



ITACS

Information Technology and Communications Services

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

Technology News

January 2007

WIRELESS AND VPN

In an effort to provide a more secure network, the Network Operations Center is working with Bradford Networks to deploy their network access control (NAC) appliance which will scan for current anti-virus software, virus definitions, and critical updates for machines that remotely access the network. There will be no change in the wireless or VPN configurations; however, users will be asked to download and run a scanning agent when they access the network. If the criteria are met, the scanning agent is deleted from the machine and access to the network will be provided. If the criteria are not met, the user is directed to the web to do updates before being allowed on the network via wireless or VPN. For more information on the Bradford Network Access Control appliance, see <http://www.bradfordnetworks.com/>.

NETWARCOM VISIT

The NETWARCOM Enhanced Security Compliance Team is scheduled to visit the Naval Postgraduate School from February 5-19, 2007, to assess the security posture of the School's networks, including architecture, policies, procedures, documentation, engineering, configurations and management elements. A completed questionnaire was submitted to the team prior to their visit, and Tayegta, a cyber-security firm, was hired to validate the responses. Preparations for this visit have taken priority during the past month.

NAVY MARINE CORPS INTRANET (NMCI)

On January 29, 2007, a nine-person team from NMCI visited NPS to tour the facilities and to discuss the logistics for the installation of the 51 NAVFAC seats scheduled to be placed at NPS within the year.

WIRELESS RECAP

The wireless implementation project on the campus, which will be completed in two phases, incorporates outdoor antennae and access points provided by Mesh Dynamics. The modular solution will deploy slide-out/plug-in points that provide nearly 100% coverage on the campus. On January 29, 2007, the wiring of all of the access points was completed, and on February 15, 2007, the wireless system will have a firmware patch applied in order to become FIPS 140-2 compliant. The system will be live and available by the end of February. Bradford Networks will provide the network access control (NAC) appliance, which will monitor aspects of security. A three-tiered access system will be established, including regular users, conference groups and one-day guests. Testing in both directions and mapping of the entire campus for signal strength will be complete by the end of February. Once the maps have been generated by Mesh Dynamics, a copy will be posted on the campus website. The Naval Postgraduate School has agreed to do a case study on the project for Mesh Dynamics.

CENIC UPDATE

As part of the CENIC high-speed production network, the Digital California (DC) network procurement, which will increase the backbone speed from 2.5 Gigabits to 10 Gigabits per second and shift from SONET to Ethernet topology, is underway. Campus connections are not being upgraded as part of the project; however, installation support and training on new equipment and software are included in the contract.

The county EDNet fiber will be tested on leased equipment and certified by the end of February through the NPS-installed coarse wave division multiplexing equipment. This will confirm the



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capability of the multiplexed county fiber ring to support redundant connections to the CENIC DC and high-performance research (HPR) networks and identify if a signal regeneration point is required on the ring's northern segment.

The same test equipment will be used to establish MP DoD-Net fiber performance data to support planning and implementation of additional network services for the local DoD community.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS GROUP (BSG) RECAP

The efforts of BSG have been directed at completing the migration of applications and databases to the ERN and preparing for the NETWARCOM visit. Applications migrated include Python, Remedy, the Software Download application, Student Muster, LANDesk, and both the ITACS and the Research Office SharePoint sites. For a complete list of applications and servers moved or being moved, see:

<http://itacssp/ern/Lists/BSG%20Application%20Migration/Application%20Migration%20Status.aspx>

REPORT FROM THE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTER (TAC)

From January 1 through January 29, 2007, the Technology Assistance Center (TAC) received a total of 2,376 requests for assistance, 1,840 of which were resolved by the Tier 1/Tier 2 areas. 536 of the remaining calls were answered by other ITACS departments/groups.

PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

NPS hosted an IT team from DLI on January 3rd to see the NPS web capabilities. **Mr. Todd Wyatt**, Webmaster, presented to the group.

Dr. Dan Boger and Dr. Christine Cermak met with the Chairs of GSEAS to provide an update on the status of the Administrative Affairs Implementation Task Force report.

Mr. Doug Nelson, Manager of the Distributed Innovation and Learning Lab of OCL, demonstrated to the IT Task Force some of the solutions currently being evaluated to support faculty instruction.

On January 11th, **Dr. Leonard Ferrari**, the Deans, **Dr. Christine Cermak** and other campus leaders met with CSUMB Provost **Dr. Catheryn Cruz-Uribe**, President **Dr. Dianne Harrison**, and VP for External Relations **Mr. Chris Hasegawa**, to discuss possible opportunities for cooperative initiatives.

Dr. Leonard Ferrari, **Dr. Dan Boger**, **Dr. Julie Filizetti** and **Dr. Christine Cermak** met on January 12th with County supervisor **Mr. Lew Bauman** and County CIO **Mr. Virgil Schwab** to discuss regional collaboration regarding homeland security initiatives.

On January 23rd, **Dr. Christine Cermak** met with ECE faculty to update them on issues related to NMCI, the status of the ERN transition, and the upcoming NETWARCOM visit.