



TCC Hotline



New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology
Tech Computer Center

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Windows XP and Fedora in Speare 9

We are testing Windows XP and the Redhat Fedora version of Linux on the computers in Speare room 9. Please come by and run your favorite programs and let the User Consultant in Speare room 5 know if you have any problems. If there are no problems, we will install Windows XP and Fedora on all of the TCC computers for the fall semester.

iMovie and iDVD

We have installed iMovie and iDVD on the new Macintosh G5 workstations. iMovie provides prosumer (professional consumer) quality digital video composition and editing. iDVD lets you create DVDs with custom menus from an iMovie project or your own video files. Both applications are available on the three Macintoshes in Speare 5. There is a 60 gigabyte partition called "TEMP" on each Mac where you may store your DV files while working with them, so you don't fill up your TCC account space. Note that files on TEMP may be deleted as warranted.

Email relaying

There have been questions from our users that deal with email relaying. Relaying occurs when the email server sending the e-mail message is not your local email server and the machine receiving the e-mail message is also not your local machine. Spammers relay *millions* of e-mail messages through an open relay to disguise the source of their SPAM. This is why blocking relaying is **A Good Thing**.

In the past, it was considered desirable for mail servers to have the ability to relay email. That is, to accept email messages emanating from hosts outside their own "domain" and to pass them on to other hosts also outside their own "domain". This was because transmission speeds on the Internet were slower than they are today and mail servers and the Internet itself were less reliable. This meant that if the destination server was unavailable, it was desirable to send mail messages to sites closer to the destination server. When the destination server did become available the message would have already traversed part of the route and therefore be more likely to reach the destination server.

However, with the advent of junk email, many sites began blocking known sources of such messages. The senders of this type of email then resorted to routing their junk email through other sites (commonly called relaying) to avoid this blocking. This relaying capability has therefore become undesirable because of the proliferation of junk email.

For several years, the TCC's email servers have been secured against email relaying. They will not accept email from outside the university unless the recipient's email address is at NMT unless they have authenticated to the email server using a protocol called SMTP AUTH. This relaying policy primarily affects people who use other ISPs (Internet Service Providers) to connect to their NMT accounts; especially when traveling.

To resolve this problem, there are three possible solutions:

1. The first option is for users who move around the country often and use their computer with a variety of ISPs (assuming that the ISP does not block such relaying).
 - To setup SMTP AUTH, look in your email client preferences for “use AUTH” or “SMTP AUTH”. You must also enable the feature STARTTLS to use AUTH. This prevents your password from being transmitted unencrypted. You will not be able to use AUTH unless your client initiates a secure connection with the server.
2. The second option is for users whose ISP blocks email relaying, or who don't move around and don't have a need for sending their email directly from the NMT email server.
 - You need to use the "outgoing mail server" or "SMTP gateway" provided to you by your ISP when you sign up for the service. Usually it is a host name, such as "*mail.isp.net*" or "*smtp.isp.com*", where *isp* is the appropriate name of your ISP email server. This is done by configuring your email program and defining the outgoing email server and the incoming email server.
3. The third option, and the easiest, is to create a Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection to the TCC. If you connect to the NMT email server via a VPN, then you will appear to be on campus and you will be allowed to relay your email.
 - For details on setting up VPN, see <http://www.nmt.edu/tcc/vpn/>