



Northeastern University

Office of Information Security and Identity Services

Technical Standard 09-001 8/3/09

Protecting the Physical Security of Laptop/Desktop Computers and File Cabinets

Background

Theft of laptop/desktop computers, as well as displays, printers and other high-value equipment can be deterred by use of locking devices. This technical standard describes commonly available locking devices.

Recommendation

It is recommended that all information-bearing and other high-value/high-risk information technology equipment be protected with locking devices as specified below.

Implementing the Recommendation

1. Desktop and laptop computers, as well as displays, printers and other devices may be secured to immovable objects using equipment the same as or functionally equivalent to that specified in the link below:

<http://www.computersecurity.com/cables/index.html>

Computer locks may also be purchased in the NU Bookstore. Installation is self-service.

CAUTION: Some computer kits use flat-shaped anchors requiring "super-glue" to adhere anchors to surfaces. These glue preparations can bond skin instantly. Use caution with "super-glue". Read all warnings, cautions and instructions before use. Observe usage and installation instructions. After installation, cap all glue tubes, wrap carefully in paper, and dispose in trash can.

2. Filing cabinets may be made resistant to unauthorized access using equipment the same as or functionally equivalent to that specified in the link below:

http://www.computersecurity.com/other/file_cabinet_locking_bars.htm

For installation of file cabinet locks, please contact the NU Facilities organization.