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Virtual Private Networks, Second Edition

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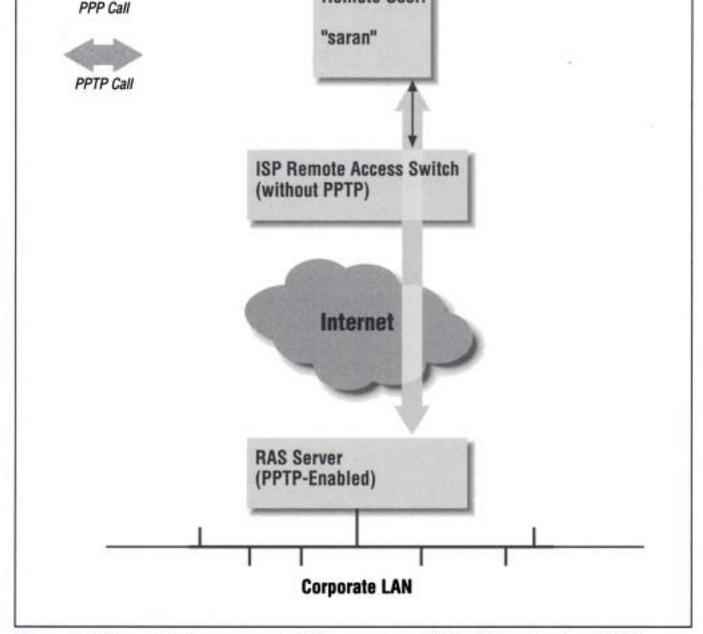


Figure 4-2. Connecting to a corporate RAS server via an ISP that doesn't support PPTP

Where PPTP Fits into Our Scenario

In Figure 4-3 we have a representation of a corporate office network with a T1 connection to the Internet. The router that connects to the Internet is also a packet-filtration firewall. User Sara N. wants to check her corporate email, and is dialing into her ISP, which is using a PPTP-enabled remote access switch. After she connects to the switch, it starts a PPTP call to the RAS server specified in her user profile. In this figure, a lightly shaded line extends the PPTP session back to the client, rather than just to the remote access switch. Sara uses this line when she has to dial into an ISP that doesn't support PPTP, and initiates the PPTP session on her workstation with a second RAS call.

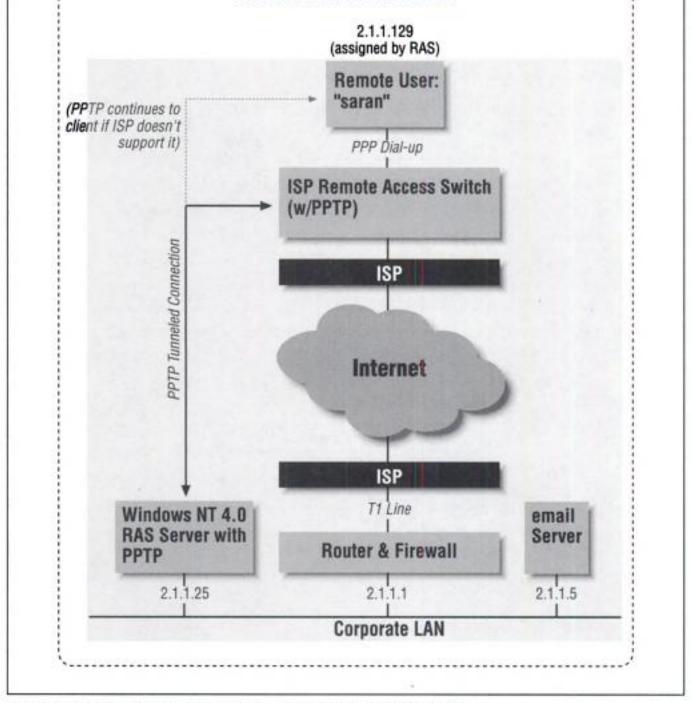


Figure 4-3. A full diagram of a PPTP connection over the Internet

On the corporate router and firewall, the TCP/IP port on which PPTP creates a socket (1723) must be open to both inbound and outbound traffic. If the rest of the network is protected by a firewall that disallows inbound and outbound Internet traffic, then a single point of entry to the LAN is established, which is protected by the user-based authentication.