

# NSW Government Private Network

## *Improving inter-Agency communications*

**ac3**, in conjunction with the NSW GCIO, has implemented the Government Private Network (GPN) for the NSW Government which provides a seamless and inexpensive way for Agencies to migrate from the Government Broadband Service.

The GPN is implemented on tested infrastructure, and is based on an existing gateway that has been operational at **ac3** for several years serving the Emergency Services Agencies.

## *Virtual Private Network (VPN)*

The GPN provides virtual private networks for agencies to share applications and information. These VPNs can be made highly secure with appropriate use of encryption.

This provides

- a replacement service for all existing VPNs that use the Government Broadband Network.
- a service for any agency or service provider wanting to integrate their wide area networks.
- the capability for agencies to share common telecommunications links such as those provided to multi-tenanted government offices.

## *Single Sign-on*

The GPN has an in-built user authentication service, which enables a user in an agency to access a service or a resource in a different agency to which s/he is entitled, through a single sign-on. This is an additional optional service for agencies.

The GPN takes advantage of each Agency's current user authentication system. These existing authentication systems communicate through an enhanced version of the *FIX* authentication system that was developed by, and has been operational in the Dept of Lands and elsewhere for some time. No user information is stored in the GPN.

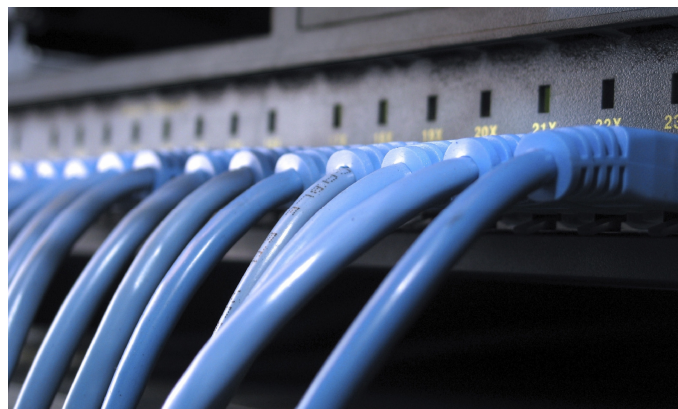
## *Reliability*

The GPN has been built with reliability in mind. There are two physically separate gateway instances, located in each of **ac3**'s two data centres.

## *Ready access to other services*

The GPN provides the platform for agencies to access a range of other services provided by **ac3**, including:

- **Storage** — at very competitive rates
- **Virtual servers** — Linux or Microsoft, pay by the month
- **Backup** and archive



## *Capabilities of the GPN*

Agencies that are connected to the GPN can share resources and services such as:

- firewall service (managed by **ac3**)
- Intranets, collaboration and portal services.
- images or data files.
- corporate applications, such as HR.
- synchronisation of databases.
- voice (VOIP) and video communication through VPNs
- migration to IPv6.

## *How to connect to the GPN*

**ac3** has 50 NSW Government entities as clients, spread across most of the new NSW "super-agencies". These organisations can join the GPN with relative ease, if the appropriate firewall facilities are already in place.

NSW Government Agencies who are not currently **ac3** clients, but who have a point of presence in a datacentre where **ac3** has a presence (e.g. Global Switch), can easily join the GPN. **ac3** can arrange for the necessary internal cabling and firewalls to be established.

Agencies that do not have a point of presence at an **ac3** data centre will need to establish appropriate communications links. Connectivity is not restricted to any particular carrier. **ac3** can facilitate these arrangements.

## *Need more information?*

Contact Laurie Hook at GCIO on 9372 8110 for more details, or contact **ac3** for the GPN Guidelines and T's & C's. Visit our website [www.ac3.com.au](http://www.ac3.com.au)

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