

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONFIGURING ACCESS TO THE ASTON-GENERAL-ACCESS WIRELESS NETWORK

INTRODUCTION

Aston University provides a generic wireless network called “Aston-General-Access” which is designed to provide restricted access to the network for visitors and ad-hoc users.

Using the Aston-General-Access wireless network you can:

- Browse both secure and insecure Internet web sites (using http or https)
- Access remote email services; if they are based on one of the standard systems: web based, pop/smtp or imap.
- Access University published services, such as the Blackboard VLE and student email (these may require University accounts to gain access).

Other services, such as VPN (virtual private networks) are not currently supported.

Access to the “Aston-General-Access” network requires the user to be identified which is done via:

- Valid Aston University credentials ie Username and Password
- Logon as a Guest user – this provides the service but with restricted bandwidth

System Checks

The Aston-General-Access wireless network is available on Linux systems. If your wireless adaptor module is installed then it should be able connect to the Aston-General-Access wireless network.

If you have any problems connecting and if you have the wireless modules loaded please check the following.

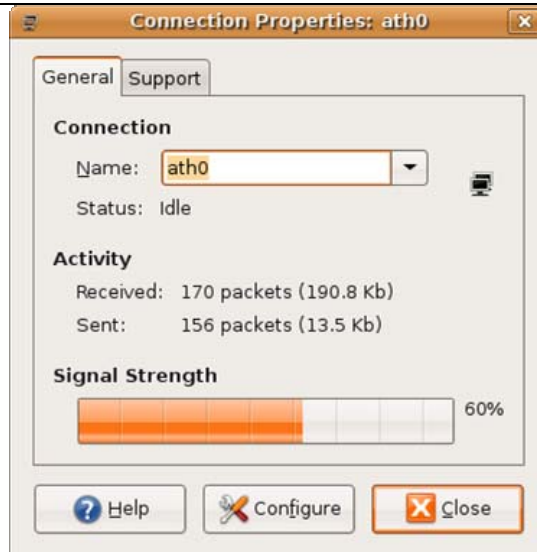
The example shown below uses wireless network card with Atheros chipset using the madwifi drivers on Ubuntu Linux.

On your desktop double click on the *Network Connection* icon and see if you are connected to the Aston-General-Access network.

This icon is at the top right near the time if you are using Gnome Desktop.

The “Connection Properties” screen will appear.

Select your wireless interface (e.g. ath0) and click *Configure*



The “Network settings” screen will appear

Highlight *Wireless connection* and click on *Properties*.



The “Interface Properties” screen will appear.

Make sure “Aston-General-Access” is selected as the Network Name (ESSID).

Click on *OK*

Click OK at “Network setting” screen.



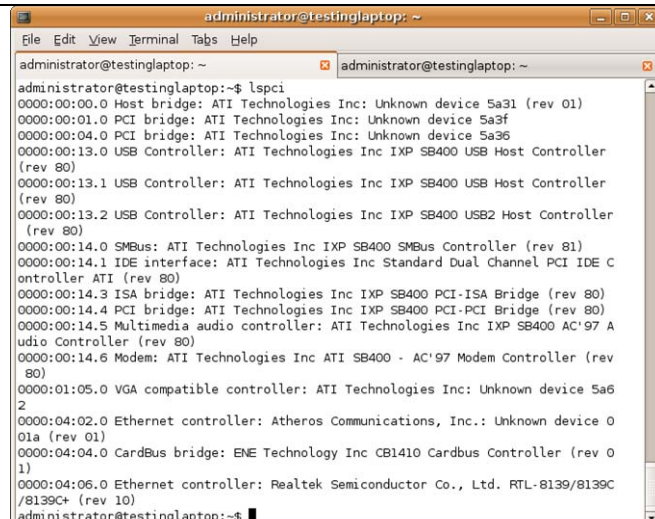
You will now be back on the “Connection Properties” screen.

Click on the *Support* tab.

Check whether your wireless card has obtained an IP address from the DHCP server.



You can also log an as root and type the command *lspci*. This will show your wireless hardware available to you. Please check the relevant support pages for your Linux distribution to install and configure your wireless adapter.



- You can also check http://www.hpl.hp.co.uk/personal/Jean_Tourrilhes/Linux/Wireless.html for further information on wireless network configuration on Linux