

Combining OS X, AirPort and IRC causes some problems. This is due to the restrictive nature of the OS X underpinnings.

The problems involves the nature of the identd service that is built into OS X when combined with AirPort. When you connect to an IRC server, the server will turn around to try and connect to your identd service to establish that you are where you say you are.

Basically, you will need to replace the identd tool that comes with OS X with the one in this folder.

THIS IS TECHNICAL AND YOU WILL NEED TO USE THE COMMAND LINE. IF YOU CANNOT UNDERSTAND THIS OR DO NOT WANT TO DO THIS, PLEASE DO NOT COMPLAIN TO ME. IF YOU WANT TO COMPLAIN, COMPLAIN TO APPLE.

The identd tool is a modified version of the one that comes with Darwin (the OS X foundation), and the source to the modified tool is available at <ftp://ftp.snak.com/identd.tproj.sit>

If you are unsure about what it does you can use Project Builder to open the project and recompile it. The only change is on line 365 in parse.c where the modified tool will always return a valid result instead of erroring out if the tool cannot recognize the port numbers.

What is the cause of the problem

AirPort is a NAT device which means that it does Network Address Translation. The problem is that in addition to translating IP addresses it also changes port numbers. That means that when the IRC server tries to connect to the identd tool that is running on your system, the tool cannot recognize the request, and returns an error.

That in turns makes the IRC server think the identd lookup failed and often denies you access.

How do I fix it ?

First you should copy the file "identd" from this folder to the top level of the harddisk (next to "Applications" and "Users". This is done to avoid having to type the full path to the file's current location.

Then you need to open a terminal window and do the following commands. If the command starts with sudo you will need to enter your password.

To navigate to the top level of your harddisk, type this:
cd /

Copy the old ident tool and call it "identdcopy", in order to have a backup:

```
sudo cp /usr/libexec/identd /usr/libexec/identdcopy
```

Then remove the original:

```
sudo rm /usr/libexec/identd
```

Replace the old identd tool:

```
sudo cp identd /usr/libexec/identd
```

Restart the machine.