

## NetReg (Network Registration)

### What is it?

NetReg is a registration system for computers connected to the IASTATE network using DHCP (dynamic IP registration). Its purpose is to provide a secure network environment and to identify compromised or unauthorized systems before they affect the network or other computers.

NetReg requires that each computer on the network go through a one-time registration process before it receives an IP address which allows access to the Internet. Each network device will need to be registered. For a laptop this may require up to three registrations (wired connection, wireless connection, and docking station connection).

### Why are we using it?

NetReg has been in use on the Iowa State University campus for several years. We are turning it on in the field as counties add wireless capability to their offices. Its purpose in field offices is to identify the computers on the network and prevent unauthorized computers from accessing the network. Because wireless access may extend beyond the walls of your office, NetReg provides a way to secure your network from casual or malicious use.

### What does it mean to me?

Once NetReg is turned on for your office, all computers will need to be registered. Note: some newer desktop computers (setup on campus in the last two years) will have been registered during their initial setup on campus. Some laptops may also have been registered on campus for the wired (plug-in) connection, although they still may need to be registered for their wireless connection. If your machine is not registered, you will not be able to access the Internet, receive email or perform other network functions until you complete the registration for that machine.

How do I NetReg my machine? How do I know if my machine needs to be NetRegged?

If your desktop is already NetRegged, you will not notice any difference. If your machine needs to be NetRegged, you may see one of the following:

- *When you open your browser (Internet Explorer) you are greeted with a screen that says--Welcome to NetReg.*

Simply follow the instructions to NetReg your machine. If you don't see this screen, but instead get a 'can't find server' or similar error, type in <http://netreg.iastate.edu>

- *When you check email, you get a 'network error'.*

If this happens, open your web browser. You should see the NetReg Welcome screen. If you don't, try typing <http://netreg.iastate.edu> for the URL.

- *If you have a laptop, you may see a message during the NetReg process that says 'that name xxxx (where 'xxxx' is your computer name) is already in use. Rename your computer and reboot.'*

If you see this message, contact the computer support hotline (515-294-1725) to complete the NetReg process.

To NetReg your machine:

- Follow the on-screen instructions to register your computer.
- Login with your Net-ID and Password. Click Next.
- Provide your department (Cooperative Extension Service). For Building, either leave blank or select Extension Information Technology building. Click Next.
- Read and agree to the ISU Code of Computer Ethics.
- Reboot your machine.

If you have questions at any point in this process, please contact the Extension IT Support Hotline (515-294-1725).