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jniel44

Multicast and VPNs

Troubleshooting

Hi my fellow networking friends. I am fairly new to this field, and very new to anything using multicast. However we have two servers using multicast across a customer provided network. Our vendor states not all of the multicast traffic is getting through, and that the customer is blocking this somewhere. Our customer claims they are not blocking anything.

When we put in a VPN tunnel between the connection, everything flows through just fine. When we remove it, it fails.

Is it possible multicast would require a VPN over a point to point connection? Thanks in advance



1



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networksmuggler • 3y ago

From personal experience a lot of VPN's do not support multicast. We have a requirement to pass multicast over VPN internally and the only thing that works right is strongswan and it's not even 'official' but it works. Just very cpu intensive.

What VPN are you using?



1



Reply



jniel44 OP • 3y ago

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Are there specific multicast IPs that the servers are using? Make sure that these IP are allowed on both ends of the network (not sure how your connection is like). If the customer claims that they are not blocking anything, have them put a rule on their firewall allowing multicast IP/s to the other end of the network. Do the same on the other end

 1   Reply ...**PeFClic** • 3y ago

Multicast is limited to a LAN, or with the support of your routers to your site. If you use a VPN based on GRE that is not encrypted by default you can encapsulate multicast packets. If you need encryption you can encrypt your GRE packets with IPSec. You can also use Wireguard tunnels instead of GRE+IPSec.

 1   Reply ...**Jackol1** • 3y ago • Edited 3y ago

I have seen this before and it was caused by IGMP snooping on a providers switch pruning the multicast group. This was for IPTV stream and nothing was joining the feed on the multicast group from the other end of the PtP circuit. As a result the provider switch was pruning the multicast feed from its uplink port. They noticed it because the port connected to the broadcast server was taking 2G of traffic, but nothing was leaving the uplink port on their switch in the same Vlan. Disable igmp snooping on that Vlan and it started flowing.

 1   Reply ...**LarrBearLV** • 3y ago

What kind of P2P connection are they providing? Sounds like they may not have multicast configured along the path which is why tunneled works.

  1   Reply ...**jniel44** OP • 3y ago

They also claimed they set us up with a direct fiber connection, and we saw the same results. It works for the first one or two attempts then it fails. Our vendor states there has to be a piece of equipment in between that is blocking it. I'm really at a loss with this and not sure what's going on. The p2p connection most likely did not have multicast configured since they shrugged when I brought up multicast to them.. but direct fiber should have worked.

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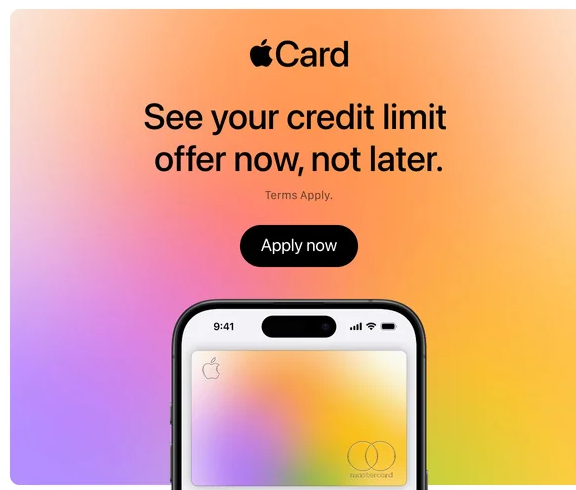


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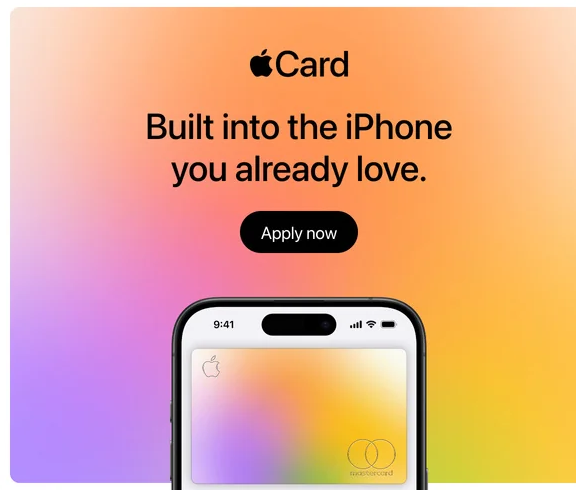
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