What is an SMTP Server?

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SMTP also known with a simple term called â€œSimple Mail Transfer Protocolâ€• is a protocol for sending email messages between servers. These emails can be retrieved with an email client using POP or IMAP. Also this system is used to generally to send messages from a mail client to a mail server. SMTP is implemented usually to operate over internet port 25 and it is specially designed for reliable and efficient mail transfer. This option is used by many mail applications for example Ms Outlook, Eudora, X Mail, etc. SMTP is a set of commands that authenticate and direct the transfer of electronic mail.

The best advantage of SMTP mail service is given for worldwide travelers to increase their interactions with people easier. Whenever you send your email the client interacts with SMTP server to send your messages at the same time the SMTP server on your host will have conversations with other SMTP servers to deliver the mail.

These are some of the common commands that a SMTP server understands easily

HELO â€“ introduce yourself

EHLO â€“ introduce yourself and request extended mode

MAIL FROM â€“ specify the sender

RCPT TO â€“ specify the recipient

DATA â€“ specify the body of the message

RSET â€“ reset

QUIT â€“ quit the session

HELP â€“ get help on commands

VRFY â€“ verify and address

EXPN â€“ expand an address

VERB â€“ verbose

When it comes to SMTP setup you must focus on some important points, letâ€™s now discuss about that too.

You should be familiar with setting up a SMTP server in case youâ€™re running email software like Outlook Express, Mozilla Thunderbird, etc. on your own computer. If you are using webmail for managing your email communications, there will be no need for you to deal with such stuff.

An e-mail client software application needs to be set with the host or the IP address of an SMTP server. The default TCP port for the SMTP outgoing connection server is port 25. Unfortunately, some ISP providers block port 25 in their firewalls and routers and reserve it only for their own outgoing SMTP server. In such cases, the email customers are forced to use the ISP's SMTP server

which is not a big problem if you are running a desktop computer, but when you are using an email client from a notebook this restriction will force you to change the e-mail settings every time you connect to a different ISP, Broadband connection, public WI-FI network or corporate VPN.

Usually email clients face problems in sending ordinary mails but with SMTP system, The SMTP server delivers the messages on behalf of the user. In case the connection to the default SMTP server is blocked by the ISP, firewall or there is a connection interruption between the client and the email hosting provider, the customer can set another SMTP server to deliver their outgoing e-mail messages. Because it is not necessary for the customers to use their E-mail Hosting provider's SMTP server, they can use an alternative SMTP server provided by another e-mail provider or by their ISP.

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So there are great advantages of using SMTP email servers. In the present situation most high tech companies used a SMTP servers to build up good interaction within their customer and office staff with the help of SMTP mail services.

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