MS VPN from Ubunutu

This was shockingly difficult: simply get Ubuntu (11.04) to connect to a Microsoft VPN network. Googling would indicate that a lot of people have had this same issue...and usually, even when it starts working, no one seems to understand what they did to make it work.

Well, I don't understand why it's working for me now...simply that I went through about every conceivable variation of configuration and finally hit on one that works.

So here's what I'm doing....your mileage may vary.

Bring up VPN configuration from Ubuntu's networking icon and add a VPN client.



Call the connection whatever you like (Connection name)

Put in the appropriate gateway for your VPN network (Gateway)

put in the domain name, a slash and your user name in the Optional section, but DO NOT put in your password, as shown above.

Click advanced options



Click MSCHAP and MSCHAP2 in authentication, uncheck everything else.

Check and uncheck the other boxes in the advanced options as shown above.

Click ok/save as appropriate.

Now...this next bit is, as far as my own setup, the important bit....I had the stuff above a dozen times, off and on, but couldn't make the connection...until I made the change below.

Presumably, in setting this up, you've set up some kind of wins service on your ubuntu machine... ...only make sense. But, for some reason (and I sure don't know why) if the wins entry in the /etc/nsswitch.conf file isn't LAST, it won't work.

```
# /etc/nsswitch.conf
# Example configuration of GNU Name Service Switch functionality.
# If you have the `glibc-doc-reference' and `info' packages installed, try:
# `info libc "Name Service Switch"' for information about this file.
passwd:
                        compat
group:
                        compat
shadow:
                        compat
                         files mdns4_minimal [NOTFOUND=return] wins dns mdns4
#hosts:
networks:
                       files
protocols:
                       db files
services:
                       db files
ethers:
                        db files
                        db files
rpc:
netgroup:
                        nis
```

You can see how mine was, before....with the wins first in the hosts: line....that didn't work.

But the sequence above....dns, then mdns4, then wins and SHAZAAM, connects like magic.