

Virginia Commonwealth University Technology Services

Security Standard for Remote Access

Effective Date: July 2007
Compliance Date: August 2007
Revision Date: August 2008

Revisions:

Version	Date	Revision Issuance
1	July 2007	Initial draft
2	January 2008	Modifications

Scope:

This standard is applicable to all remote access to resources on the University network.

Applied Industry Best Practices of:

- SANS Software Security Institute
- Center for Internet Security Consensus Security Benchmarks
- National Institute of Standards Technology (NIST)

Requirements of the Standard

S1.0 – Encryption of remote access to University resources

S1.1 – In order to ensure the secure transmission of confidential data between a remote location and a resource on the University network, all remote access to servers or applications that contain confidential data must be encrypted using Virtual Private Network (VPN) or similar security technology. This requirement includes access to all servers and networked equipment and devices on the University network.

Implementation Guidelines

- **Encryption for Remote Access**

- SSL-VPN - University has provided a SSL-VPN (webVPN) client that can be used by all University faculty and staff for remote access to University resources. SSL-VPN (webVPN) is the preferred method for remote access and is accessed through an Internet browser. The SSL-VPN requires authentication using the eID username and password credentials. Information and instructions on using the University's VPN solution is available on the VCU security website.
- IPSec-VPN – The University has also provided an IPSec-VPN client which requires the download and installation of client software. The IPSec-VPN client is not intended for general use and functions as a backup solution.

Enforcement

Violation of this standard could result in the disciplinary actions and/or removal of access privileges.

Exceptions

Requests for exceptions to the requirements of this standard should be made to the VCU Chief Information Officer. Please use the Security Standard Request for Exception form that is located on the VCU security website and send the completed form (by hard copy or email) to the VCU Chief Information Officer.

Review Frequency: Annually or as needed

Authority: VCU Chief Information Officer
VCU Information Security Officer

In Compliance with: VCU Academic Policy: Security of Electronic Confidential Information
VCU Academic Policy: Information Security Policy
COV ITRM Information Technology Security Standard SEC501-01
VCU Computer and Network Resources Use Policy