Title Peer to Peer internet based applications Prohibited Titles Standards

Type Standard

Related Policy Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Internet-based Applications

Category Security

Status Approved

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To Be Reviewed 06/18/2017

Scope Provides a non-exhaustive list of software titles prohibited by the Peerto-Peer (P2P) Internet-based Applications Policy.

Standard Policy Definitions: Peer-to-Peer file sharing /Bit torrent applications are prohibited on the City network. These programs are configured by default to "share out"; that is, not only can you retrieve files from other users' computers, but they can retrieve files from your City-owned computer without your knowledge.

Policy Provisions: Prohibited titles include, but are not limited to:

AudioGalaxy	BearShare	Cydoor	FreeWire
Gnutella	Grokster	IMesh	EDonkey
KaZaA	Skype	LimeWire	Morpheus
SongSpy	SwapNut	ToadNode	WinMX
DirectConnect	DopeFlish	Furi	giFT
GoMP3	Iswap	Mac Satellite	MojoNation
Ares	FolderShare	Emule	SoulSeek
Xolox	Blubster	Gnucleus	Mammoth
Napigator	PeerGenius	Shareaza	MediaRing
Voicebox	SoulSeek	BitTorrent	BoxCloud
ClubBox	Damaka	EZPeer	FastTrack
FolderShare	GigaTribe	Hamachi	Hotline Connect
MindSpring	Onshare	Pando	Project Neon

Rationale There is no legitimate City business purpose for using these programs.

Many of these programs, when installed, also load "ad-ware" or "spy-ware" programs as well. "Ad-ware" can cause unsolicited advertisements to appear in web browser windows, and "spy-

- ware" can record Internet browsing habits and transmit the information to third parties without your knowledge. *Recent studies estimate that approximately 50% of all files shared using P2P "networks" contain malware.*
- Most of these programs are configured by default to "share out"; that is, not only can you retrieve files from other users' computers, but they can retrieve files from your City-owned computer -- any time, from anywhere, without your knowledge. Not only might you be sharing music or image files -- you might be sharing sensitive City documents, personal data, licensed software, or anything else stored on your computer.
- These programs facilitate file-sharing activity by effectively bypassing the City's network security infrastructure. Many of them have been proven to have serious security flaws. Just by running one of these programs, *you could be making your computer (and the City's networks) vulnerable to viruses, worms, and other security threats.* They also consume large amounts of network resources. Newer versions even use end-to-end encryption, preventing potential security threats from being detected.
- Software is used for storing or sharing out inappropriate material: pirated computer software, copyrighted music, etc., which neither the City nor the employees are licensed to distribute, and which could subject the City -- and the employee -- to Federal civil or criminal liability. The Federal Digital Millennium Copyright Act carries severe penalties for infringements.