VPN (Virtual Private Network) for Mac OSX

Create a VPN Connection to use the Intranet-Sites at home

What exactly is VPN

With VPN, Virtual Private Network, you can establish a safe connection from anywhere to the intranet of the institute (http://intern.mpifg.de). In other words you can access Intranet services being out of the institute (like Photo Directory, Computing Services, Help Desk and the licensed Online Databases of the library).

To set up a connection you have to add Server addresses, Search Domains as well as your User ID and password, so that the connection offers the same security and functions as a private network. VPN provides a user with a virtual IP address from which encoded data packages are send via the Internet to the VPN server, which decodes them and makes it possible for a user to access our intranet services.

How to configure a VPN Connection

You can easily set up a VPN connection on your computer. The only requirement is that you have administrator rights on your computer. To create a connection proceed as follows:

Go to System Preferences and choose Network.

Click on Plus Button. On the drop-down menu of each field please choose the following:

- Interface: VPN
- VPN Type: PPTP
- Service Name: MPIfG VPN

To confirm click on Create.

After you have created a VPN connection the name and icon of it will appear on the left menu of the Network window:

To set up the connection select MPIfG VPN to add the following data:

- Server Address: vpn.mpifg.de
- Account Name: Used-ID (e.g. il)

Before you click on Apply please be aware of the following preferences:
Click on Advanced -- Options and activate all Session Options:

You will be asked to enter your Password. Please type your password and confirm with OK.

In the same window go to DNS

You will see that you are connected on the left menu of the network window:

Here you have to enter DNS Servers and Search Domains manually (can be reached over Plus Button in the left window corner):

Be aware of the right order of DNS Servers:

134.76.10.46
192.124.250.13

Be aware of the right order of Search Domains:

mpifg.de
mpi-fg-koeln.mpg.de

Afterwards confirm with OK and click on Connect in the main window:

When VPN connection is established a VPN icon and timer will appear on the menu bar of your desktop window, where you can connect or disconnect VPN any time.

Enjoy using!

MPIfG IT Services
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