How do I test Bounce Verification on the ESA?

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This document describes how to test Bounce Verification (BV) on the Email Security Appliance (ESA).

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AsyncOS defines bounces as mail with a null Mail From address (< >). In order to determine if BV is configured, you can send test messages with null Mail From address through the ESA. Bounce Verification sees the messages as 'untagged' bounces and processes them according to your configuration.

You can view test messages within the ESA mail logs or during a manual SMTP conversation:

- Connect to ESA using telnet

  telnet esa.example.com 25
  Trying 192.168.1.254...
  Connected to esa.example.com.
  Escape character is '^]'.
  220 esa.example.com ESMTP
  helo
  250 esa.example.com
  MAIL FROM command with null sender address

  mail from:
  250 sender <> ok
  rcpt to: testuers@example.com
  550 #5.1.0 Rejected by bounce verification.