

## SMTP Open Relay Mail – Telnet Test Procedures

*If your SMTP server accepts incoming TCP connections from the Internet, your server can be used by spammers as a mail relay engine. Mail relays can distribute their messages (SPAM) all over using your server as an open relay.*

To test for open relay telnet into your mail server as follows:

**C:\>telnet mailserver.domainname.com 25**

220 mailserver.domainname.com ESMTP server (InterMail vK.4.04.00.00)  
ready Mon, 11 Mar 2002 13:56:00 -0500

**helo**

250 mailserver.domainname.com

**mail from:<sender@xyz.com>**

250 Sender <sender@xyz.com> Ok

**rcpt to:<receiver@abc.com>**

250 Recipient <receiver@abc.com> Ok

**data**

354 Ok Send data ending with <CRLF>.<CRLF>

**hello this is a test**

.

250 Message received: 20020311193728.DLVD25322.mailserver@[123.45.98.765]

**quit**

221 mailserver.domainname.com ESMTP server closing connection

**You've just sent an anonymous e-mail using open relay.**

**Some systems may require you to enclose e-mail addresses with < >**

If you get a message similar to the one below after typing RCPT TO: address:

**550 5.7.1 Unable to relay for receiver@abc.com**

The mail server does not allow open relay and won't forward spam all over the net.