

# "Keeping You Informed"

Sophos

October 2007

## **What is Sophos?**

Sophos is the anti-virus software required on all PCs that access the Messiah College network, both employees and students. Sophos replaces the mandatory Symantec Corporate Edition that was used by Messiah until mid-summer 2007.

If you have taken your PC to SCS for configuration, Sophos was installed on your PC for you. It can be installed by the user or by Student Computer Services (SCS). Install files can be found on the student file space (K:/) in the Utility folder or on MCSquare, under the Student Tab, third column over in the Student Computer Services channel. It will do an auto install when you click on the link.

Once installed Sophos has a blue/gray shield in the lower right corner. It is updated by right clicking on the shield and then clicking on update now. The first time that you update after installation, you may need to be plugged into a wired network jack rather than trying to update wirelessly. After the initial update, the wireless updates seem to work well. If you see a red "x" on the blue shield, it normally means that you need to update your software. It "should" automatically update without help, but occasionally it does show the "x".

## **Technical Information:**

Reviews show that Sophos is better than Symantec or McAfee.

<http://www.sophos.com/security/topic/enterprise-review.html>

Sophos installs the update service first. The update service then retrieves the current version of the software and installs and updates the virus patterns. This ensures that the version installed is always the latest version. Sophos is configured to check for updates every couple of hours. Updates are done for both the virus definitions and the software.

When a virus is detected by Sophos, it is recommended that you do a full system scan.

Updates will stop working when you are no longer a student at Messiah.