

Caveat: Using Windows 7 as a file server

Written by Tim Andaya

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Problem: Using a Windows 7 machine as a file server; mounting a Samba (smb) share using CIFS from Linux server to synchronize files using rsync and ran into a problem after using the mounted share for a small amount of time. Note; this issue existed with Windows XP clients mapping Windows 7 shares as well for large file count transfers.

After running rsync for a short amount of time, started getting memory allocation errors related to the Windows share. After unmount/remount the share, received the error:

mount error(12): Cannot allocate memory

Refer to the mount.cifs(8) manual page (e.g.man mount.cifs)

After checking the Event Viewer System log, I found the following error:

Source: srv

Event ID: 2017

Level: Error

The server was unable to allocate from the system nonpaged pool because the server reached the configured limit for nonpaged pool allocations.

Some research led found this solution: Configure Windows so the machine functions as a file server and that it should allocate resources accordingly.

Set the following registry key to '1':

HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Memory
Management\LargeSystemCache

and set the following registry key to '3':

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HKLMSYSTEMCurrentControlSetServicesLanmanServerParametersSize

Test.