How to configure Windows Time Server to use an external time source on a Windows 2003/2008:

To Windows Time Server to use an external time source on a Windows 2003/2008, please follow these steps:

1. Change the server type to NTP. To do this, follow these steps:
   a. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type **regedit**, and then click **OK**.
   b. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:
      ```
      HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\Parameters\Type
      ```
   c. In the right pane, right-click **Type**, and then click **Modify**.
   d. In **Edit Value**, type **NTP** in the **Value data** box, and then click **OK**.

2. Set **AnnounceFlags** to 5. To do this, follow these steps:
   a. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:
      ```
      HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\Config\AnnounceFlags
      ```
   b. In the right pane, right-click **AnnounceFlags**, and then click **Modify**.
   c. In **Edit DWORD Value**, type **5** in the **Value data** box, and then click **OK**.
3. Enable NTPServer. To do this, follow these steps:

   a. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:

      HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\TimeProviders\NtpServer

   b. In the right pane, right-click Enabled, and then click Modify.

   c. In Edit DWORD Value, type 1 in the Value data box, and then click OK.

4. Specify the time sources. To do this, follow these steps:

   a. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:

      HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\Parameters\NtpServer

   b. In the right pane, right-click NtpServer, and then click Modify.
c. In **Edit Value**, type *Peers* in the **Value data** box, for example `time.windows.com`, and then click **OK**.

Note: each DNS must be unique and you must append `0x1` to the end of each DNS name otherwise changes will not take effect.

5. Select the poll interval. To do this, follow these steps:

a. **Locate and then click the following registry subkey:**

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\TimeProviders\NtpClient\SpecialPollInterval
```

b. In the right pane, right-click **SpecialPollInterval**, and then click **Modify**.

c. In **Edit DWORD Value**, type `TimeInSeconds` in the **Value data** box, for example `3600` Decimal (60 minutes) and then click **OK**.
6. Configure the time correction settings. To do this, follow these steps:

a. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:

   HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\Config\MaxPosPhaseCorrection

b. In the right pane, right-click MaxPosPhaseCorrection, and then click Modify.

c. In Edit DWORD Value, click to select Decimal in the Base box.

d. In Edit DWORD Value, type TimeInSeconds in the Value data box, for example 3600 (1 hour) and then click OK.

e. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:

   HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\W32Time\Config\MaxNegPhaseCorrection

f. In the right pane, right-click MaxNegPhaseCorrection, and then click Modify.

g. In Edit DWORD Value, click to select Decimal in the Base box.

h. In Edit DWORD Value, type TimeInSeconds in the Value data box, for example, 3600 (1 hour) and then click OK.

7. Quit Registry Editor.

8. At the command prompt, type the following command to restart the Windows Time service, and then press ENTER:

   net stop w32time && net start w32time

Note: to test it, execute this command: net time /queriesntp