Computer Update Policy
COE–CU–01

1.0 Purpose
To establish requirements for computers connected to College of Engineering networks to ensure system security updates are regularly and consistently installed.

2.0 Scope
This policy applies to all computer systems that are Penn State owned or non-Penn State owned, running Windows or Mac OS-X that meet any of the following additional criteria:

   - Any computer system connected to the wired College of Engineering network
   - College of Engineering owned computer systems
   - Non-College of Engineering owned computer systems that hold College of Engineering institutional data.

This policy applies to all types of computers including but not limited to desktop computers, laptop/tablet computers, and servers.

3.0 Policy
All computers defined as in-scope by section 2 of this policy must have the current College of Engineering specified computer update management client installed and running. Functionality of the client may not be blocked from communicating with the College computer update management server. Any security updates or additional security software installed by the computer update management server may not be removed or prevented from running without the express consent of the Exception Approval Committee and the Senior Associate Dean.

4.0 Exceptions
Users may request that automated system reboots be switched to manual user-initiated reboots only if all of the following criteria are met.

   - The system in question regularly runs lengthy data processing jobs that would suffer a significant loss of work if interrupted. This exception does not include interactive data processing in which the user can save work throughout the process, such as word processing documents or spreadsheets.
   - The individual requesting the exemption must sign an agreement committing to initiate a reboot when required by the patching cycle as soon as the job(s) requiring an automatic reboot exception complete. Under no circumstance should an exempted system run for more than 30 days without a reboot. Failure to honor the agreement may result in revocation of the exception and resumption of automatic rebooting. Exceptions are subject to approval by the Exception Approval Committee and the Senior Associate Dean.

5.0 Enforcement
Computers found to be in violation of this policy may be disconnected from the wired network and denied access to the College of Engineering VPN until they are found to be in compliance, or until a justifiable reason for not running the College specified computer update management client is accepted by the Exception Approval Committee and the Senior Associate Dean.
6.0 Revision History

Scope modified: 4/17/2015
See also: Penn State Policies AD20 and AD23