Re: Home network and domain

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Date: 04/05/04

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In article <jwvad1rbfyf.fsf−monnier+comp.os.linux.networking@asado.iro.umontreal.ca>,
Stefan Monnier <monnier@iro.umontreal.ca> writes:
>
> *Like many people, I have a couple of computers at home, connected together*
> *via a switch+router.*
> *All my IP addresses are of the form 192.168.1.X.*

[Wants to address machines by name −− details snipped]

Do all of your computers run Samba (or Windows' SMB/CIFS server, if/when they boot to Windows)? If so, try adding "wins" to the "hosts" item in /etc/nsswitch.conf:

hosts: files dns wins

This will tell Linux to use NetBIOS name resolution systems in addition to ordinary /etc/hosts and DNS name resolution. (Linux tries these systems in order, so you could put "wins" first if your DNS is slow or unreliable.) Because NetBIOS names are registered dynamically, tracking the changing IP address should happen automatically. On a little two−computer network, this is probably the simplest solution, assuming you run Samba. If not, you might want to run Samba (or at least nmbd, the Samba daemon that handles the NetBIOS name stuff) just for this; doing so is probably easier than setting up your own DHCP server.

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