



Archive: May 4, 2005

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Security and Internet Services

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IF YOUR DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS...

By June 30, 2005 new Payment Card Industry (PCI) security requirements for merchants (departments that accept credit cards) must be in place. The University Controllers Office & OIT Security are working with departments to ensure compliance with the new standard. See Credit Card - VISA CISP Program in the "Other" category at <http://www.umn.edu/oit/security/moreinfo.html>.

NEW AND IMPROVED SAFE COMPUTING PAGE

The Safe Computing web page now has information about the latest threats and alerts, such as the Sober virus and new Firefox releases: <http://safecomputing.umn.edu>.

ALSO NEW TO SAFE COMPUTING - AN RSS FEED

For those who use RSS, Safe Computing now offers a feed to make it easier for you to stay up-to-date. Just **paste the following URL** into your preferred RSS reader: http://safecomputing.umn.edu/newsfeed/umnsafecomp_rss.cfm. (More information about RSS at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSS>.)

SPAM AND VIRUS STATS

In April, 2005 Central e-mail spam controls blocked 10,631,046 messages. Anti-virus controls blocked an additional 57,620 messages.

Network and Telecommunication Services

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UNIFIED MESSAGING OVERVIEW

Unified messaging is coming to the University; it is the communication's media integrating voice messaging, fax, and e-mail supported on traditional wire phone, wireless, PC, or Voice over IP.

VOICE MAIL REPLACED BY UNIFIED MESSAGING

The U's voice mail system is no longer supported with the old software; this summer it will be completely replaced with Unified Messaging. The new system will offer the campus new features such as find-me, follow-me, text to speech, traditional voice mail, and e-mail integration. More news soon on the NTS website.

UPDATE: GOPHER GIGANET CUTOVER

Gopher GigaNet Cutover continues on the East Bank Campus: 39 buildings remain. April's interruption enabled the installation team to catch up with testing and hardware installation for the remaining buildings and gave them much needed time to complete audits and data entry, preparing buildings for faster removal from freeze status. Remaining off campus buildings will be upgraded in late June. See <http://www.umn.edu/nts/networkupgrade>.

GGN NETWORK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Eye of the Storm, the GGN (Gopher Giganet) network management system, has recently completed a major upgrade. After several weeks of testing, NTS is able to use these features for monitoring network traffic, testing new installed switches, and running various reports. For information about the vendor, see Entuity online at <http://www.entuity.com/>.

RATE INCREASE IN JULY

The budget office approved a 4% rate increase for NTS voice and data services for FY06 starting July 1, 2005. Long distance rates for national calling will drop from the current \$.07/minute rate to \$.05/minute. For new rate postings see <http://www.umn.edu/nts/rates/>.

FIBER AUDIT OVERVIEW

NTS is auditing all fiber network and fiber connections throughout the campus. These fiber cables serve the voice and the data network connecting the campus buildings. We are visiting all communications terminals and closets in buildings that have been cutover and tracking the jumpers in these locations, verifying with our data base to accurately track origination and destination of each fiber cable.

FIBER AUDITS TO LAST A DAY OR A WEEK

On average, a fiber audit for smaller buildings will take 4-8 hours to complete; larger buildings can take a week or more. Four fiber strands connect each Edge Node, and an additional 2-4 connect to the regional aggregator. Tracking every connection in the wiring database is an essential part of the network upgrade and the campus network services. NTS notification lists get e-mail about possible outages caused by this audit activity.

DISCONNECT WORK ORDERS TRIAL

On a TRIAL basis, NTS will be allowing multiple voice lines onto one work order for Disconnect work orders if meet these two conditions: the disconnects are in the same building and are billed on the same CUFS account. Work order charges (TSRCH) will apply to all voice line disconnects but not the data disconnect work orders.

SOFTWARE ONLY WORK ORDERS, TOO

Software only work orders can also be done on one work order if they are all billed to the same CUFS account. The Software Order Charges (SOFT) per voice line will not change.

Academic and Distributed Computing Services

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DOWNLOAD TIGER, APPLE'S OS X 10.4

Qualified University of Minnesota users who don't use VPN or Virtual PC (see below) can download Tiger, Apple's latest operating system, OS X 10.4, from: <https://download.software.umn.edu/>. You'll need a fast Internet connection and the ability to download a DVD disk image that is well over 2GBytes.

VIRTUAL PC 7 AND TIGER ARE INCOMPATIBLE

Microsoft's Virtual PC 7 (VPC) will not run properly under Apple's new OS X 10.4. Within the next 2-3 months Microsoft reportedly plans to offer a free update that will enable VPC compatibility with the Apple OS.

VPN AND TIGER ARE INCOMPATIBLE

Our current Cisco VPN client software will not work with Apple's new OS X 10.4. Sometime in May, Cisco plans to release a Tiger-compatible version of the VPN. Until then, Cisco is advising its users to delay upgrading to OS X 10.4.

HEAVY E-MAIL SERVER LOADS

Recently the central e-mail servers reached peak load levels. This creates a problem for everyone. The peak was reached because approximately 500 users overused this shared system by checking for new e-mail too frequently and/or overloading their e-mail inboxes. To see if you are a potential problem user and/or to learn about best practices see <http://www.umn.edu/adcs/news/2005/04/highemailusage.html>.

EUDORA SECURITY HOLE AND WINDOWS USERS

Qualcomm says this recent security hole has been patched with Eudora 6.2.1 and 6.2.1.2 and recommends users upgrade. Overview: a security hole allowed a hacker to execute code on Windows using the Eudora users system privileges. This vulnerability reportedly affects versions 6.0 and prior and has been re-introduced in version 6.1 and affects 6.2.0. See <http://eudora.com>. Also see <http://secunia.com/advisories/9729/> and <http://msn.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,119555,00.asp>.

NEW WEBCT VISTA ASSISTED LAB AND OTHER SUMMER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Faculty and course designers now have the opportunity to work on their WebCT Vista sites in a group lab setting. Support staff will be available to answer specific questions and provide training materials for self-directed learning on assessments, the gradebook, or learning modules. This new course, along with our full Summer 2005 course schedule, will be available online soon at <http://uttc.umn.edu>.

NEW UTTC COURSE RESOURCE PAGES

UTTC course resource pages are chock full of information and links to resources our instructors have found useful. The new UMCal and Portfolio pages include materials from our orientation and hands-on classes, for those who prefer self-directed learning. The new Breeze page has a quick link to the online tutorial available from Macromedia. To take advantage of these and other resources, check out <http://uttc.umn.edu/training/courses.jsp>.

NEW SCHEDULING FOR GETWIRED TRAINING PROGRAM

In response to student suggestions, we are changing these free courses for CLA undergrads to better fit student schedules. Just one example is the Photoshop CS course, which has become two shorter courses - Photo Retouching and Web Graphics -each with a unique focus and much shorter in length. The newly updated GetWired website will be up and running shortly at <http://uttc.umn.edu/training/GetWired/>

Digital Media Center

[DMC home](#)

MAY 1-JULY 31: TECH TALK SEASON 3 AIRS AGAIN

The most recent season of the University TV show about the digital technology we encounter in our daily lives will be rebroadcast Sundays at 9 p.m on TC Public TV channel 17 beginning May 1. Details at <http://techtalk.umn.edu/schedule/>.

MAY 19 MEETING: EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGISTS FORUM

Learn about Croquet, a virtual learning environment being developed at the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin, and participate in break-out sessions about participant-chosen topics: MAY 19, 3-4:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. See <http://dmc.umn.edu/etf/schedule04.shtml#5>.

RESULTS: STUDENT TECHNOLOGY SURVEY

In February 2004 staff members from the DMC, OIT, and seven colleges surveyed Twin Cities campus students to determine the impact educational technology is having on campus. Read a report about the results: <http://dmc.umn.edu/surveys/students/ssreport04.pdf>.

AWARDED: 2005 TEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

The investigators of eleven technology-enhanced learning (TEL) projects have been awarded 2005 TEL Grants. See their project proposals: <http://dmc.umn.edu/grants/2005/awards05.shtml>.

SELECTED: 2005-06 DMC FACULTY FELLOWS

Five instructors have received fellowships to research the impact of digital technology on teaching and learning and to design and share new and innovative teaching and learning processes during the next academic year. See <http://dmc.umn.edu/fellowship/2005/fellows05.shtml>.

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