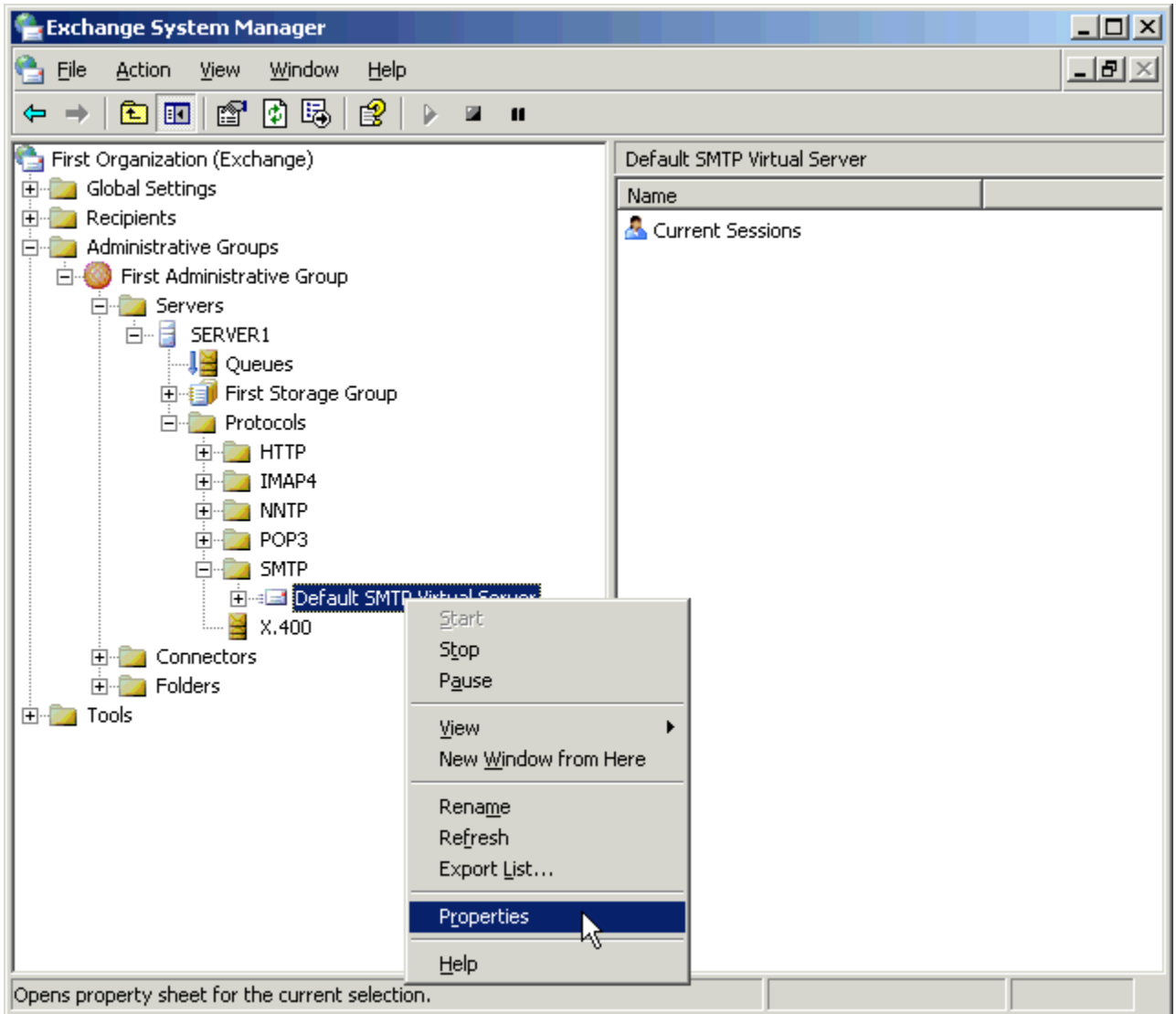




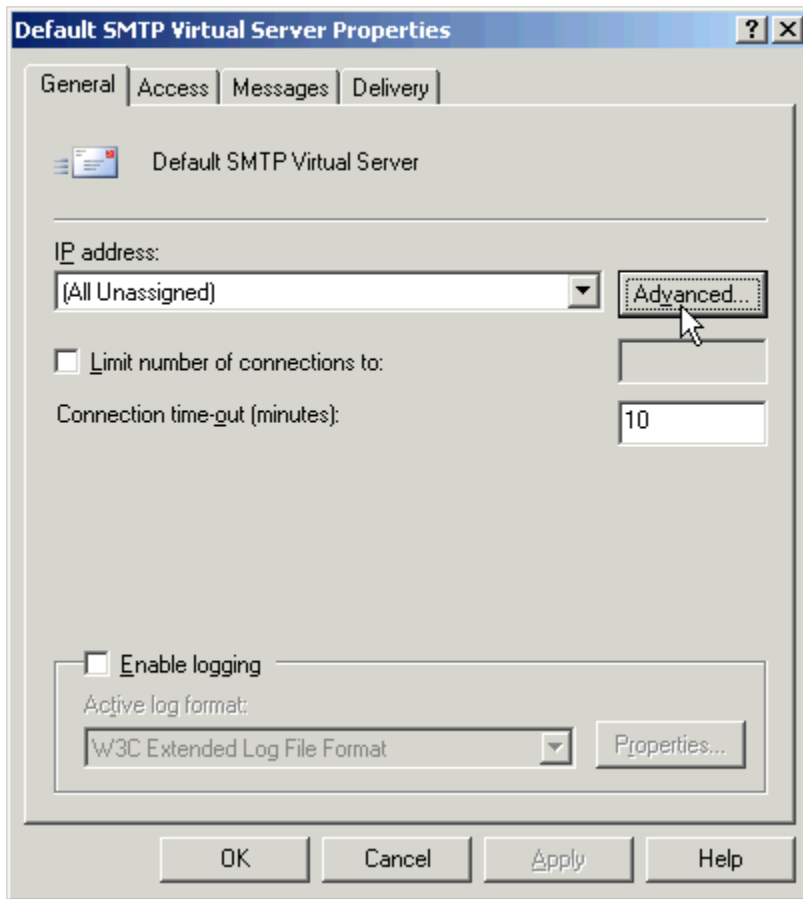
4. You can also configure exceptions for these rules. Click the Exceptions button and enter your settings.
5. A warning shows that you have to enable the filtering at the SMTP virtual servers.



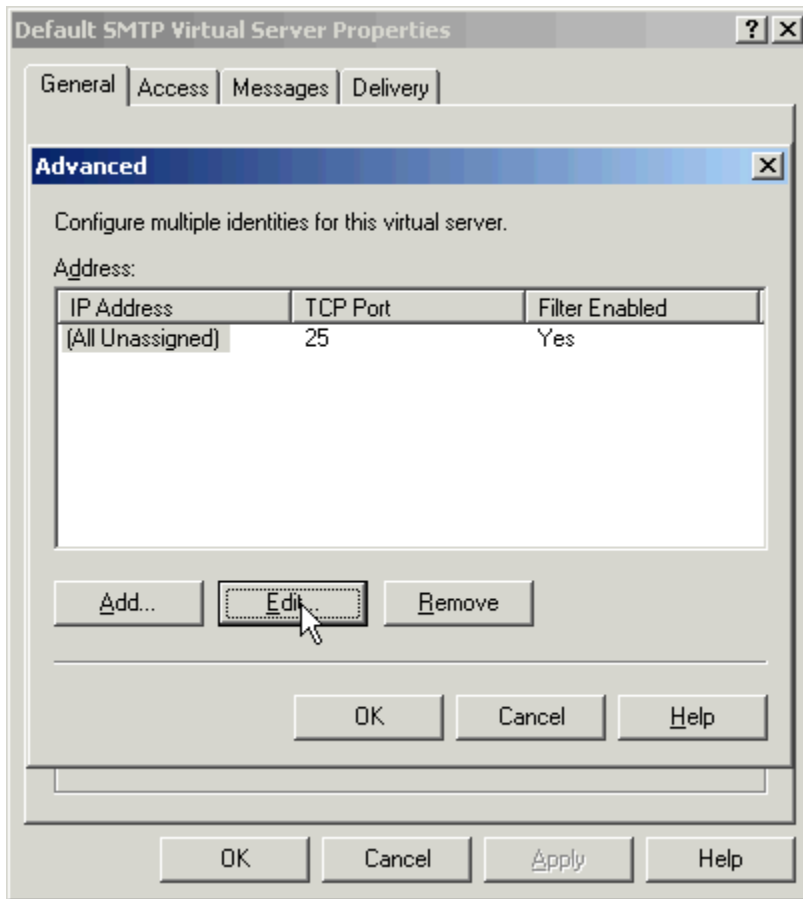
6. Go to the properties of your SMTP Virtual Server.



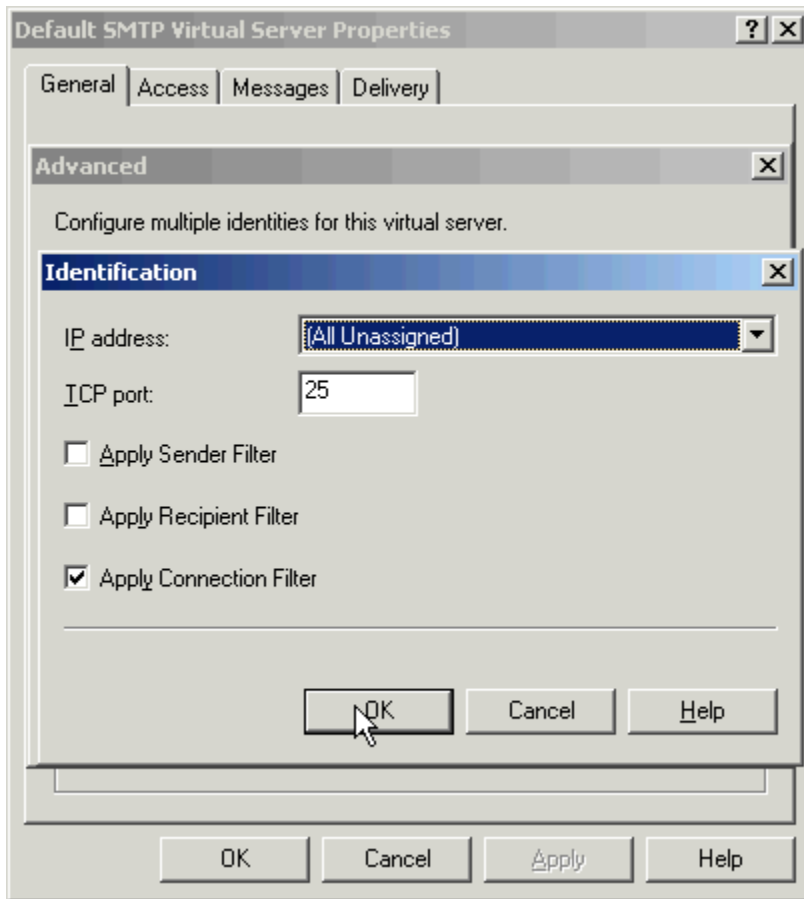
7. On the General tab, click the Advanced Button.



8. Click the Edit button.



9. Check the 'Apply Connection Filter' checkbox.



10. Click Ok all the way out.

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