

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Directors and Department Heads
FROM: Sylvia Johnson, University Information Security Officer
DATE: September 15, 2008
RE: SECURING UA: Skype

Skype is a voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) software application that enables users to make free phone calls between Skype equipped computers. It also allows users to make inexpensive calls between a Skype computer and a landline or cell phone.

University policy does not prohibit the use of Skype in general. However, its use under certain limited circumstances may not be acceptable due to security and bandwidth consumption concerns. If you use Skype on a computer connected to the UA network, you or your IT staff can and should take steps to limit these concerns. More information and instructions can be found at the Information Security website, <http://security.arizona.edu/skype>.

Skype is NOT intended to be a complete replacement for traditional phone service. It cannot be used to call emergency 911 services.

Read more about Skype, its benefits, disadvantages, and implications for teaching and learning in an Educause bulletin at <http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7032.pdf>.

Please contact the Information Security Office (621-UIISO or iso@u.arizona.edu) with questions about this communication.

Securing UA is a campaign of initiatives, measures and tips for achieving greater security of UA information assets.

SRJ:teb