



**ACTIVE DIRECTORY DOMAIN POLICY**

<b>Section</b>	Information Technology Services
<b>Contact</b>	Information Technology Services
<b>Last Review</b>	October 2010
<b>Next Review</b>	October 2012
<b>Approval</b>	VCEC 06/10/216

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that only properly registered and configured ICT equipment is able to join the Massey University domain, to improve the detection of vulnerable equipment and to enhance the manageability and security of Windows desktops and other devices connected to the University network.

**Policy:**

- Staff have access to the internet to undertake research and collaboration with external organisations and their peers.
- All computers and mobility devices running a Microsoft Windows operating system or an operating system that interoperates with a Windows domain and that are connecting to Massey’s networks are required to join the “Massey” Windows domain.
- Native Windows authentication is used to control access to the University’s ICT services - this authentication is transparent to domain members who would otherwise be prompted for credentials when accessing services like network drives and print queues.
- University policies and other actions, with regard to security settings, patch levels or operating parameters, will be applied and implemented on computers and mobility devices that have joined the domain.
- Where computers and mobility devices are being used for teaching purposes and do not require access to central resources such as file or print servers, email or internet access then an exemption to domain membership must be sought through the ITS Associate Director (Infrastructure).
- Exemptions to domain membership are conditional upon the department involved accepting responsibility for maintaining adequate patching and virus protection levels, and may also be conditional upon the limiting of network access to the non-domain computer equipment.
- All computers and mobility devices that are members of the Massey Windows domain must have the ‘Domain Admins’ group as a member of the local Administrators group. When Windows computers join the domain this group is automatically added; it must not be deleted subsequently.
- Domain Admins group access is required to verify service pack and patch levels, virus definitions, software versions and (where necessary) to purge or remove virus infections.
- ITS will create an account in the Windows domain for computer equipment and mobility devices when these are entered into the Network Administration System (NAS) database. When this equipment is configured to join the domain it will then be associated with its pre-existing entry.
- No Domain computer accounts will be created directly from client machines.



## Definitions

**Active Directory:** Technology created by Microsoft to provide a variety of network services e.g. directory access protocol, DNS-based naming and other network information; provides a central location for network administration and delegation of authority and apply critical updates to an organisation. Microsoft's directory service is also used to provide authentication and authorisation services.

**Authentication:** Verification of the identity of a user, device, or other entity in a computer system, often as a prerequisite to allowing access to a system.

**Authorisation:** Approved user access to approved network systems.

**ICT:** Information and communications technology is an umbrella term used to cover all network, computing, software, and telecommunications systems and resources, including storage and peripheral devices, whether used for research, teaching or administration.

**Infrastructure:** The computer and communication hardware, software, databases, people, and policies supporting the University's information management functions.

**Mobility Device:** A portable computing device, such as a Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), cellphone, iPhone or tablet, capable of accessing the University network.

**Network Administration System (NAS):** A database managed by ITS containing network user and equipment details, and which is used to facilitate services such as Active Directory.

**Windows Domain:** A logical group of computers running Microsoft Windows that share the same Active Directory service.

## Audience:

All users of computers running a Microsoft Windows operating system, computers capable of interoperating with Windows domains and mobility devices that are connecting to Massey University's network, including staff, students, visitors, contractors and affiliates.

## Relevant legislation:

Nil

## Legal compliance:

Nil

## Related procedures / documents:

[Data Network Policy](#)  
[Use and Access to Information Technology Systems](#)  
[Wireless Network Policy](#)  
[Policy on Staff Conduct](#)  
[Code of Student Conduct](#)  
[Contractors Policy](#)



**MASSEY UNIVERSITY**

Massey University Policy Guide  
**Active Directory Domain Policy – Page 3**

---

**Document management control:**

Prepared by: Chief Information Officer  
Authorised by: AVC – Finance, IT, Strategy and Commercial  
Approved by VC/VCEC -16 November 2005  
Date issued: 1 June 2005  
Last review: October 2010  
Next review: October 2012