CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Internet2 and Internet Connections Upgrade

CNS Document ID: u010903a
Last Updated: 9/5/01

UF Information Technology

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The UF Internet and Internet2 connections will be completed in September. The Internet2 connection will be upgraded to an OC12 connection. This will improve the bandwidth available to I2 and include the equivalent of an OC3 line (155 megabits/second) dedicated to the commodity network (Internet1). The shared connection will operate at a speed of 622 megabits/second and will go through the Abilene core router in Atlanta via Qwest. One DS3 connection (45 megabits/second) will be retained as a lower-speed backup to Internet1 service.

This Internet upgrade is being funded by the University of Florida Research Foundation, Inc., in support of UF's mission as a major research institution. The increased bandwidth that UF gains from this upgrade will allow us to improve and maintain the service level available on the commodity Internet (Internet1). For the Internet2 connection, the increased bandwidth will facilitate continued work in the areas of IPv6, multicasting, end-to-end performance testing, and quality of service (QoS) testing. It is also important to the development of the Grid Physics Network (GriPhyN) project—a geographically distributed computing project to build a computational data grid of great speed and power that relies on a high-speed, low-latency network.

Will you see faster connections? That depends. If you are downloading material from another university that also has an OC12 connection, you will certainly experience faster service. If you are connected to, or are interfacing with, another service that maintains a slower connection, you will download files at the slower speed. So chances are that the average end user will not see noticeably faster speeds. Your benefit will be more subtle. It is our expectation that the upgrade will prevent you from seeing delays on Internet1 or Internet2 traffic even though user demand and volume continue to rise.

Network Services staff will coordinate this project with staff from our current and future Internet service providers. They will also need to move and reconfigure campus routers and other equipment to facilitate the upgrade. Because our goal is to make this upgrade as unintrusive as we can, most of this work will be done during our regularly scheduled maintenance periods. However, in a project that requires coordination between multiple agencies, this may not always be possible. Regardless, we will make every effort to see that upgrade activities do not disrupt normal production hours.

If you have any questions or concerns about this upgrade to UF's Internet connections, please contact Network Services staff at net-services@lists.ufl.edu.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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