

NOAO Wireless Access Policy

1.0 Purpose

This policy prohibits access to NOAO networks via unsecured wireless communication mechanisms. Only wireless systems that meet the criteria of this policy or have been granted an exclusive waiver by the CIS Departments are approved for connectivity to NOAO's networks.

2.0 Scope

This policy covers all wireless data communication devices (e.g., personal computers, PDAs, etc.) connected to any of NOAO's internal networks. This includes any form of wireless communication device capable of transmitting packet data. Wireless devices and/or networks without any connectivity to NOAO's networks do not fall under the purview of this policy.

3.0 Policy

3.1 Register Access Points

All wireless Access Points / Base Stations connected to the NOAO networks must be registered and approved by the CIS Departments. These Access Points / Base Stations are subject to periodic penetration testing and audits.

3.2 Approved Technology

All wireless LAN access must use approved security configurations. WPA2 is preferred, WPA is acceptable and WEP is explicitly forbidden. Wireless LAN access may be restricted to subsets of the NOAO networks according to user profiles as defined by the CIS departments.

3.3 Restrictions

Observatory Directors may ban the use of wireless technology at telescope sites. Thus wireless technology is forbidden at Kitt Peak National Observatory due to possible interference with Radio Telescopes on-site.

4.0 Revision History

First Edition: March 15, 2007
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