**Remote Access Policy**

# Overview

Remote access to our corporate network is essential to maintain our Team’s productivity, but in many cases this remote access originates from networks that may already be compromised or are at a significantly lower security posture than our corporate network. While these remote networks are beyond the control of [Company Name], we must mitigate these external risks the best of our ability.

# Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define rules and requirements for connecting to [Company Name]'s network from any host. These rules and requirements are designed to minimize the potential exposure to [Company Name] from damages which may result from unauthorized use of [Company Name] resources. Damages include the loss of sensitive or company confidential data, intellectual property, damage to public image, damage to critical [Company Name] internal systems, and fines or other financial liabilities incurred as a result of those losses.

# Scope

This policy applies to all [Company Name] employees, contractors, vendors and agents with a [Company Name]-owned or personally-owned computer or workstation used to connect to the [Company Name] network. This policy applies to remote access connections used to do work on behalf of [Company Name], including reading or sending email and viewing intranet web resources. This policy covers any and all technical implementations of remote access used to connect to [Company Name] networks.

# Policy

It is the responsibility of [Company Name] employees, contractors, vendors and agents with remote access privileges to [Company Name]'s corporate network to ensure that their remote access connection is given the same consideration as the user's on-site connection to [Company Name].

General access to the Internet for recreational use through the [Company Name] network is strictly limited to [Company Name] employees, contractors, vendors and agents (hereafter referred to as “Authorized Users”). When accessing the [Company Name] network from a personal computer, Authorized Users are responsible for preventing access to any [Company Name] computer resources or data by non-Authorized Users. Performance of illegal activities through the [Company Name] network by any user (Authorized or otherwise) is prohibited. The Authorized User bears responsibility for and consequences of misuse of the Authorized User’s access. For further information and definitions, see the Acceptable Use Policy.

Authorized Users will not use [Company Name] networks to access the Internet for outside business interests.

For additional information regarding [Company Name]'s remote access connection options, including how to obtain a remote access login, free anti-virus software, troubleshooting, etc., go to the Remote Access Services website (company url).

* 1. Requirements
     1. Secure remote access must be strictly controlled with encryption (i.e., Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)) and strong pass-phrases. For further information see the *Acceptable Encryption Policy* and the *Password Policy*.
     2. Authorized Users shall protect their login and password, even from family members.
     3. While using a [Company Name]-owned computer to remotely connect to [Company Name]'s corporate network, Authorized Users shall ensure the remote host is not connected to any other network at the same time, with the exception of personal networks that are under their complete control or under the complete control of an Authorized User or Third Party.
     4. Use of external resources to conduct [Company Name] business must be approved in advance by InfoSec and the appropriate business unit manager.
     5. All hosts that are connected to [Company Name] internal networks via remote access technologies must use the most up-to-date anti-virus software (place url to corporate software site here), this includes personal computers. Third party connections must comply with requirements as stated in the Third Party Agreement.
     6. Personal equipment used to connect to [Company Name]'s networks must meet the requirements of [Company Name]-owned equipment for remote access as stated in the Hardware and Software Configuration Standards for Remote Access to [Company Name] Networks.

# Policy Compliance

* 1. Compliance Measurement

The Infosec Team will verify compliance to this policy through various methods, including but not limited to, periodic walk-thrus, video monitoring, business tool reports, internal and external audits, and inspection, and will provide feedback to the policy owner and appropriate business unit manager.

# Exceptions

Any exception to the policy must be approved by Remote Access Services and the Infosec Team in advance.

# Non-Compliance

An employee found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

# Related Standards, Policies and Processes

Please review the following policies for details of protecting information when accessing the corporate network via remote access methods, and acceptable use of [Company Name]’s network:

* *Acceptable Encryption Policy*
* *Acceptable Use Policy*
* *Password Policy*
* *Third Party Agreement*
* Hardware and Software Configuration Standards for Remote Access to [Company Name] Networks

# Revision History

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date of Change** | **Responsible** | **Summary of Change** |
|  |  |  |
| April 2015 | Christopher Jarko | Added an Overview; created a group term for company employees, contractors, etc. (“Authorized Users”); strengthened the policy by explicitly limiting use of company resources to Authorized Users only; combined Requirements when possible, or eliminated Requirements better suited for a Standard (and added a reference to that Standard); consolidated list of related references to end of Policy. |