Stay Connected
Your Internet Connection
Off Campus

NUIT Tech Talk Presentation
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Overview

On Campus

• Easy access to multiple services
• Reliable connection
• Computing security
• High-speed access
• Technical support (1-HELP)

Internet Activities

Speed / Bandwidth

Day Trading
Maintain a Web site
Digital Photo Albums
Games / Multimedia
Music
Shopping
Online Auctions
Banking
E-mail / IM
Browsing news, weather

Internet Service Provider Charges
Connecting from Off Campus

NU Modem Pool Retirement
*Phase out 8/1/05

- Network security concerns
- Declining usage
- Low-cost alternative access

www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/modem-pool/offcampus-modem/

How to make the right choice

Work from Home Priorities

- Speed
- Availability
  - Service Area
  - Building restrictions
- Always-on access
- Ease of installation
- Security
- Cost
**Dial-up Modem**

**Pros**
- Cost
- Availability
- Ease of installation

**Cons**
- Speed (slow)
- Busy signals, dropped calls
- Monopolizes phone line

**Some Providers**
- AOL, Earthlink, NetZero, Netscape, SBC

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**Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)**

**Pros**
- 25x faster than dialup
- Always-on
- Surf and talk
- Single telephone bill

**Cons**
- Start up fee
- Requires phone line

**Some Providers**
- SBC, Earthlink

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**Cable Internet**

**Pros**
- Ultra fast
- Always-on
- No phone line needed
- Single cable bill

**Cons**
- Hefty start up fee
- Requires cable installation
- Wiring concerns

**Some Providers**
- Comcast, RCN, Earthlink

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**Ensuring a Secure Connection**

- Virtual Private Network (VPN)
  - Secure “tunnel” to NU Network
- Allows access to secure University resources
  - Library resources
  - Software downloads
  - E-mail
- [www.it.northwestern.edu/vpn](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/vpn)
Internet Resources for Travelers

Wireless & Mobility

- Laptops
  - growing sales and functionality
- Home wireless systems
  - getting more affordable
  - easier than "wired" home network
  - same wireless card on/off campus (WiFi/802.11x)

Connectivity for Travelers

- Home connection provider may provide free out of town access
- Access
  - Dial-up
  - Wired broadband
  - Wireless broadband
- iPassConnect

iPassConnect

- Commercial international Internet Service
- Faculty & staff
- Monthly, for-fee basis
- Billed to department
- Supports dial-up, wired and wireless access
- [www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/ipass](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/ipass)
Scenario #1

- Retired
- Like to travel
- Like to trade e-mail w/ family members

Scenario #2

- NU staff member
- Occasionally take work home
- Like to check WebMail on weekends

Scenario #3

- NU faculty member
- Work from home
- Check e-mail frequently
- Maintains Blackboard site with interactive or multimedia content
- Summer home out of state

Scenario #4

- NU faculty or staff member
- Frequent business trips (long and short)
- Travel internationally
- Needs constant access to NU Network
NUIT Resources

• Off Campus Connections
  – www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/
• Resources for Travelers
  – www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/traveler_options
• iPassConnect
  – www.it.northwestern.edu/offcampus/ipass/
• Virtual Private Network (VPN)
  – www.it.northwestern.edu/oncampus/vpn

Next Tech Talk

“Get Control – 5 Simple Steps”
Antivirus Software, Computer Security Updates,
Secure Passwords, Spyware, Firewalls

April 8th, 2005
Same locations, Noon – 1 p.m.
Please register online: www.it.northwestern.edu