UC San Diego
Policy & Procedure Manual

COMPUTING SERVICES
Section: 135-3   EXHIBIT A
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EXHIBIT A

NETWORK SERVICE PORT BLOCKING

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this addendum is to formalize and document the processes by which service ports are "blocked" (access disallowed) at the campus border.

AUTHORITY:

See the Network Security Policy

RATIONALE:

The vast number of computers installed on UCSD's network has made the task of securing individual computers extremely difficult. The increasing sophistication and automation of network scans, coupled with the increasing complexity and deployment of application software on desktop machines, make a totally host-based approach to network security impractical. A network-based firewall can at least reduce campus security exposure by blocking potentially dangerous traffic from even entering the UCSD network. Blocking commonly-attacked ports on the border router is no panacea, but can be a good first line of defense.

PROCEDURE:

Pursuant to the task of ensuring network security, ACT/IT Infrastructure may enact blocks of network service ports at the campus border.

As blocks of this type affect all machines within the campus boundary, service port blocks will not be established unless a significant threat to the security of UCSD devices or data is perceived, either from reports of hostile action elsewhere on the Internet, or resulting from analysis of campus network traffic.

Such blocks will be discussed in advance when possible, and announced immediately upon sysadmin-l@ucsd.edu mailing list, as well as on the UCSD Information Security and SysWiki web sites.

Solutions will be available to allow access to blocked services by authorized remote users. Exceptions to service blocks for individual machines may be granted where circumstances dictate.

References:

UCSD Information Security homepage:
http://security.ucsd.edu

List of currently blocked ports:
http://syswiki.ucsd.edu/index.php/Border_filtering

UCSD Network Security Policy:
http://adminrecords.ucsd.edu/ppm/docs/135-3.HTML