

**From:** [REDACTED] </O=ITHAKA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 1:20 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ithaka.org>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@MIT.EDU>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@mit.edu>  
**Subject:** 1:00 pm Update: IPs @ MIT Restored

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Good Afternoon,

We are continuing to compile the data from the incident, but wanting to let you know that we have restored all MIT IPs for JSTOR access.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 10:09 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 10:00 am Update: JSTOR Abuse at MIT: All IPs Blocked

Hello Again,

We have requested that the IP range be unblocked at the firewall and that process is currently underway. I will confirm when that is accomplished and report the IPs and timestamps surrounding the event shortly.

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@MIT.EDU]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 29, 2010 4:24 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: JSTOR Abuse at MIT: All IPs Blocked

[REDACTED], thanks very much. We appreciate it.

Looking to the future, would it be possible to clarify that JSTOR will follow the protocol that was ultimately used here, shutting down not the class A range but the class C range, should an excessive use case emerge again?



not recur.

We hope you will be able to restore the class C range that has been suspended based on this information.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

\_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MIT Libraries

P [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@mit.edu

<http://libraries.mit.edu/scholarly>

From: [REDACTED]@jstor.org]

Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2010 12:31 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: JSTOR Abuse at MIT: All IPs Blocked

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing you this afternoon to let you know that we have been forced to block access to JSTOR from MIT. Yesterday, around 6pm, we began to see hundreds of PDF downloads per minute occurring from multiple sessions at 18.55.6.215. As these requests began to affect performance of the public site, we were forced to deny access to this IP. Requests continued to pour in from this IP for some time, but were denied access. This clearly indicates robotic harvesting of PDFs which violates our Terms & Conditions of Use.

This morning, at around 8am, this activity started again from IP 18.55.6.216, forcing us to restrict access to the entire range of MIT IP addresses. We rarely take this level of response to abusive activity, but felt it necessary to maintain the stability of the web site for other institutions and users.

Once you have identified the responsible party and can assure us that this activity will not continue, we will be happy to restore access as soon as possible. That said, please note that the block had to be executed at the firewall level to prevent performance degradation (even after denying the PDF downloads, the requests themselves were so frequent it continued to be problematic) and thus will require coordination of our systems administrators to restore, which may take some time.

Please do let me know if I can be of additional assistance or if I can provide additional information. Having worked in this area for some time, I am well aware that this activity is normally a compromised username and password or a student/researcher unaware of the impact of their activities or that this method of gathering PDFs is in violation of our Terms and Conditions of Use, We routinely work with researchers through our dfr.jstor.org site or by providing data exports to accomplish the intended research aim and would be happy to do so in this case as well if that turns out to be the motivation.

Best,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
JSTOR

[REDACTED]@<mailto:[REDACTED]@ithaka.org>ithaka.org

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