

Setting Internet Protocol TCI/IP Properties for Local Area Connection on FSRP Notebook computers. (MT Weber, June 27,2006 draft)

FSRP desktops and notebooks, when using the Local Area Connection “wired” connection in the office in Lusaka, are set up to work under a “Fixed IP Address” assignment, with each separate computer having a unique and fixed IP address. This system works fine for desktop computers that are not required to move around. However with notebook computers, users will many times want to connect to the internet in locations outside of the FSRP office location, for example traveling to Pretoria to FANRPAN offices, or trying to connect to the internet via a hard wired or local area connection in a hotel in some location either inside or outside of Zambia.

Steve Haggblade is able to connect to the internet in the FSRP office and at home with his computer because he has the “fixed” IP set up on his “Local Area” connection but on his “wireless network” connection, he has left the IP setting to “Dynamic”. This allows him to connect in the office through the “wired” side of his notebook, and when at home, or when traveling, to connect via “wireless”. If however, he is at a location outside of the FSRP office, and needs to connect via the “wired” side of his network, he would not be able to make the system work without going into the “administrator” settings on his notebook and changing his “wired” connection back to “dynamic” Below I will explain why it is important, and how to do this.

The reason this is important is that most, if not all broadband internet provides make their systems work with “Dynamic” IP address set ups, so that all one needs to do is connect to the system and the IP address is assigned automatically “or dynamically” instead of being a fixed address. The practical implication of this is that it is very easy to move around and connect to the internet via broadband.

Instructions for setting up/disabling the fixed IP address .

Boot (restart) your notebook in Administrator mode, using the unique id and password for this. For folks traveling from MSU, to enter administrator mode, you will also need to change on the start up menu, from “ANR” to “AECXXXXX (this computer) . When you go back to “user” mode, you will go back to “ANR”.

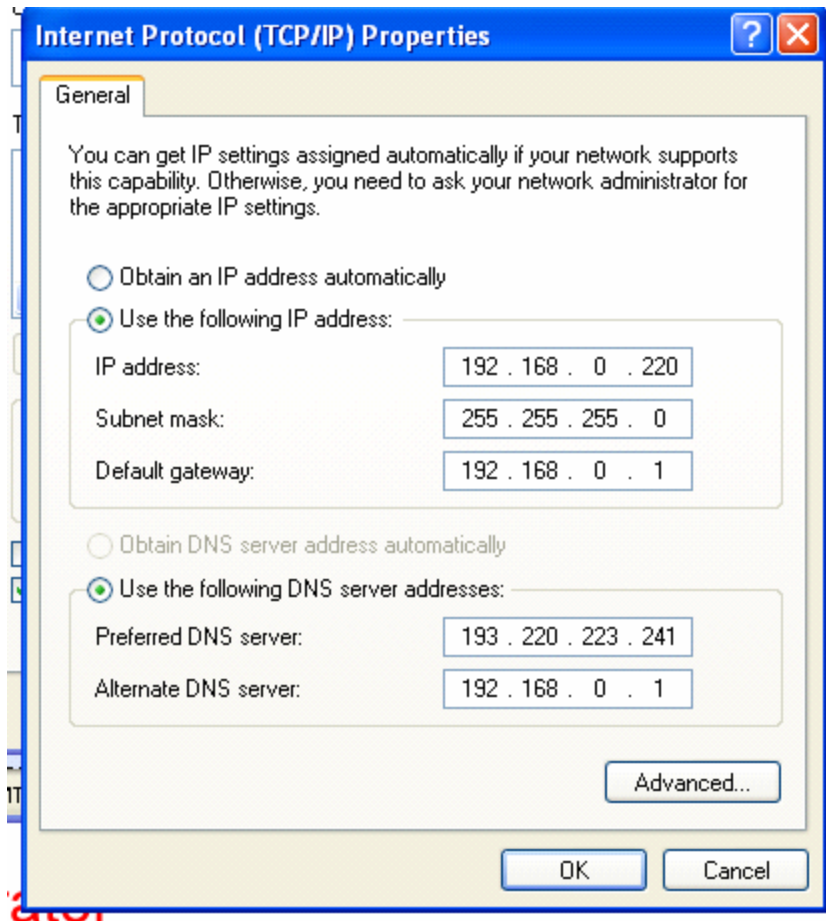
From the start menu, select “Control Panel”

On “Control Panel” select “network connections”

In “network connections” window you will see options for a number of the modem dialup systems you use. Do not select them. Look below the line in the window, to “select “Local Area Connections”.

In the “Local Area Connections” window browse in the box you see that says: This connection uses the following items. Highlight the item “Internet Protocol TCP/IP”. After highlighting

this item, click on the “Properties” box in the lower right hand side. When you do this you will get a window that looks like the screen capture below.



The settings above are for my notebook.. The number that is unique for me ( and each FSRP staff member) is the IP Address. Everything else is the same for everyone.

We are in the process of developing a list of the unique IP Address number for each person in the FSRP office, and these will be added to this list.

If you were to enable the box above “Obtain an IP address automatically” in the upper part of the box, all the numbers in both boxes will disappear, and the bottom box will move with the top one in that it too will operate “automatically”. For this reason it is important to have written down the above numbers, and to have the unique number for each FSRP staff member for the IP Address.

Remember that each time you make these kinds of changes you must choose ok when exiting in order for the new settings to take effect.