Date: Friday, July 22, 2005
From: NUIT Communications
To: UNITS
Subject: VPN 12-hour timeout

It recently came to our attention that some NU Network users have been logged on with VPN for an extended amount of time.

To help improve network security, Northwestern University Information Technology (NUIT) is setting a 12-hour timeout on VPN connections to the NU Network beginning Wednesday, August 31. This timeout applies to on-campus wireless use as well as off-campus network connections. However, the majority of NU Network users should not be affected.

When the timeout is implemented, VPN connections maintained for more than 12 hours at a time will be dropped. Users who wish to get back on the network will need to reauthenticate with their NetID and passphrase/password.

Please note that this is being done to help prevent network threats as well as to conserve University resources. There is no limit on the number of times users can access the NU Network each day, nor on the total number of hours they can be connected.

For further information, please see <http://www.it.northwestern.edu/transitions/2005/timeout.html> on the NUIT Web site.

Please direct questions to the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357) or e-mail consultant@northwestern.edu.

Thank you.