

CONFIGURING AND USING THE BUILT-IN LEOPARD VPN CLIENT WITH THE UH VPN SERVER

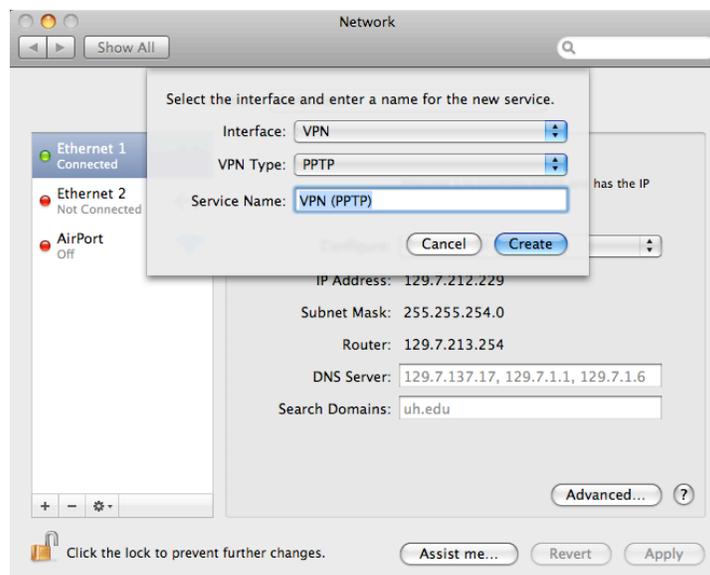
Up until recently, Mac users wanting to connect to the UH VPN Servers on campus had only one option. The only option in place was to use the periodically-updated, and often unstable Cisco VPN client. After doing some research to find a more reliable VPN solution, there are now options that have been put in place that will allow Mac users to use the built-in Mac OS X 10.5 “Leopard” VPN Client to connect to and use the UH VPN Server.

CONFIGURING VPN USING SYSTEM PREFERENCES

Configuring the built-in Leopard VPN Client is very easy and straight forward. To start, open up the System Preferences, which is located in the upper left corner of your screen under the Apple Menu. Once the System Preferences window is open, there should be a Internet & Network row, which contains a Network icon. Click on the Network icon to begin the setup process:

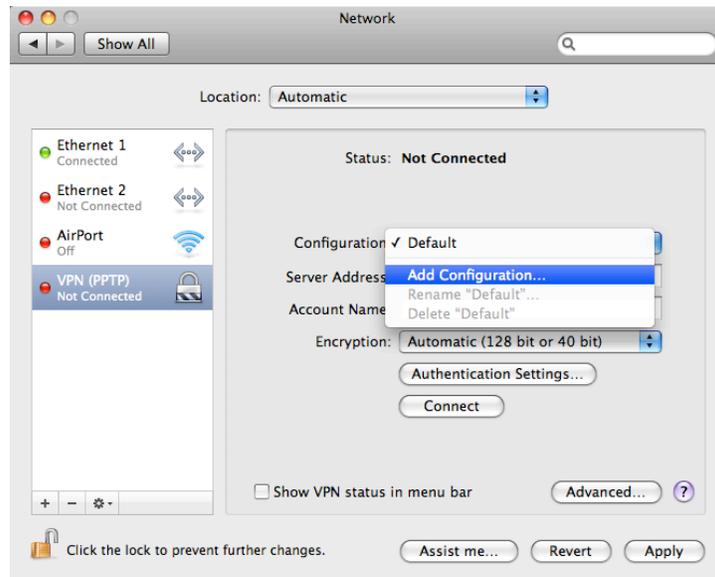


From there, you should see a list of network devices. In the bottom left corner of the device listing window, you should see a + icon. Click on that to add a new device:

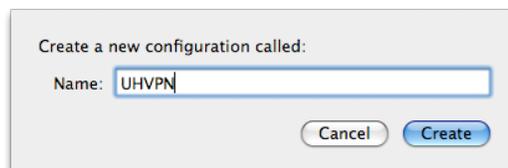


As listed in the above graphic, you will now be presented with a configuration window. Set the Interface to VPN, the VPN Type to PPTP, and the Service Name to VPN (PPTP). After you enter in the settings, click on the Create button.

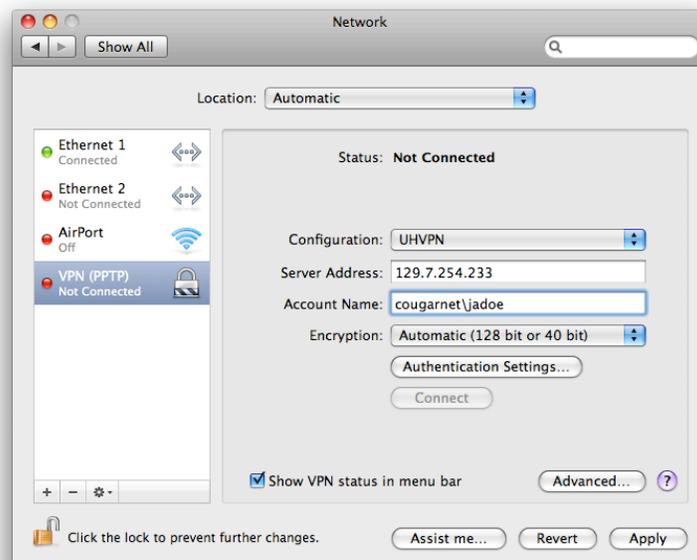
Now you will be taken back to the main Network window. To setup a UH-specific preset, click on the Configuration pull down menu and select Add Configuration:



A window should appear prompting you for a configuration name. Type in UHVPN and then click Create:



In the window that appears, you will now enter the settings needed to connect to the UH VPN server. Type in your settings exactly as listed below:



Notice that the Server Address is **129.7.254.233**, and not 129.7.254.231, nor 129.7.254.232. The reason that you will use the 129.7.254.233 server is that it is the only UH VPN server that has the PPTP protocol enabled.

The Account Name should be your COUGARNET username. For example, if your COUGARNET username is “jadoe,” the you would type in *cougarnet/jadoe* in the Account Name field.

If you wish to save your password into this UHVPN preset, click on the Authentication Settings button. A new window will appear prompting you for your COUGARNET password. Type in your password and click OK:



You can also choose to leave the Password field blank and skip this step if you wish the VPN client to prompt you for your COUGARNET password each time you establish a connection.

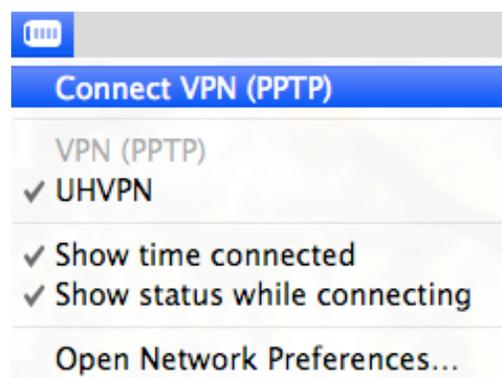
After all of the settings have been configured, and you have been taken back to the main setup window, click on the Apply button to continue and save your settings.

*****NOTE:** Make sure that the “Show VPN status in menu bar” checkbox is selected in the main settings window before saving your changes.

ESTABLISHING A CONNECTION

Now that you have properly configured the Mac OS X VPN Client, you can establish a connection to the UH VPN server. After configuring all of your settings, quit out of the System Preferences application.

To establish a connection to the UH VPN servers, look in the upper right side of your menu bar and you should see an icon that looks like the following:



Click on the Connect button to establish your connection to the UH VPN server. Once you are connected, you should see a timer start telling you how long you have been connected to the UH VPN Server:

Once you are connected to the UH VPN server, your Mac is now “virtually” on the campus network and able to access UH resources only available to on-campus machines even though you may be at a remote location from off-campus. Programs like Entourage (for checking Exchange mail, etc.) tend to work better after a VPN connection is established. Once you are done with your VPN connection, go back under the VPN icon and click on the Disconnect button.

INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions and or comments about using the the built-in Mac OS X VPN Client, submit all discussion to the UH Mac Users Email List. The email address for the list is uh-mac-users@listserv.uh.edu . For information on subscribing to the list, please read the below instructions:

- 1) Submit the request using the E-Mail account you wish to have LISTSERV messages sent to.
- 2) The request should be sent to: LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
- 3) Leave the Subject line empty.
- 4) Format the body of the message as follows:

SUBSCRIBE UH-MAC-USERS

*** Make sure that you do not have an automatic email signature in the body of the message. Having one enabled will cause problems with the subscription request.

For all additional questions related to your COUGARNET account, or any other matter, please submit them to the IT Support Center at 713-743-1411 or via email at support@uh.edu .