C104-05 - Connecting Macs to CMRR servers with VNC

Mac Finder supports VNC sessions to CMRR servers

Connect using terminal ssh

Open a terminal window (Finder -> Applications -> Utilities -> Terminal)
ssh userid@range1.cmrr.umn.edu
Login with your CMRR password

Start a vncserver session

This will run a desktop session in the memory of the server.
vncserver
set a password (I usually recommend the same as your CMRR password)
(This will give you a desktop number, e.g. range1.cmrr.umn.edu:23)
exit
You can close the terminal window - you only need it to start the session

Connect using Finder

This will open a graphical desktop on the server.
Finder -> Go -> Connect to Server
Server address:
Enter your desktop number + 5900 (e.g. vnc://range1.cmrr.umn.edu:5923)
Give your VNC password
Your desktop should open up in a window. You can now start programs
To leave, just close the window (do not choose log out from the menu)
The programs will continue to run in the memory of the server.
You only need to start a session once, you can close and open it multiple times.
If the server is rebooted, your session will end and you will need to start another one.

Killing a VNC session

Log into the server with terminal ssh as above
Use the desktop number for your session
ps -fu userid
vncserver -kill :23

Changing your vnc password

Start terminal ssh and connect as above

cd .vnc

mv passwd passwd.bak

vncserver

This will start a new session (e.g. range1.cmrr.umn.edu:24) and prompt you for a new password

Kill the new, unneeded session (e.g. vncserver -kill :24)

exit

Purpose

Scope

Definitions

Responsibility

References

Forms / Templates

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Revision History

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Version Number	Approval Date	Change from Previous Version
1.0	7/08/2015	
1.1	7/21/2015	Standard formatting
1.2	10/13/2015	Corrected server address vnc://xxx:59xx

Approval Signatures	Date
Author/Owner:	
Regulatory Compliance Coordinator:	
Center Director:	