Setting a Virtual Private Network (VPN)

June 15, 2010

What is a VPN?

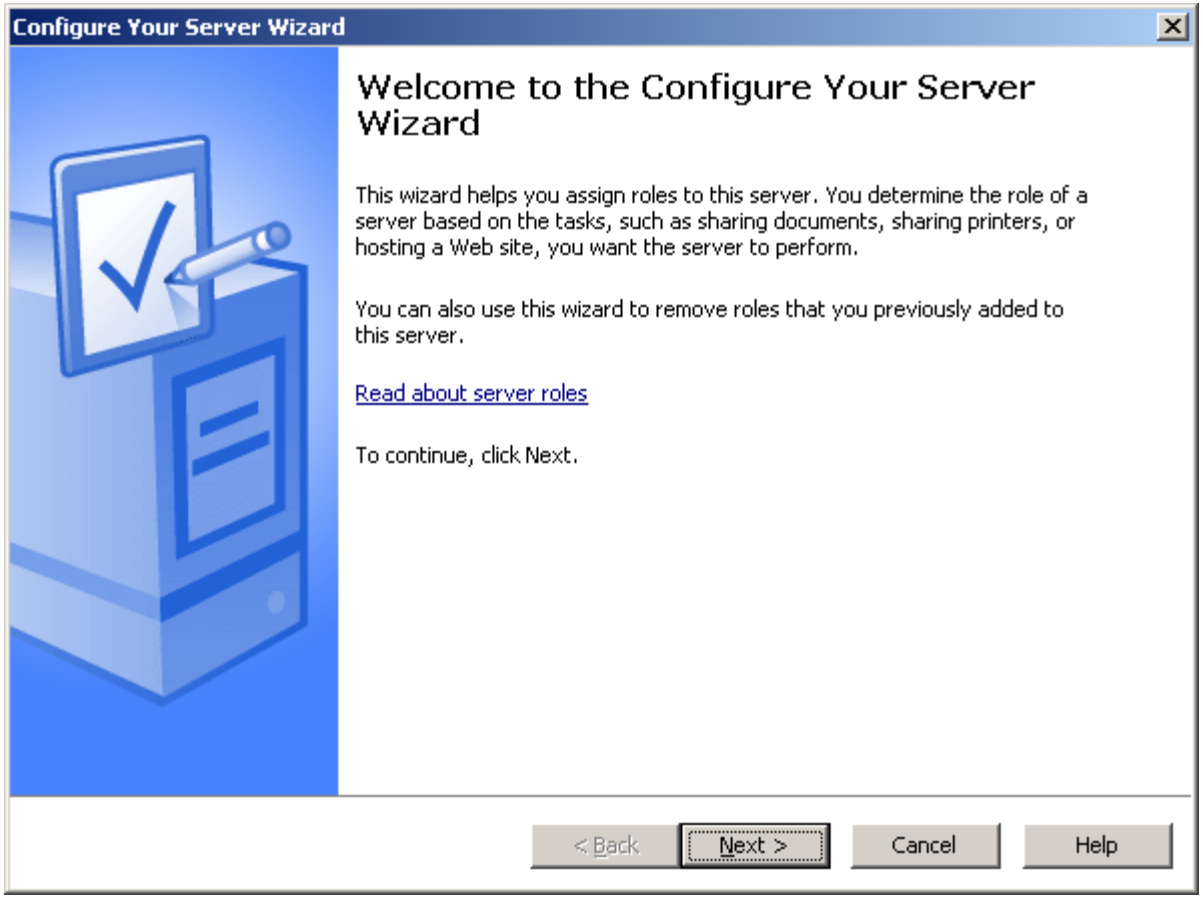
If we desire remote access to a server through an external connection such as joining our business network from our laptop at home, we will want to set up a VPN.

If we already setup the computer as a Domain Controller, the Routing and Remote Access Server role is already loaded.

The next few slides will show how to install the RRAS role for those who do not have it.

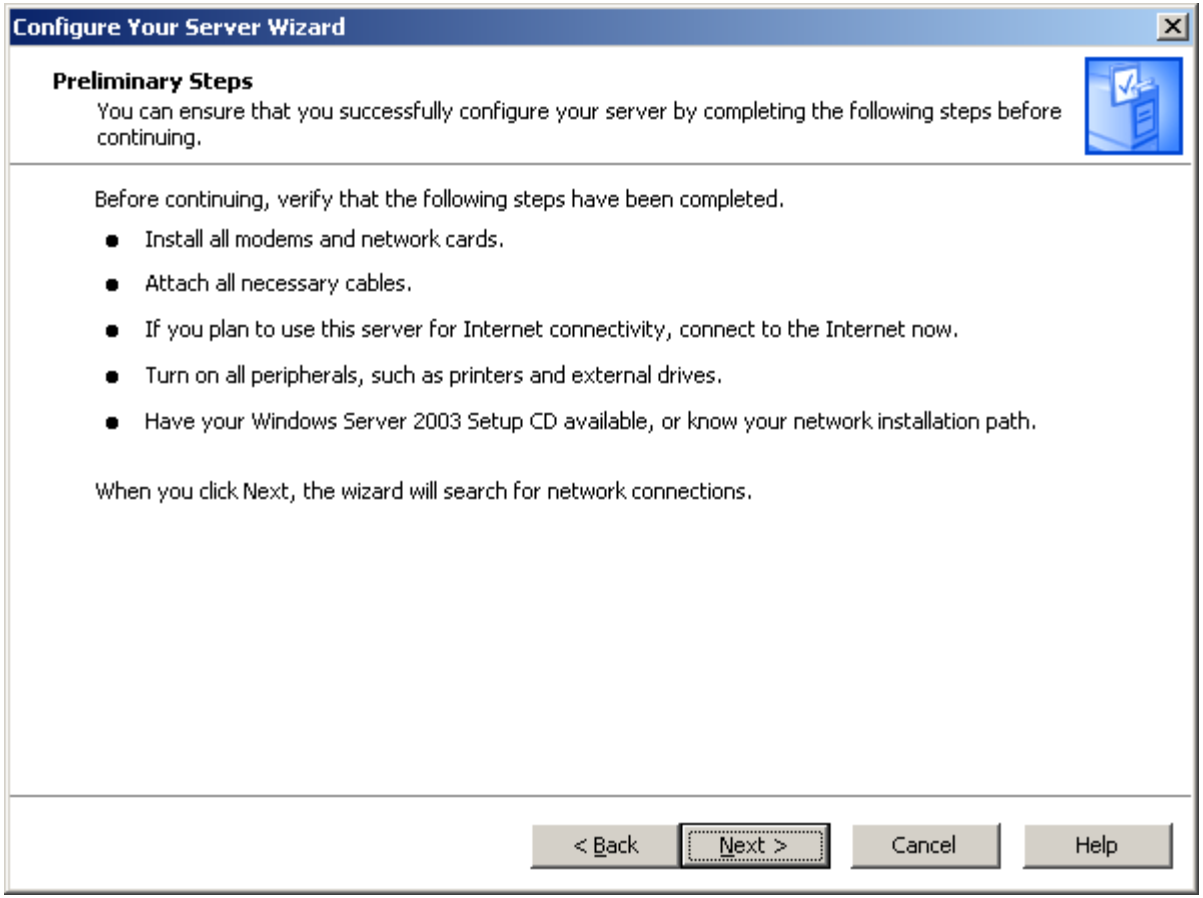
Configure the Server Wizard

Now to setup the RRAS server, we choose the Configure Your Server Wizard . The first window in the procedure will appear on the graphical display and we select the Next command button to continue.



Preliminary Steps

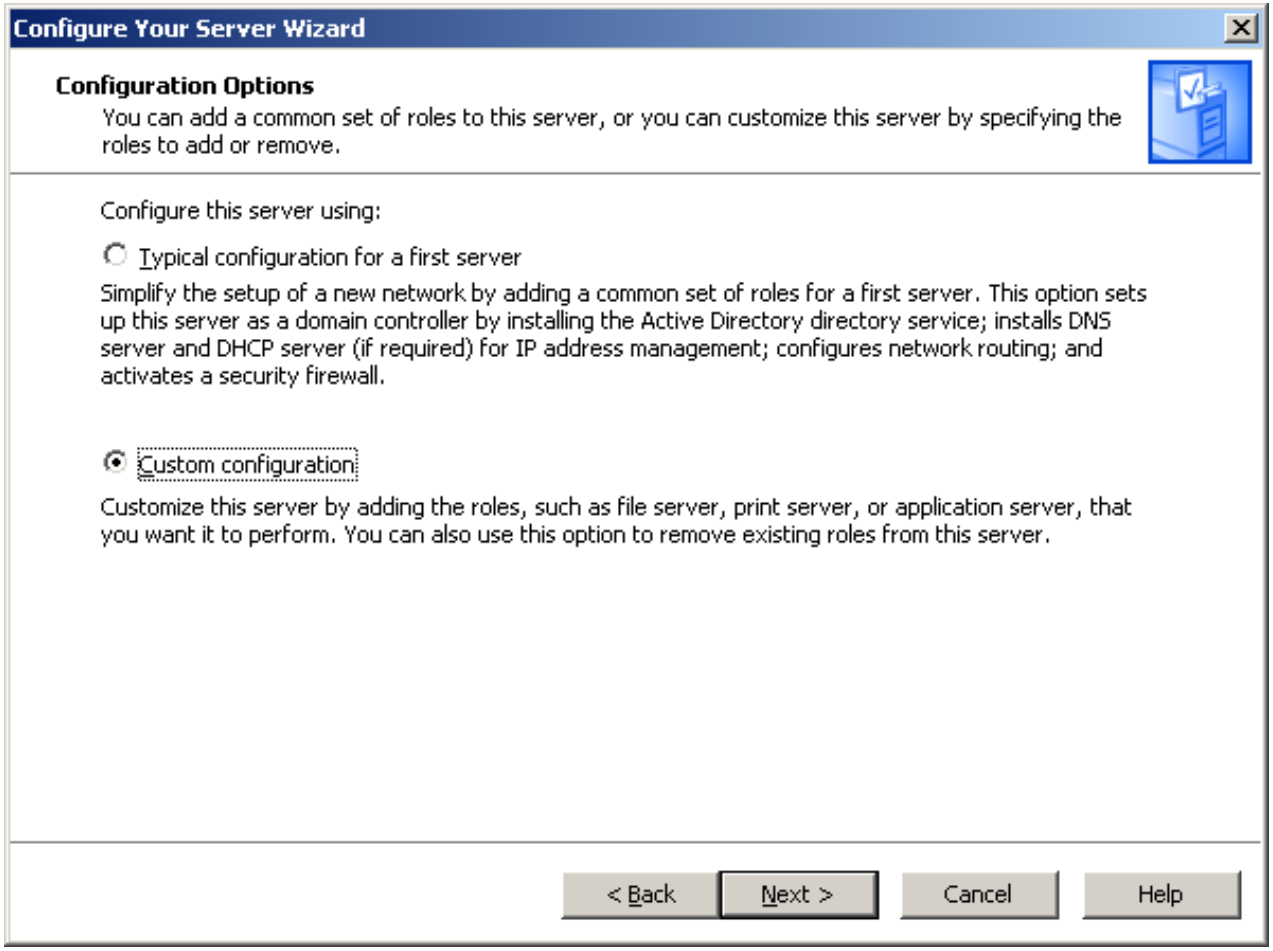
We are prompted to have the Windows Server CD available to load extra files and to have the necessary Network Interface Cards, cables and Internet connections to complete the task. When we are ready, we should press the Next command button.



Configure your Server Wizard

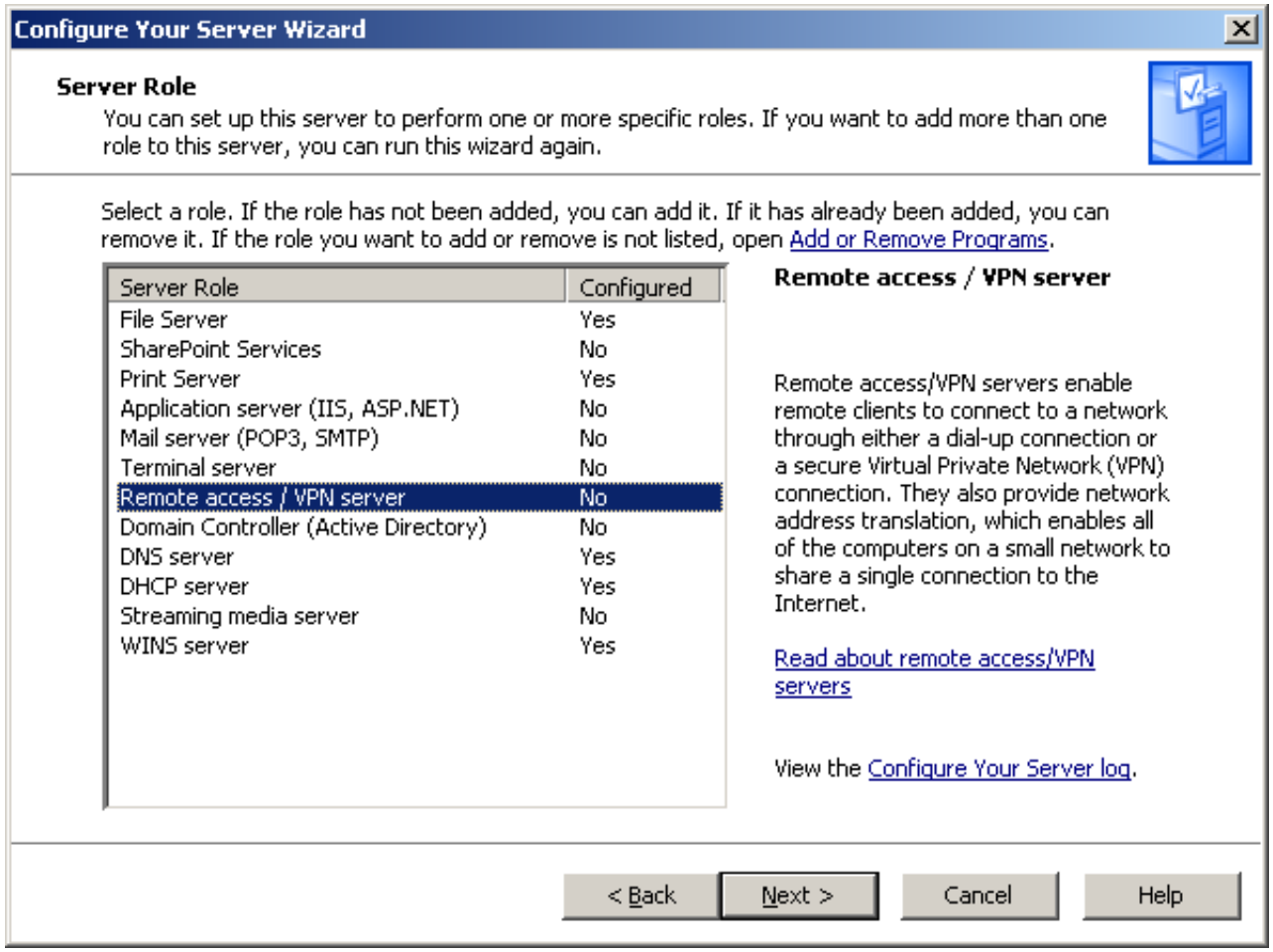
In most cases, we will choose a custom configuration. A typical configuration will have us install Active Directory (domain controller), DNS role, DHCP role and activate a security firewall.

We will opt for custom configuration and select the Next button.



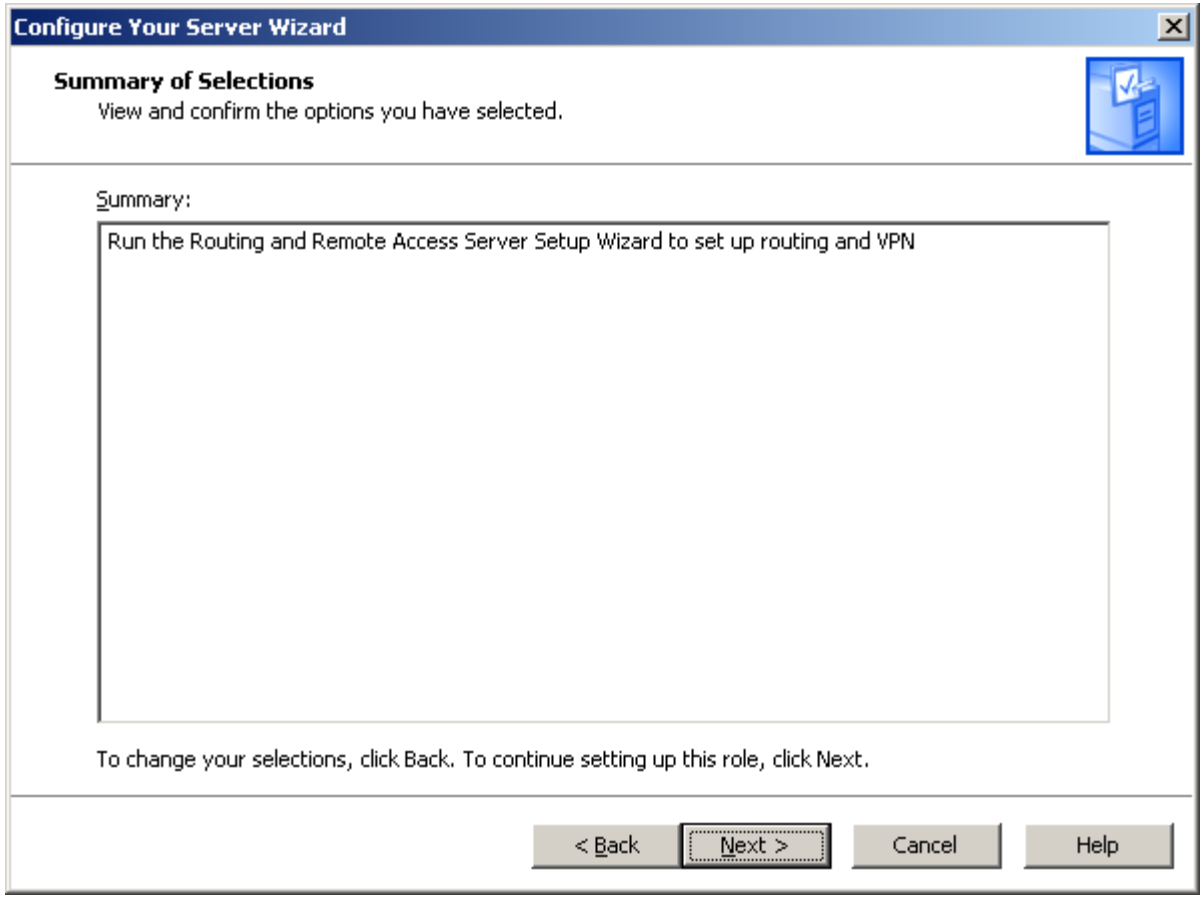
Select Remote Access Server

We will pick the Remote Access / VPN Server function and we then push the Next button.



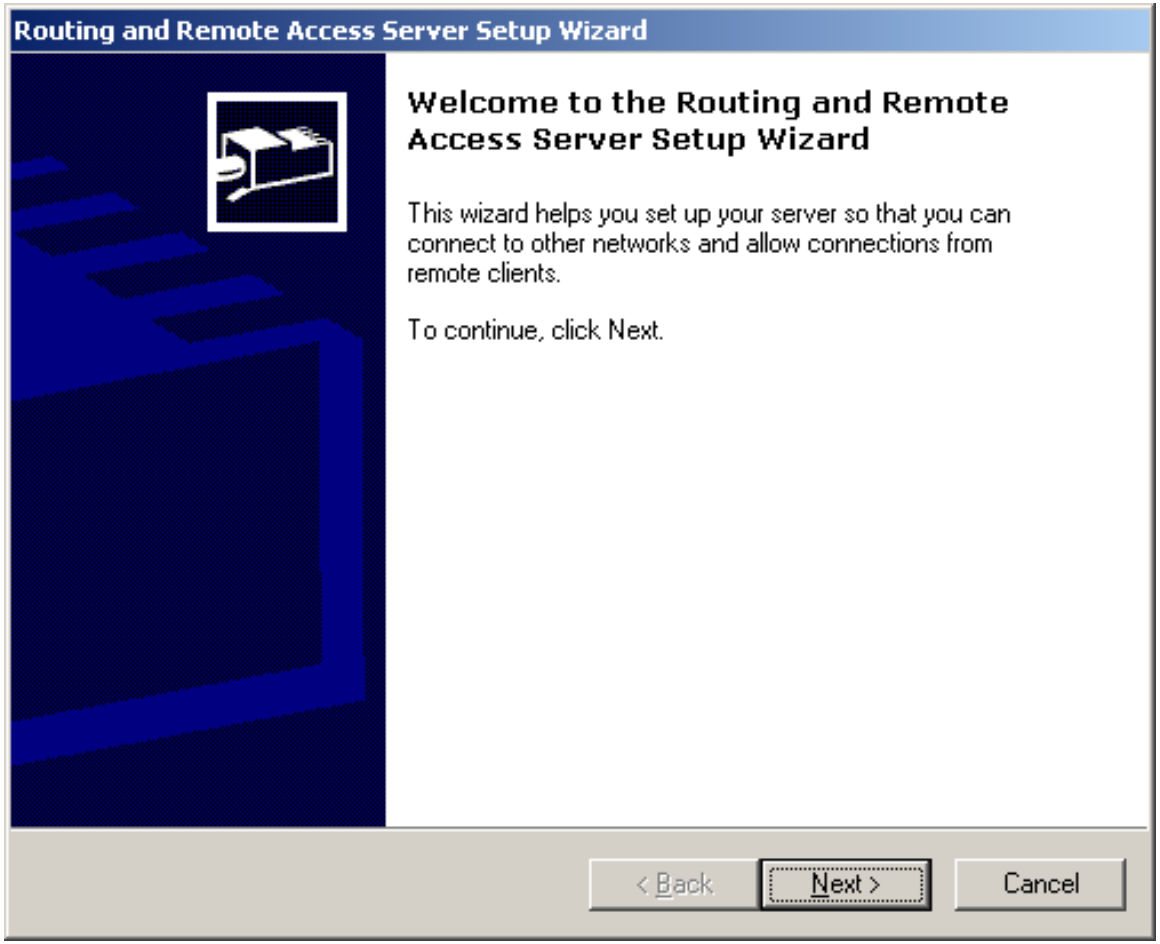
Install RRAS Server and New Scope

Next, a window shows the summary of selections. We go for the Next button to continue.



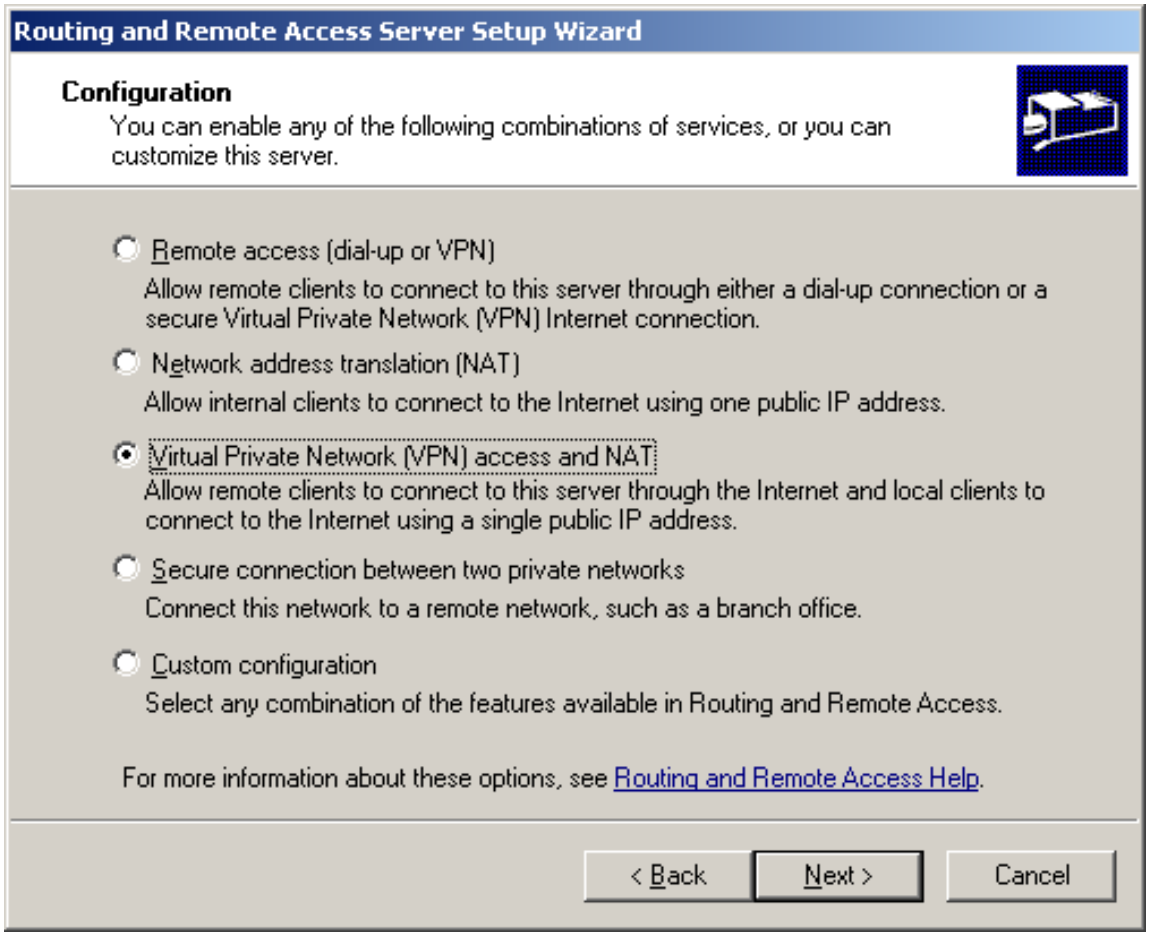
Routing and Remote Access Server Setup Wizard

We now are entering the Routing and Remote Access Server Setup Wizard . We press Next to continue.



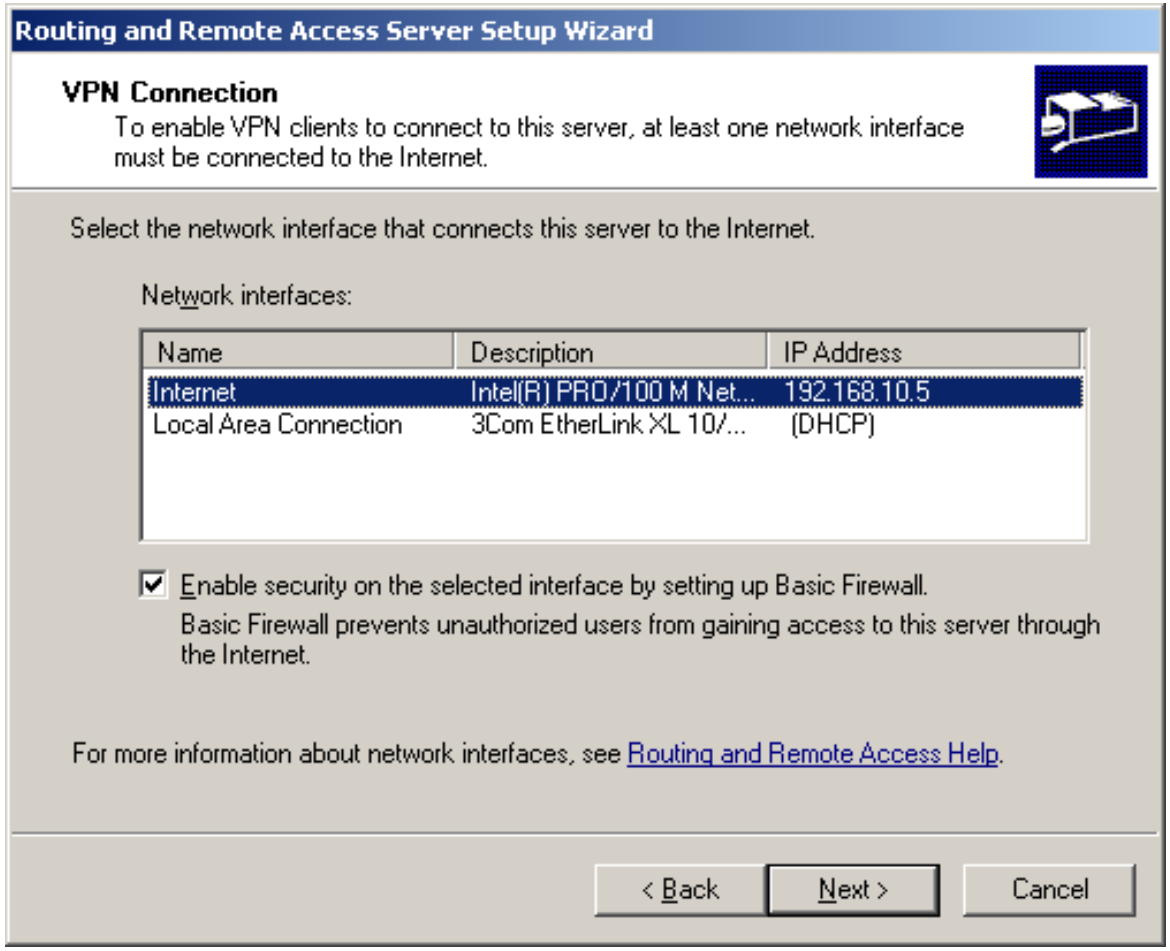
Configuration of RRAS

This window gives us five unique roles for the RRAS setup. The first is a dial-up or dedicated connection to the server. The next is Network Address Translation which opens the Internet to internal clients. The next is VPN and NAT, which is our choose. The fourth option is making a connection to a branch office and the last is custom configuration.



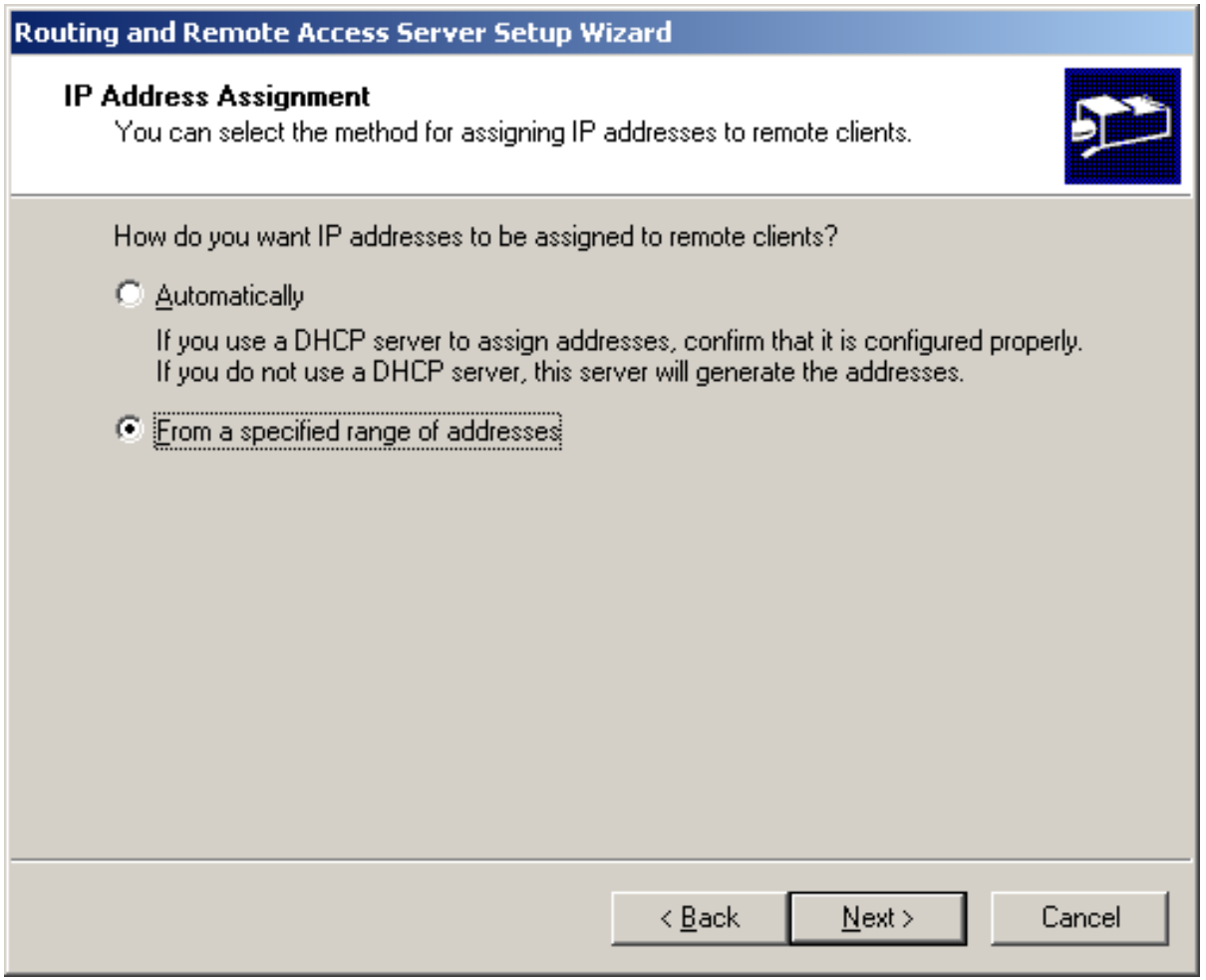
VPN Connection

We show what Local Area Connection connects to the Internet.



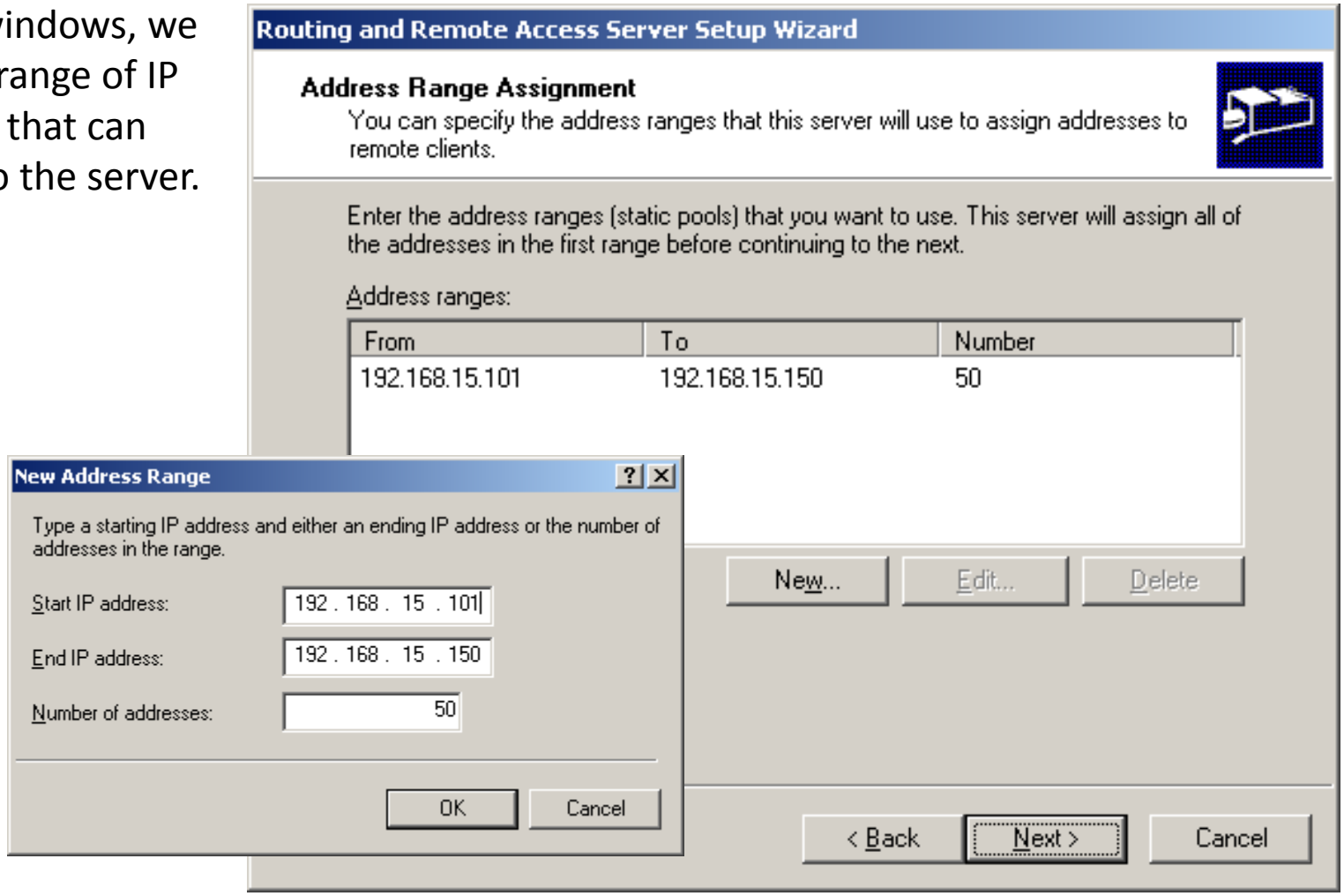
IP Address Assignment

We suggest that we use a specific range of IP addresses to connect to the DHCP server. Otherwise, we can automatically assign IP addresses to external clients from the full range available.



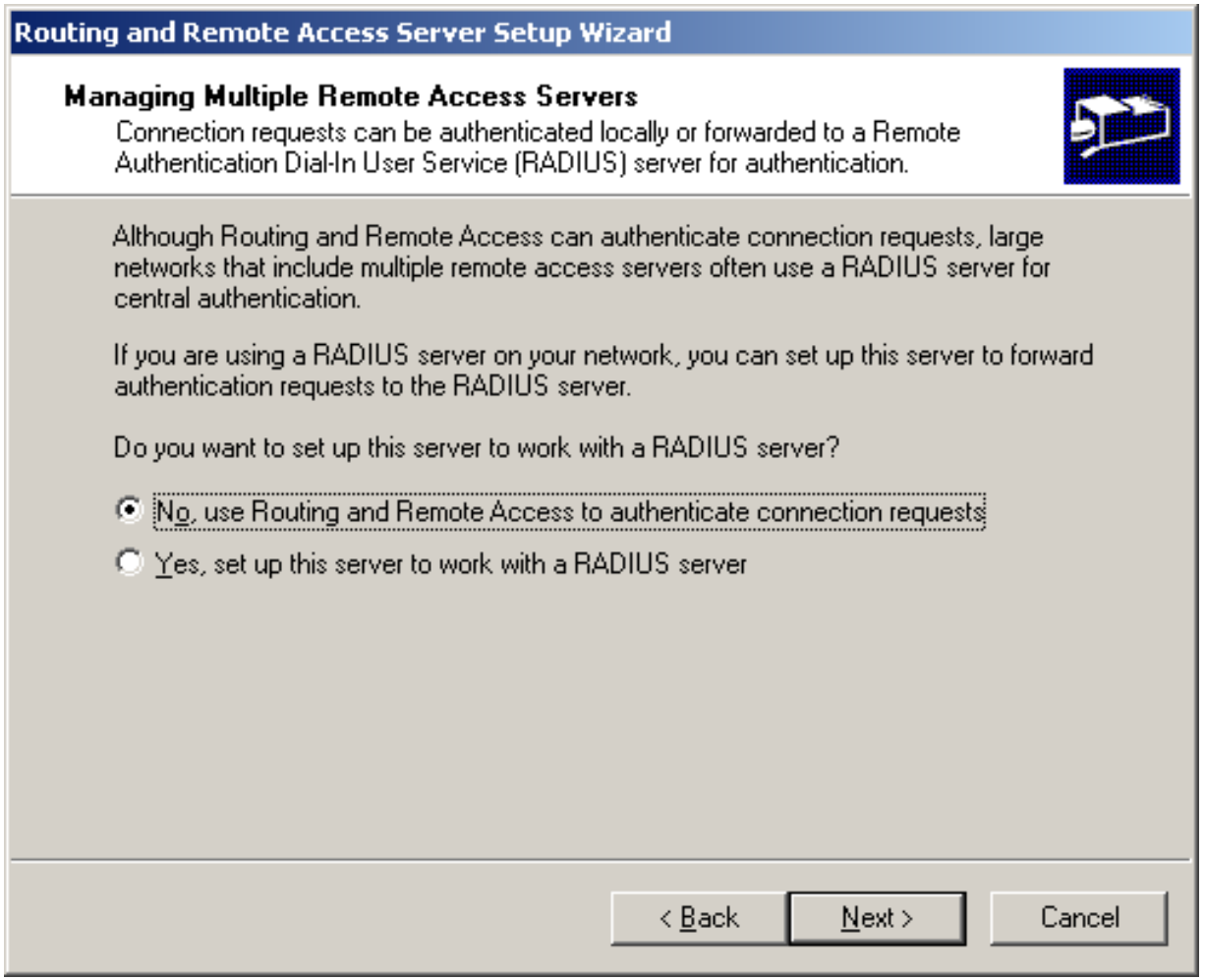
Address Range Assignment

In these windows, we show the range of IP addresses that can connect to the server.



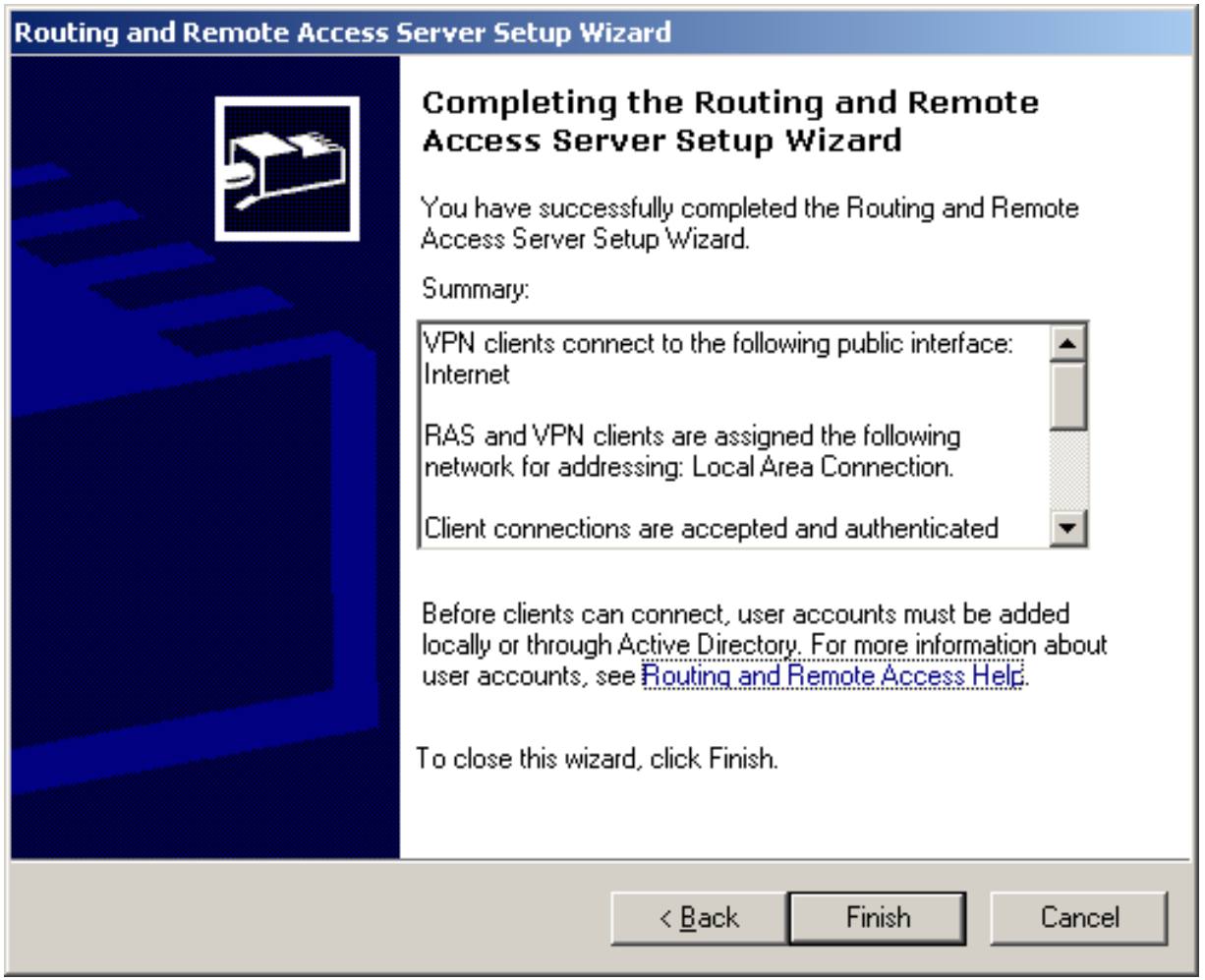
Authenticate Connection

We will authenticate when we logon to the RRAS server when we choose the no option.



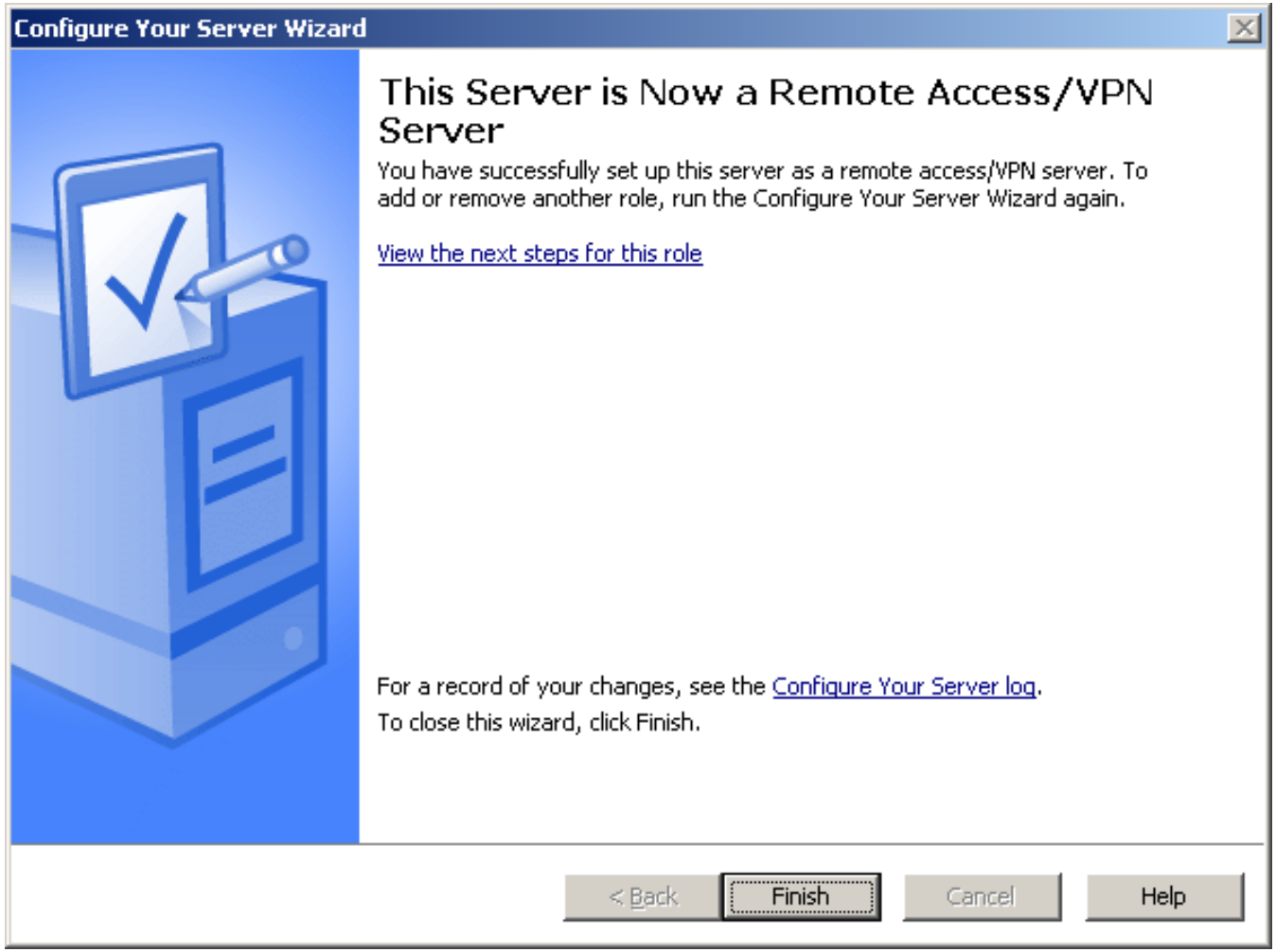
Completing the RRAS Setup Wizard

We are now finished with the Routing and Remote Access setup wizard. We should press the finish button and then setup the individual accounts for VPN connections.



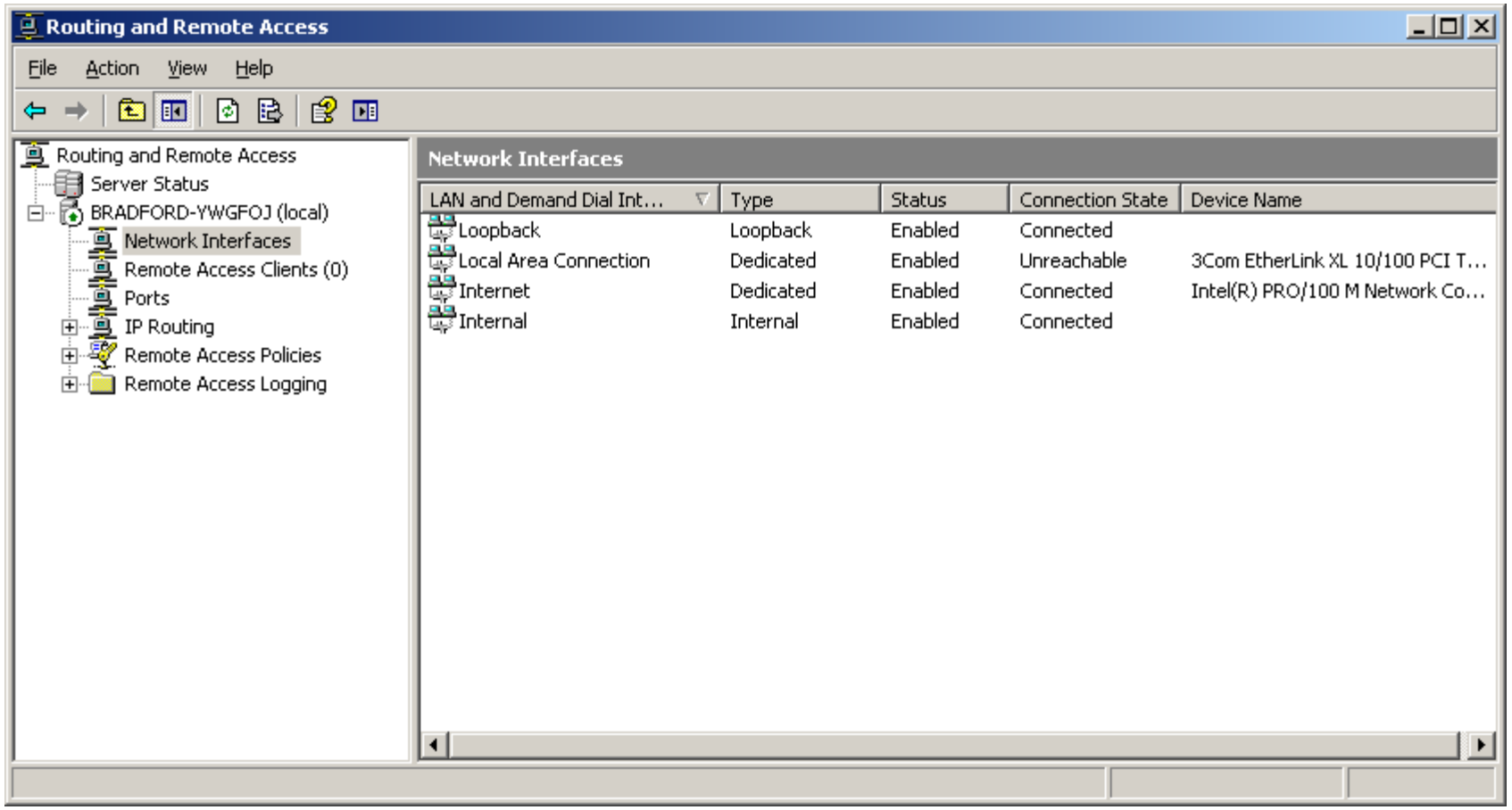
Remote Access / VPN Server

This server is now a VPN server.



RRAS Console

To open the RRAS console. We go to administrative tools and double click on Remote Access . Here, we can see the server remote connection operating,



User Configuration

In a user account, we choose the Dial-in tab and we opt for Allow Access and No Callback.