TROUBLESHOOTING SQL SERVER 2005 EXPRESS CONNECTION ISSUES

On the PC running SQL Server 2005 Express
In Windows 2000 and XP Select START, In Windows Vista click the Windows Start Logo
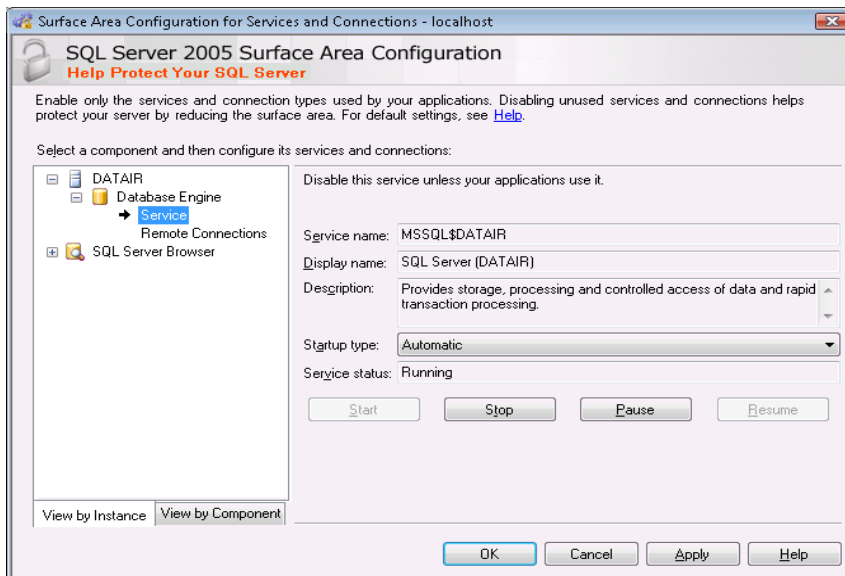Select ALL PROGRAMS
Select Microsoft SQL Server 2005
Select Configuration Tools
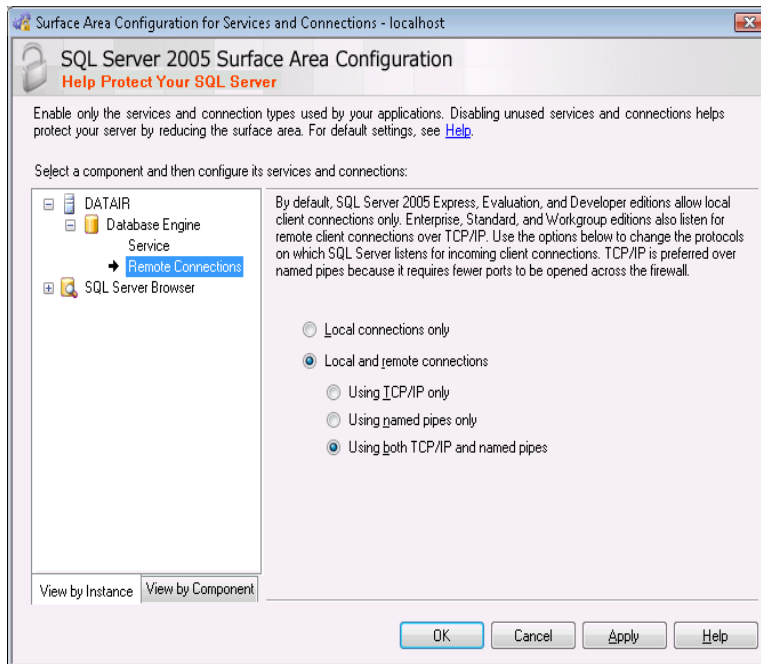Select SQL Server Surface Area Configuration

Select Surface Area Configuration for Services and Connections

Select DATAIR
Select Database Engine
Select Remote Connections

Make sure that that "Local and remote connections" is checked
Also make sure that "Using both TCP/IP and named pipes" is checked
Click OK to exit
Exit the SQL Server 2005 Surface Area Configuration screen by clicking the X in the in the upper right hand corner
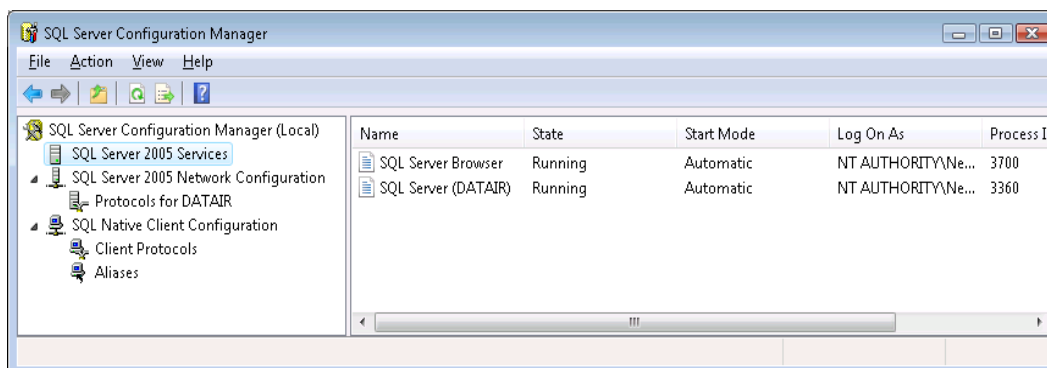

On the PC running SQL Server 2005 Express
In Windows 2000 and XP Select START, In Windows Vista click the Windows Start Logo
Select ALL PROGRAMS
Select Microsoft SQL Server 2005
Select Configuration Tools
Select SQL Server Configuration Manager
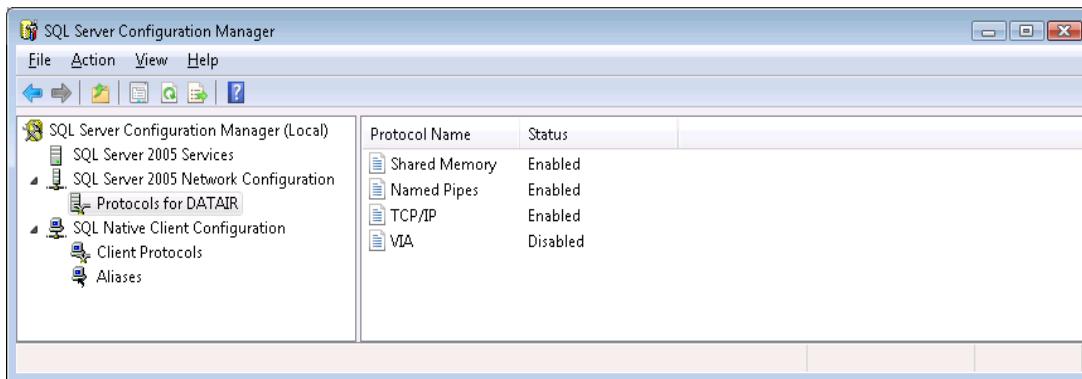

Select SQL Server 2005 Services
Ensure that the SQL Server Browser is "Running"
Also ensure that the SQL Server (DATAIR) is 'Running"
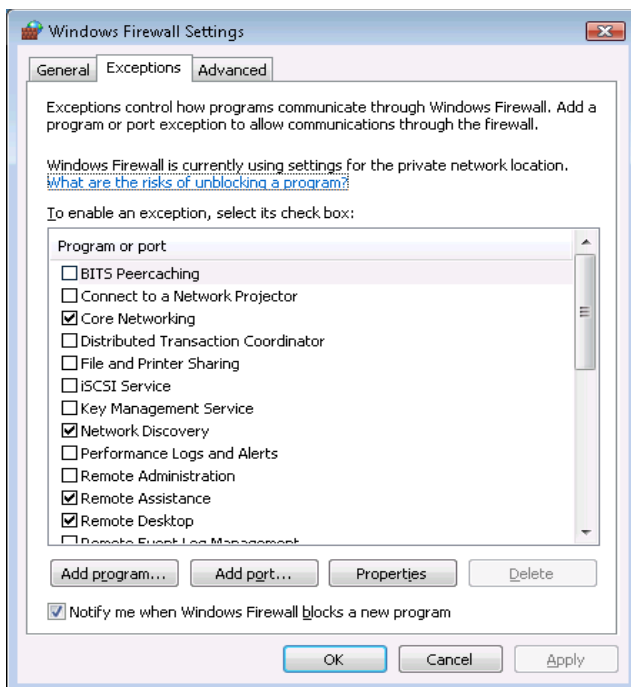(If either is not showing as "Running", then highlight the item and right click, select START)

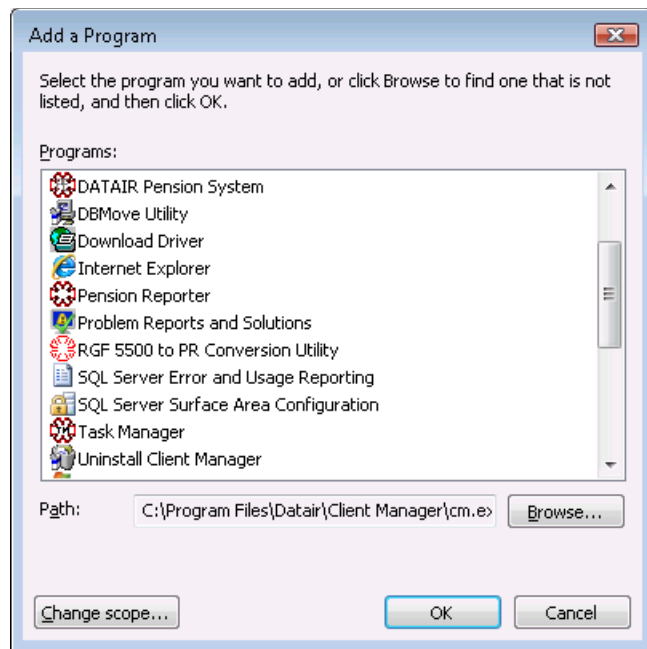Select SQL Server 2005 Network Configuration
Select Protocols for DATAIR

Ensure that "Named Pipes" and "TCP/IP" are listed as "Enabled"
(If they are not listed as "Enabled" then right click on the item and select "Enable")
Close the program by selecting the X in the upper right hand corner

You will need to set up an exception in your Firewall for SQL Server 2005
(These instructions assume that you are using the Windows Firewall, if you are using another Firewall
you will need to refer to that particular Firewall's instructions for setting up exceptions)
On the PC running SQL Server 2005 Express
In Windows 2000 and XP Select START, In Windows Vista click the Windows Start Logo
Select Control Panel
Select Windows Firewall or under Security select "Allow a program through Windows Firewall"
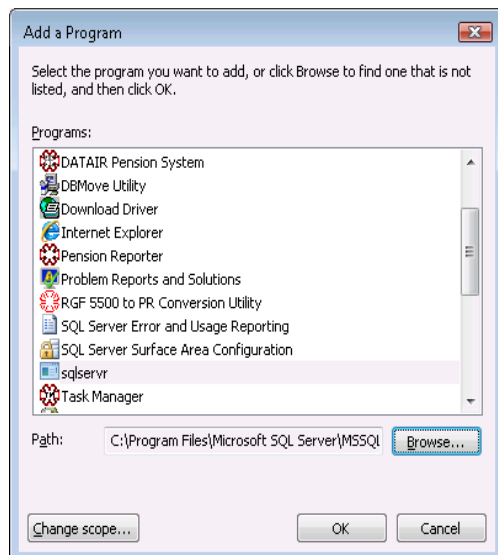

Select the Exceptions tab
Click the Add program tab

Click the Browse button
Navigate to the following folder:
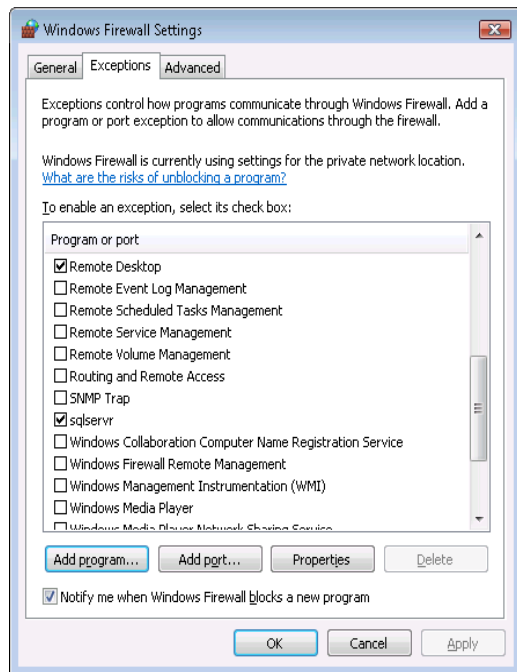C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL.1\MSSQL\Binn
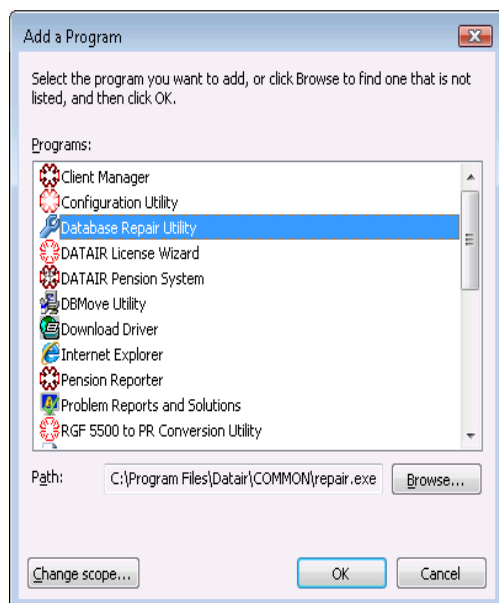Click on the sqlserver.exe file
Click the Open button

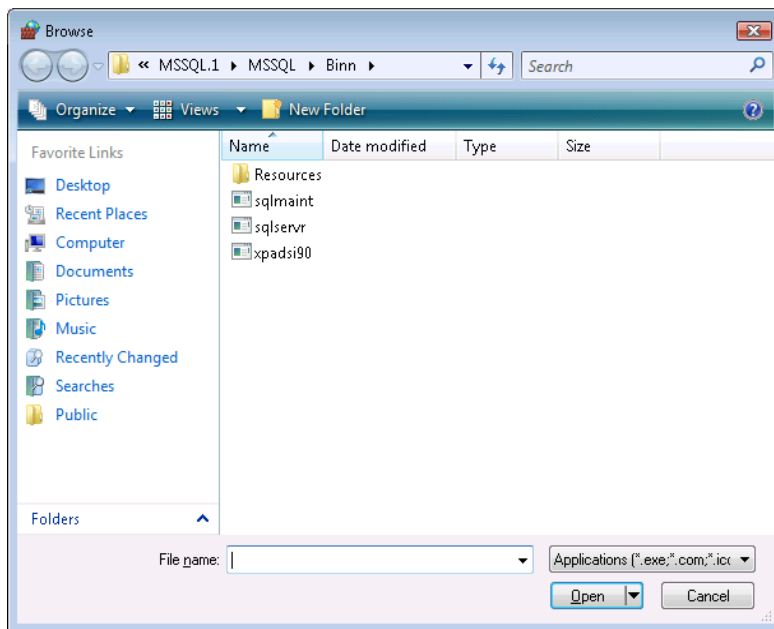
Click the OK button on the Add a Program window
This will take you back to the Windows Firewall Settings dialog

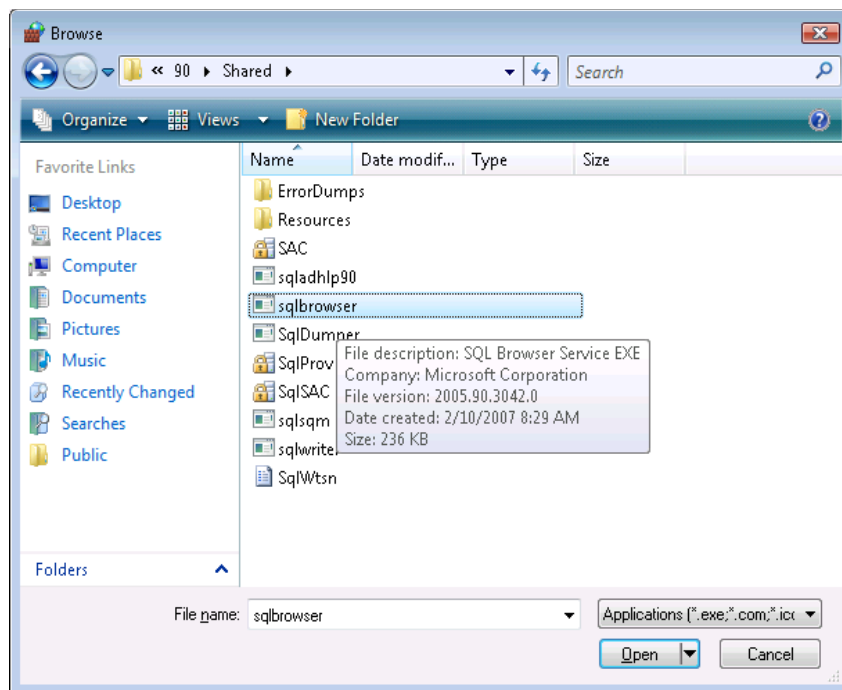Click the Add program button once again
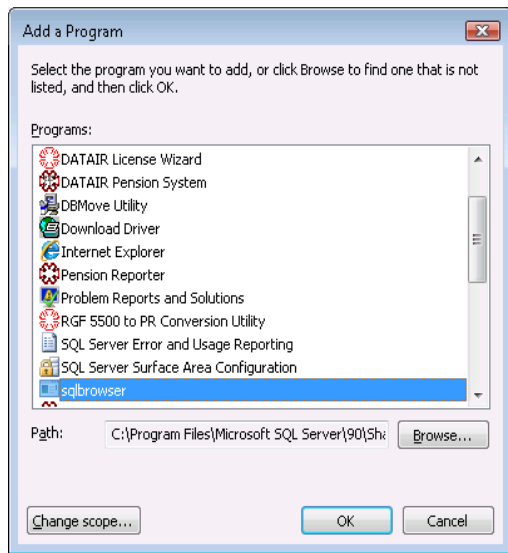

Click the Browse button

Select the following folder:

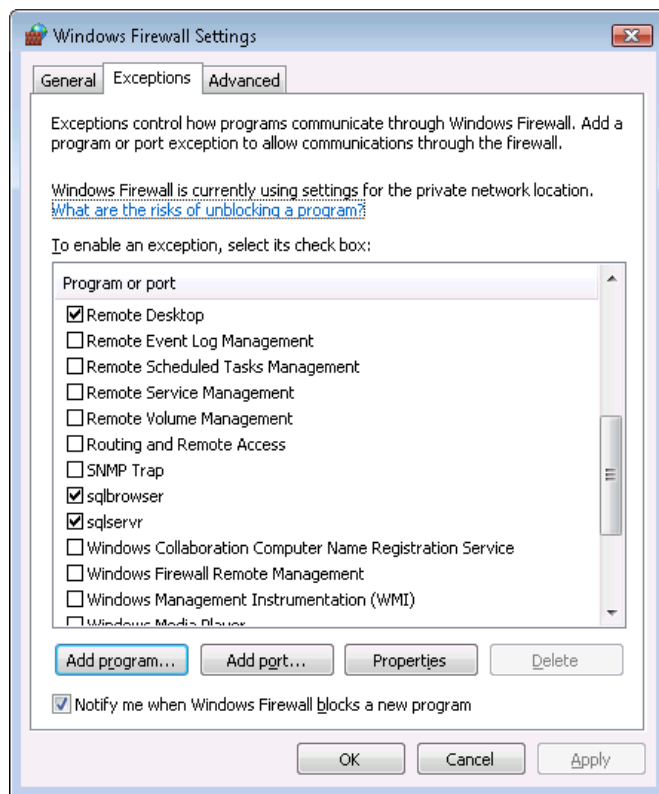C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\90\Shared

Click the file named sqlbrowser
Click the Open button

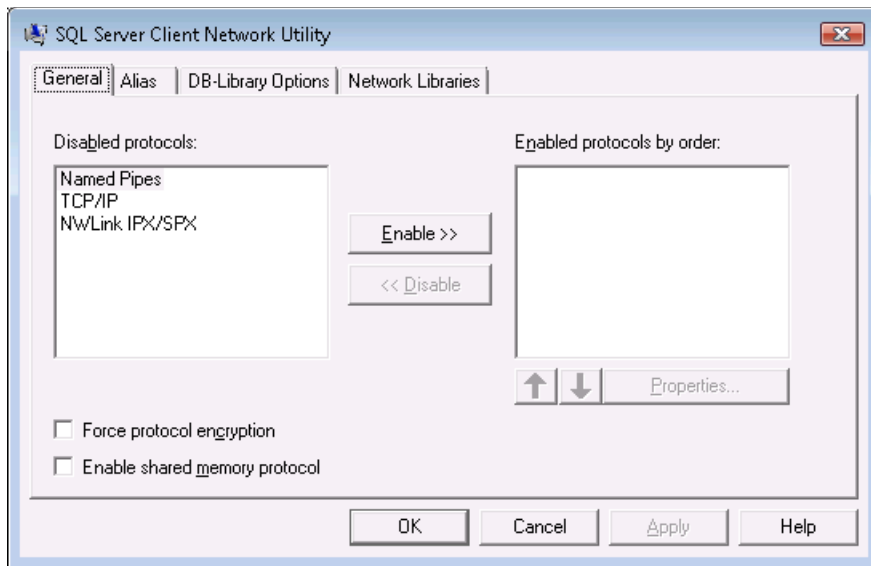Click the OK button on the Add a Program screen

Click the OK button to close the Windows Firewall Settings
Try to see if you can now connect to the SQL Server
If you are still having connection problems after making any changes, you will need to reboot the PC running the SQL Server 2005 software.

On a PC attempting to connect to the SQL Server
In Windows 2000 and XP Select START
RUN
In the RUN box type the following and click OK
CLICONFG

In Windows Vista click the Windows Start Logo
In the "Start Search" box type the following and hit Enter
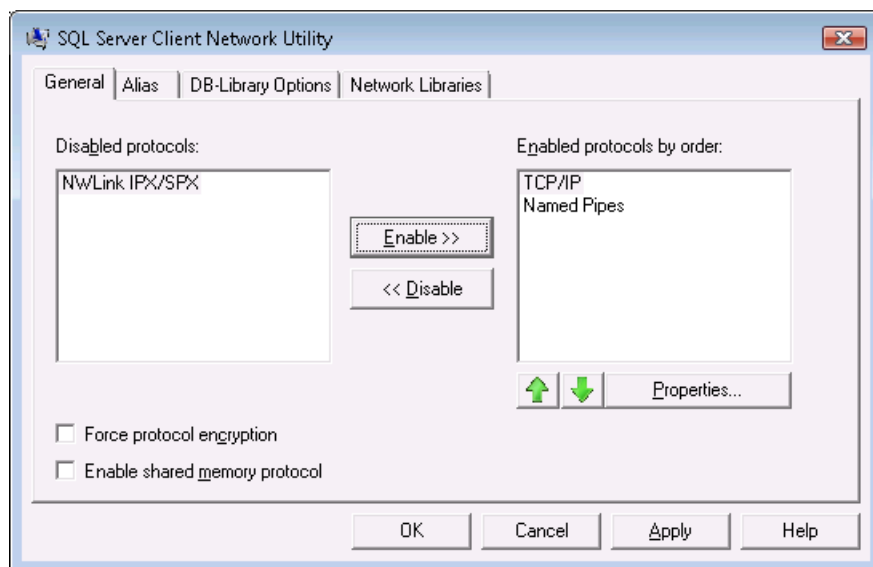CLICONFG

Select the General Tab
If the following protocols are disabled, enable them
TCP/IP
Named Pipes
You enable them by highlighting the protocol and clicking the Enable button

Click OK to close the utility after enabling the protocols