Command Line

How do I test SMTP Auth using telnet?

To test AUTH LOGIN

Prepare the username and password by encoding them as follows:

```
$ perl -MMIME::Base64 -e 'print encode_base64("user\@domain");'
dXNlckBkb21haW4=
```

```
$ perl -MMIME::Base64 -e 'print encode_base64("password");'
 cGFzc3dvcmQ=
```

Please make sure you use a '\' to escape the @ symbol in any username otherwise perl may interpret it.

Now connect to the mail server using telnet

```
telnet mailserver.com 25
```

Once the server has sent a greeting (220) reply as below replacing "example.com" with the hostname of your computer.

```
EHLO example.com
```

The server should then reply back and the AUTH line must include the text LOGIN (i.e. 250-AUTH PLAIN LOGIN).

You now need to tell the server you wish to authenticate with it so send the following.

```
AUTH LOGIN
```

The server should then reply with "334 VXNlcm5hbWU6" (which is "Username:" base64 encoded) and to this paste in the username prepared above for example.

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dXNlckBkb21haW4=

The server will again reply this time with "334 UGFzc3dvcmQ6" (which is "Password:" base64 encoded) and to this paste in the password prepared above for example.

cGFzc3dvcmQ=

If the username and password were both accepted you should then see

235 Authentication succeeded

If this is not the reply then you may have a problem with your email credentials.

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