

NetWare 5 fileserver loses time

The Problem

Your fileserver loses time, pure and simple !

No matter how many times you correct the time, the next day you find that your fileserver has lost at least a few hours, and, in the worst cases, it may even have lost a day or two. In almost all cases that we have seen this problem occur, the circumstances are one of the following :

- The fileserver used to run NetWare 3.x or NetWare 4.x and was upgraded to NetWare 5.x.
- The fileserver is a NetWare 5 fileserver, but it has been upgraded to a brand new fileserver through the re-installation of NetWare 5 and a restore from backup.
- The NetWare 5 fileserver's primary hard disk (the one containing the SYS volume) was upgraded to a new hard disk, NetWare 5 was re-installed, and the SYS volume was restored from backup.

The Solution

When faced with this problem the automatic reaction is to believe that there is a hardware problem, more specifically that the motherboard has a faulty clock system.

Far from it. In 99% of cases the problem is a **NetWare 5** configuration issue. In the case of a NetWare 3.x/4.x upgrade to NetWare 5, the problem is the result of the fact that, as regards time-keeping, NetWare 5 needs to be configured differently from NetWare 3.x/4.x. As for hardware upgrades, the problem usually arises as a result of having had to re-install Netware 5.

To correct the problem do as follows :

- If it is not already loaded, load `MONITOR.NLM` at the server console by typing **MONITOR** and pressing Enter.
- Choose the **Server Parameters** configuration option.
- Choose the **Time** sub-option.
- Within the “Time” parameters, configure the options below :

```
Default Time Server Type      : REFERENCE
TIMESYNC Configured Sources  : On
TIMESYNC Hardware Clock      : On
TIMESYNC Time Sources        : 127.0.0.1;
TIMESYNC Type                 : REFERENCE
```

- Escape back to the main Monitor menu.
- Switch to the System Console and set your fileserver to the correct time and date (e.g. `SET TIME 9 SEPTEMBER 2001 15:48`).
- Type **TIME** at the fileserver prompt to verify that you have definitely set your fileserver to the correct time and date (it is very easy to get it wrong).
- Reboot your fileserver.
- That's it. You're done.** From now on your fileserver will stop losing time and will keep the time properly.

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