VPN End to End – Appendix B: Microsoft 2003 VPN PPTP Client

Appendix B: Microsoft 2003 VPN PPTP Client

Technical Notes for use with Vodafone Mobile Connect services

Date: **31 May 2007**

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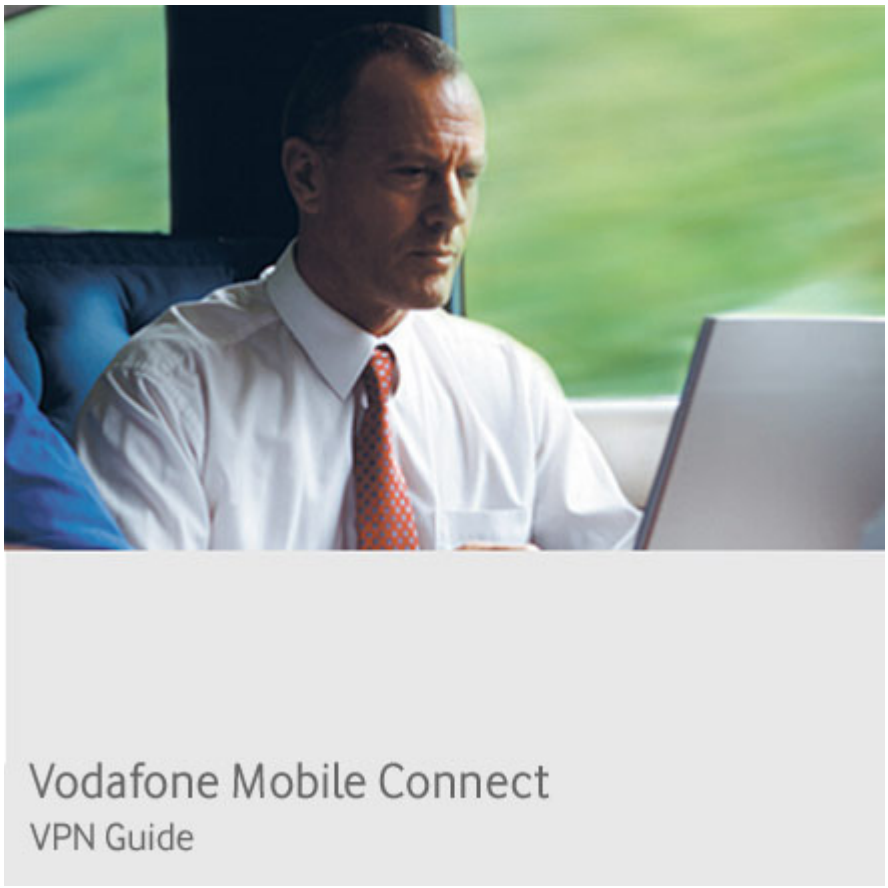

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Scope

This document presents results of installation, configuration, and operations testing of VPN components with the Vodafone Mobile Connect service. The document is not intended to be a tutorial on VPN concepts nor does it supersede or replace the vendor's documentation. The reader is referred to the VPN vendor for definitive guidance on the proper and recommended use of their product. While Vodafone Group has taken care to ensure that the information contained herein is accurate, no responsibility can be accepted for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies.

Document History

Version	Date	Reason
1.0	October 2003	Initial release using GPRS network. Client documentation included in main document.
2.0	May 2006	Creation of separate document for client configuration. Update to new versions of VPN software and focus on 3G network performance.
3.0	May 2007	Update for R9.

File Reference

VPN - MS_2003_PPTP_Appendix_B_Client.doc

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1 Executive summary

This Appendix B is in addition to the detailed document for Microsoft 2003 PPTP Client and describes the set up process in a detailed way with example screen shots taken from the initial processes. It is a companion guide to 'Appendix A: Microsoft 2003 PPTP _Appendix_A_Server.doc'.

- Initial installation of the client software is reviewed.
- Configuration of the VPN client using sample parameters is illustrated
- The default configuration for the client is to start up manually. Options for automatic start-up are presented.
- Integration of the VPN Client with Vodafone Mobile Connect software is illustrated along with frequently used configuration settings
- Connections to corporate applications and file servers are illustrated
- Monitoring and logging of connection status is illustrated.

Further information is available from the vendor documentation and website www.microsoft.com.

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2 VPN Client Installation and Configuration (MS XP VPN PPTP connection)

The Microsoft VPN client is integrated in the Windows XP systems Network connection manager.

2.1 VPN Client System requirements

Since the Microsoft Windows VPN client is integrated in the operating system, the computer must meet the requirements for Windows XP described on following web pages:

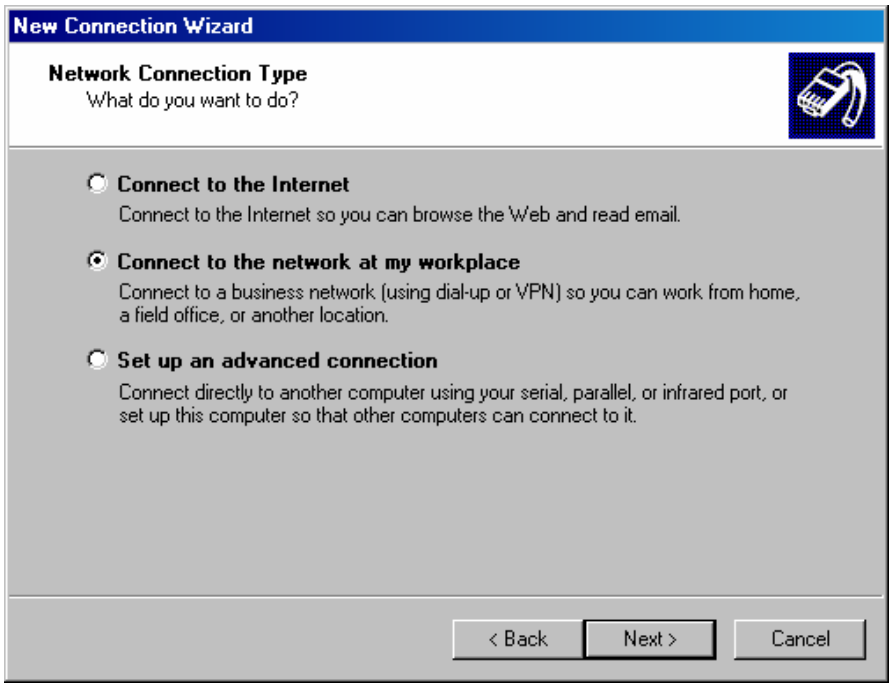
http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/home/upgrading/sysreqs.mspx

http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/upgrading/sysreqs.mspx

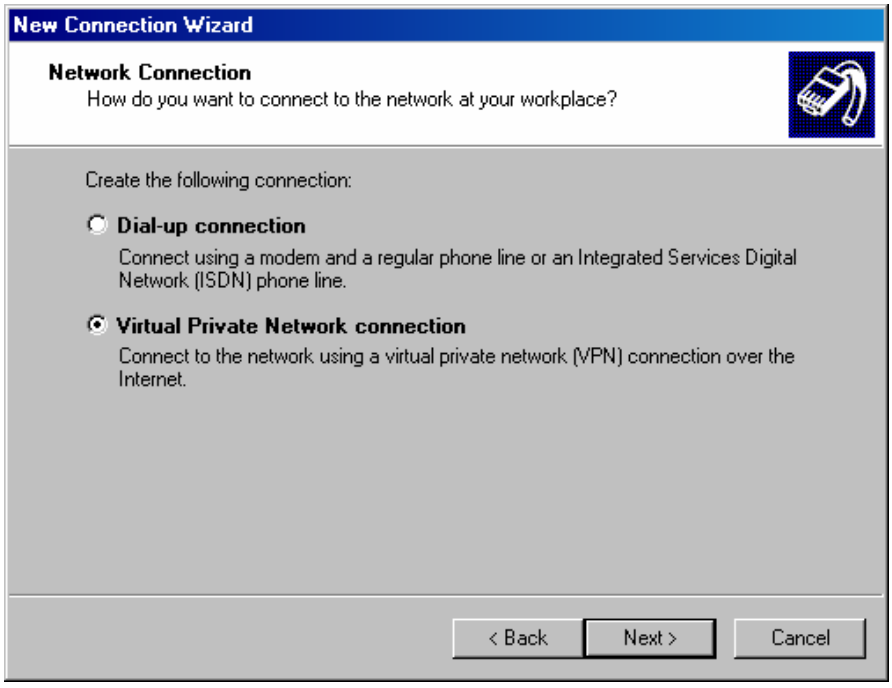
2.2 VPN Client installation and configuration

- Setup the Microsoft 2003 VPN PPTP Connection from a new Network connection with VPN connection type:
- At the “New connection wizard” window click “Next”

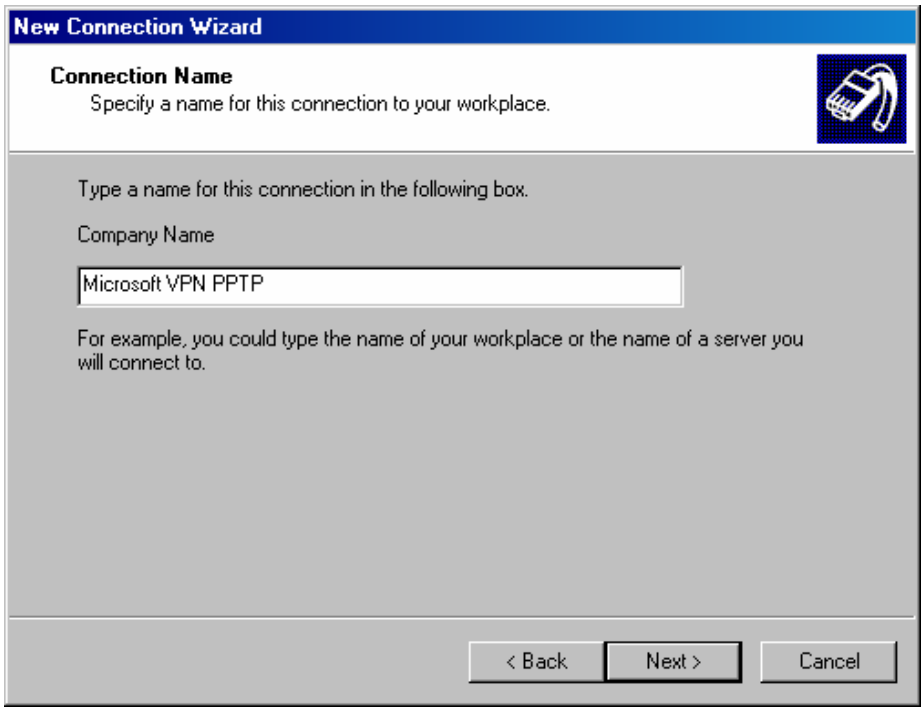
- The radio button “Connect to the network at my workplace” and click “next”.



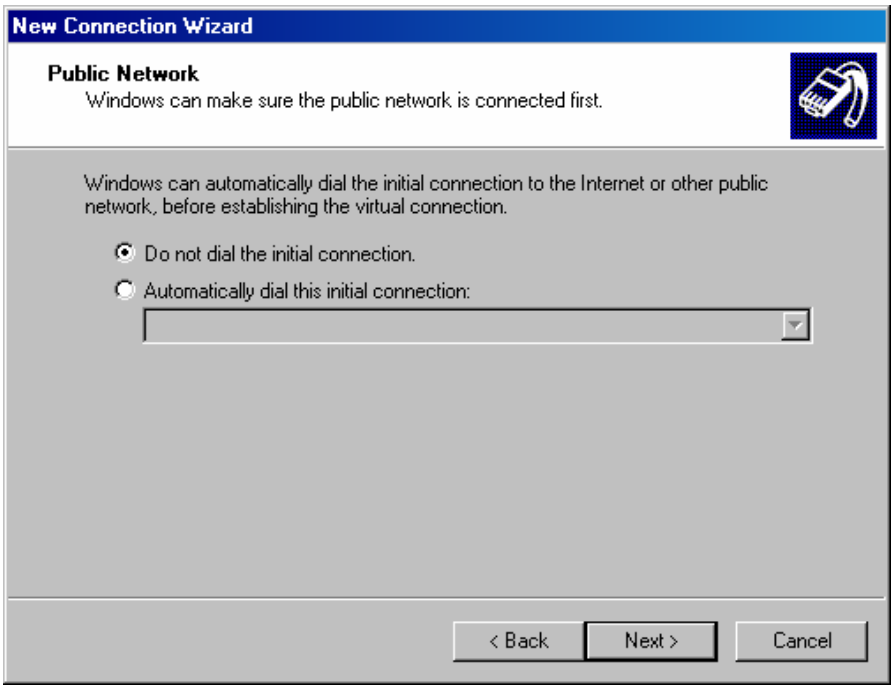
- For the network connection on the next screen please chose “Virtual Private network Connection” and click “next”.



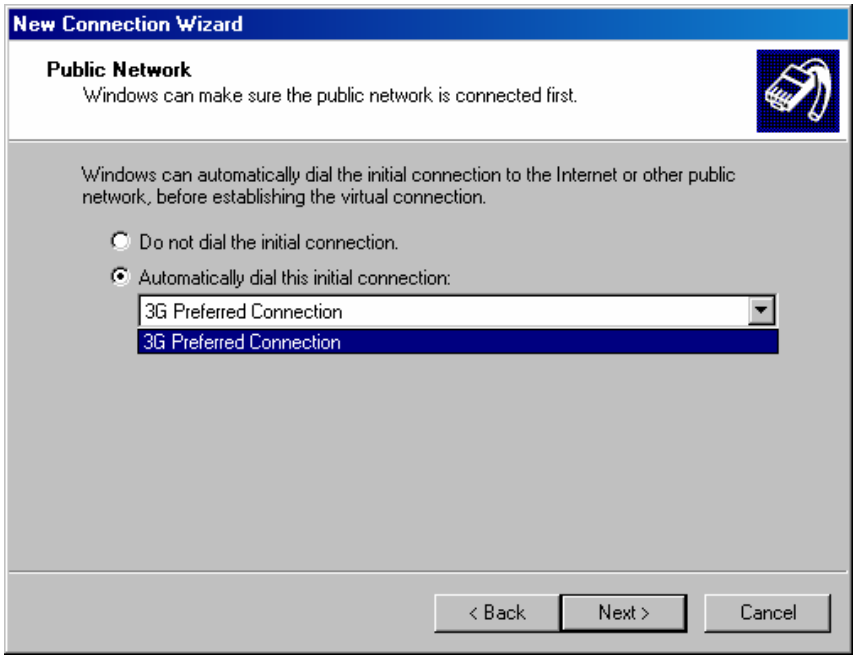
- At the next screen a name for the VPN connection must be entered. Please enter your preferred name for this Microsoft VPN connection and click “Next”



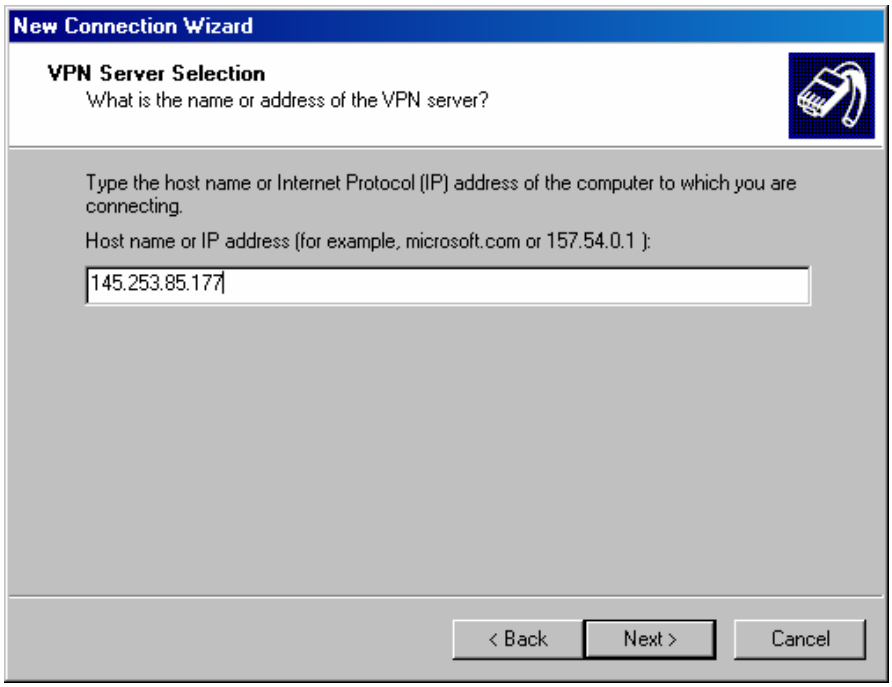
- For automatically dial a connection from a pre defined connection profile select the radio button “automatically dial this initial connection” and choose the preferred connection profile, otherwise the current connection is used.



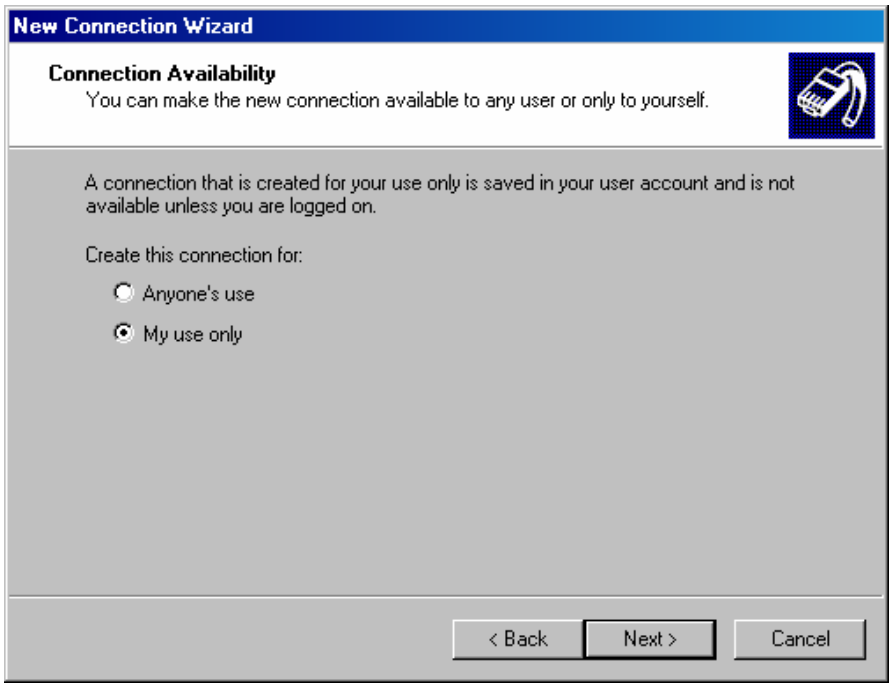
- Chose the preferred connection for automatic dial.



- After clicking “next” the Host name or IP address to the server you are connecting for VPN usage has to be entered.



- On the next screen a possibility is given to choose whether the connection is created for “anyone’s use” or only “my use”.



- After clicking the “next” button the connection wizard will be completed.

- After clicking finish the new connection starts with prompting for username and password

- After entering the correct credentials for the Microsoft VPN PPTP user the connection can be established by clicking “Connect”

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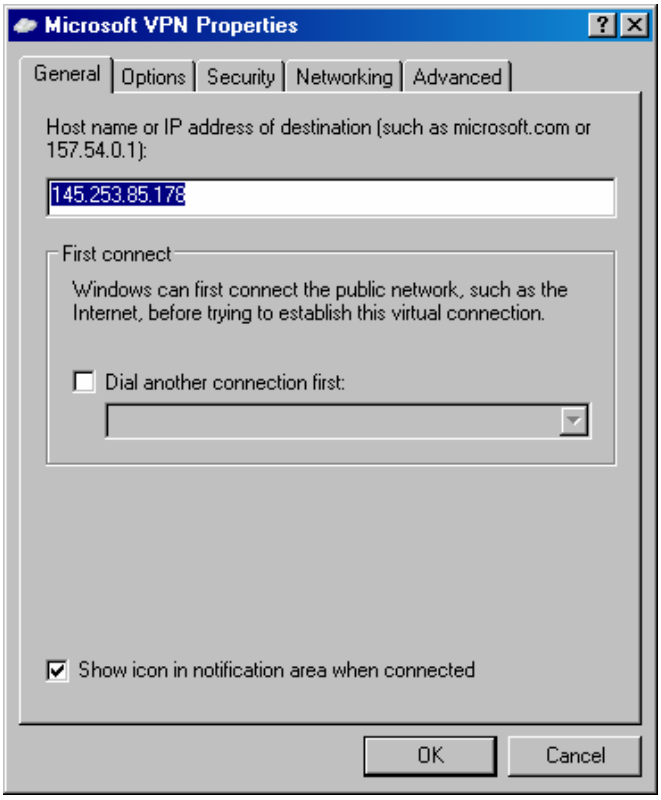
2.3 Configuring a new Client connection (Microsoft 2003 VPN PPTP Client)

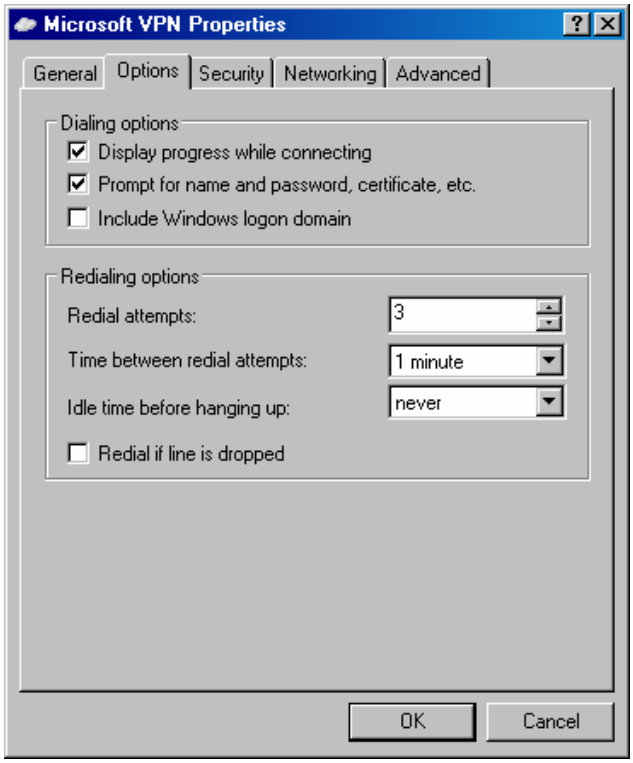
In this example, the client is configured for a typical scenario. The setup here is matched to the configuration of the Microsoft 2003 PPTP VPN described in the document in appendix A: “Microsoft 2003 VPN _Appendix_A_Server.doc“

- After starting the VPN connection profile this profile could be configured as shown in the following steps.

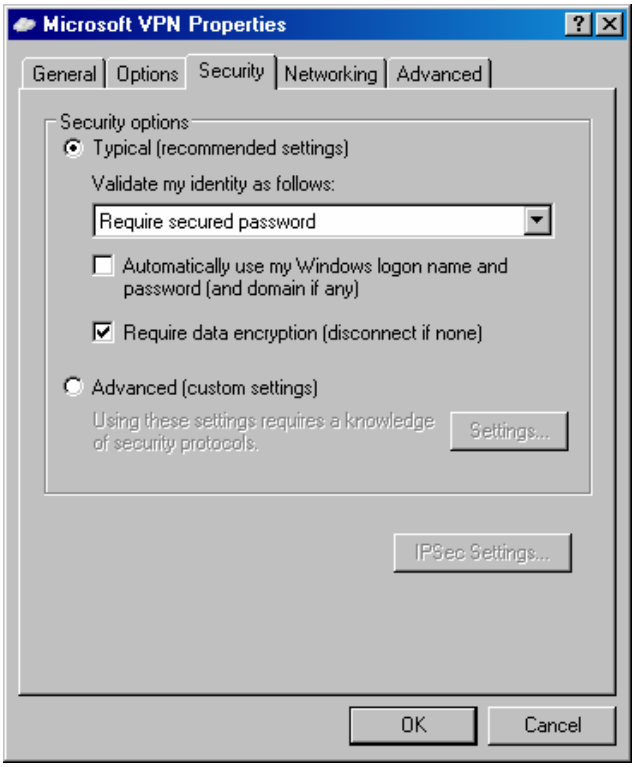
- Click on the “Properties” button to get the configuration tabs for the MS 2003 VPN connection and the first Tab “General”.



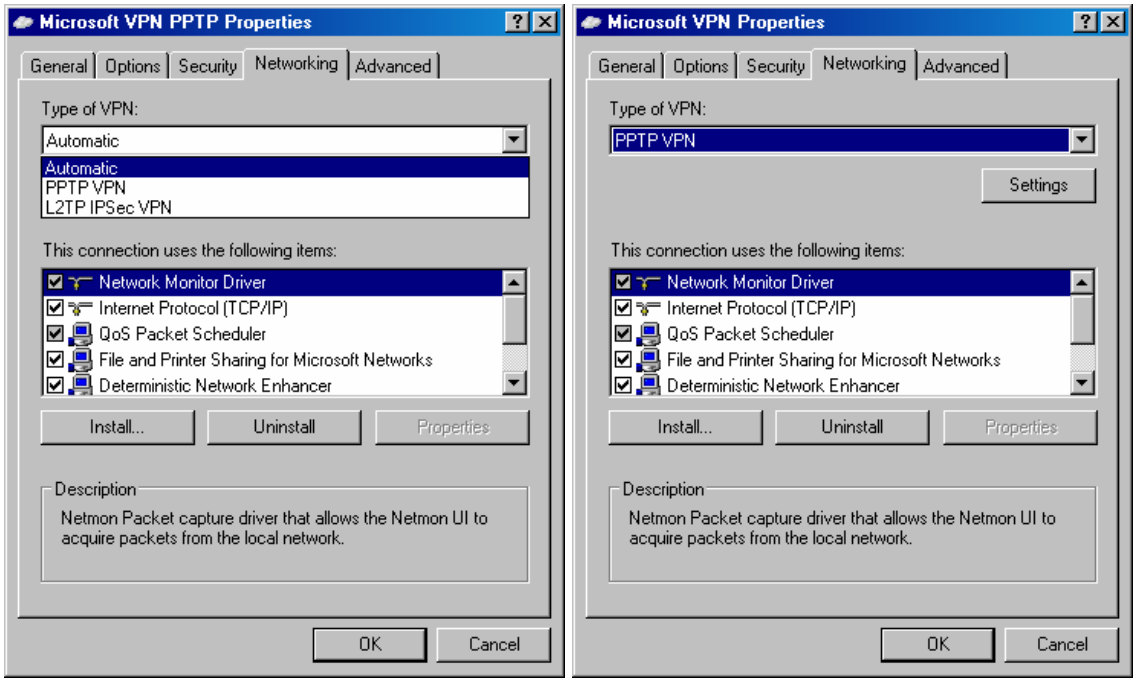
- The “Options” Tab provides the following screen:



- The “Security” Tab provides the following screen:



- The “Networking” Tab provides the following screen:



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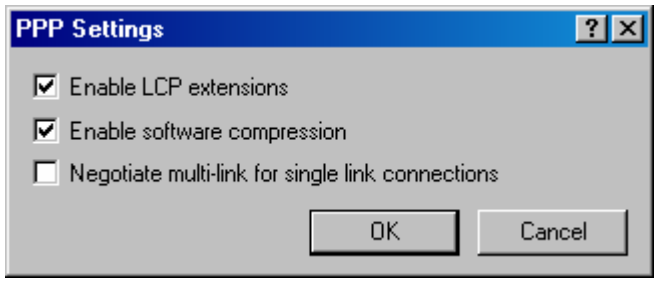
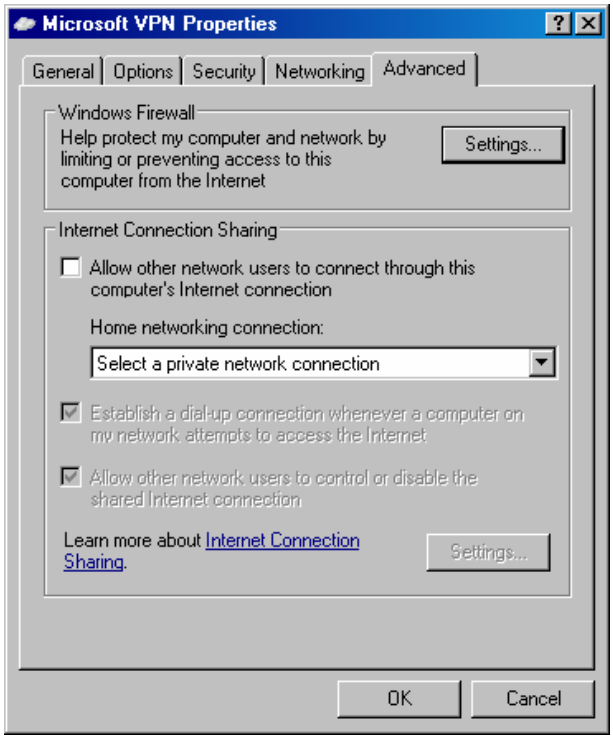
- After choosing the Type of VPN: Here PPTP VPN it is possible to configure via the "settings" button following settings for the connection:

1. Enable LCP extensions
2. Enable software compression
3. Negotiate multi-link for single link connections



- The "Advanced" Tab provides the following screen:



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3 Configuration & Connection Using VMC Software

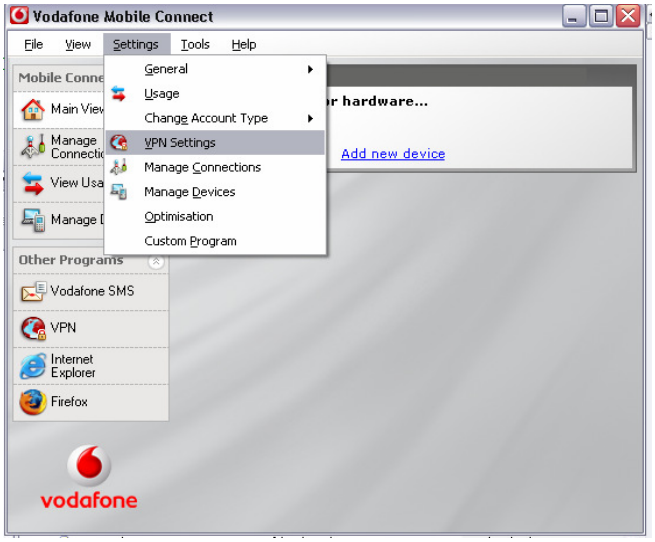
This chapter is used to describe possible configuration possibilities for using the VPN client in conjunction with the current released Vodafone Mobile Connect application.

First you need to build up a connection using your VMC. Insert the SIM into your datacard (or USB modem) and open the Vodafone Mobile Connect application.

Note: The new R9 of Vodafone Mobile Connect software offers the same features but with a different user interface. This document will be updated in due course with full demonstration of the steps using R9.

In short, the differences are:

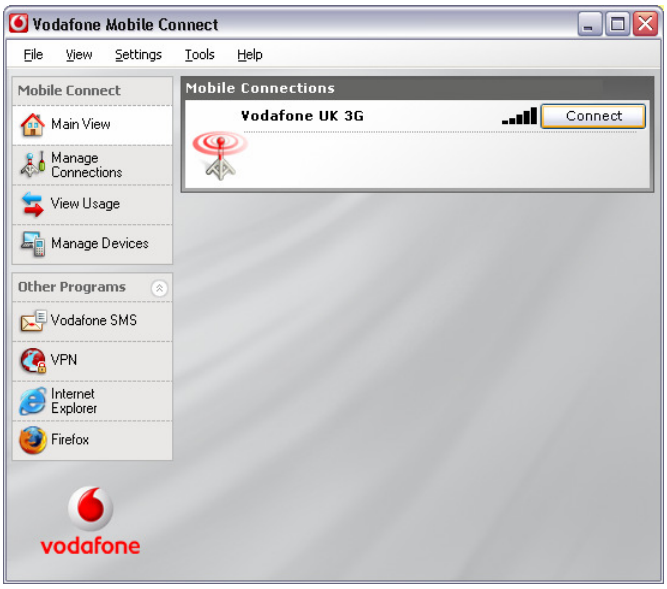
1. The '**Connect**' button is found in the 'Mobile Connections' window of the main screen.
2. The VPN button is found in the '**Other Programs**' section on the left side of the main view. If the Vodafone Mobile Connect software is not visible, it may need to be expanded from the mini view or from the icon in the Windows Notification Area (system tray).
3. The VPN settings can be modified using the **Settings | VPN Settings** commands from the main menu. This dialog will be initiated automatically the first time the VPN button is selected for the user to associate the button with the correct VPN software.



3.1 Establish the connection (VMC R9)

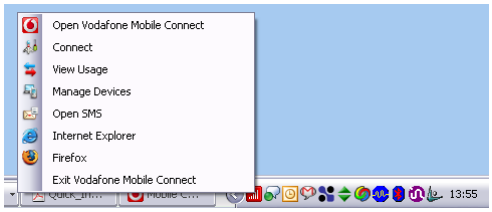
With a SIM card inserted into your datacard (or USB modem), to establish a connection:

1. In the main view, use the **Connect** button, or



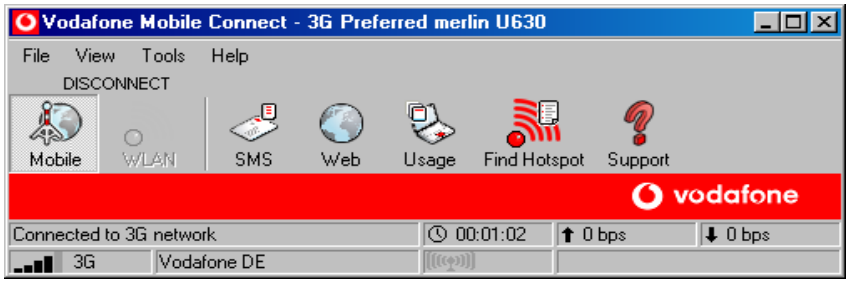
2. In the mini-view, use the **Connect** button, or

3. From the Windows Notification Area (system tray), right-click and select **Connect**.



3.2 Establish the connection (VMC R7 and earlier)

With a SIM card inserted into your datacard (or USB modem), to establish a connection:

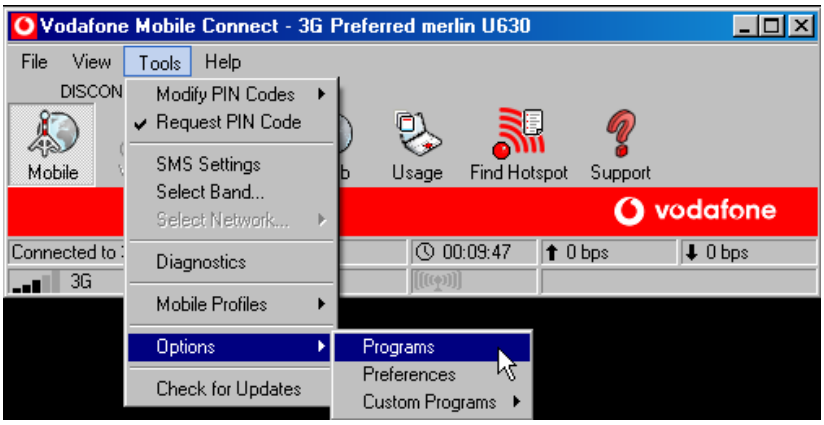


Press the **Mobile** button in the CONNECT/DISCONNECT area of the toolbar

3.3 Configure VMC for the VPN Client

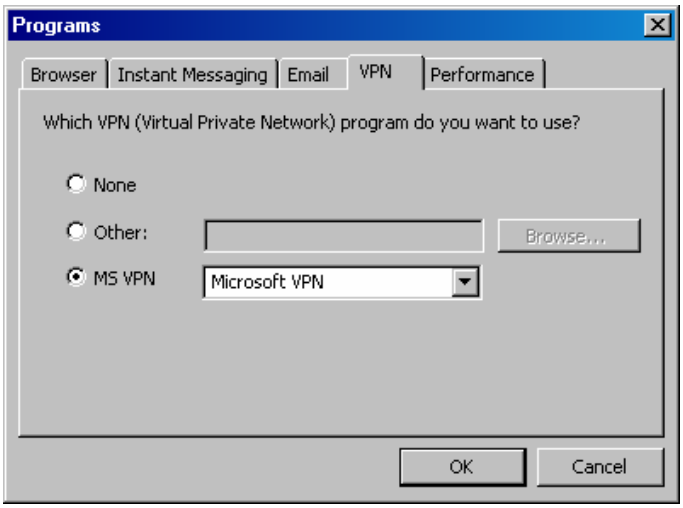
Note: The following steps apply to the legacy version of Vodafone Mobile Connect software R7 and earlier. See notes above on the process using the new R9 version.

- Configure your VPN Client as follows to start it from within the Dashboard.



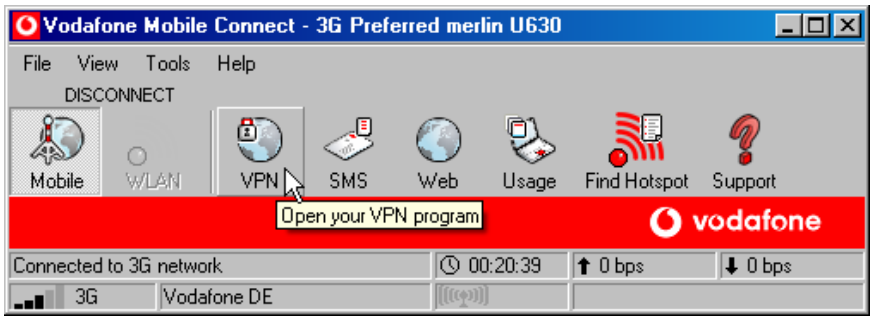
- Choose Tools | Mobile Profiles | Options | Programs and switch to “VPN” Tab

- Check the radio button “MS VPN” and select the generated profile for the Microsoft L2TP/IPSec connection.



- Confirm your configuration with “OK”
- Enter the username and password and click “Connect” in the main dialog and the Client will establish a VPN connection to the Server.

3.4 Establishing a mobile VPN connection



- Click the “Mobile” button on the main Dashboard screen.
  After you build up your preferred connection, click the “VPN” button to open your configured VPN Client

- Click “Connect” in the main dialog and the Client will open the connection to the Concentrator, ask for user name and password and establish the IPSec session.

4 Configuring the VPN Client to start automatically

By default Microsoft Windows 2003 PPTP VPN Client has to be started manually. It is possible to change the starting option to start automatically e.g. from the “Start up” Windows menu. Also the connection to the Server, by default, must be made manually by pressing the “Connect” button in the VPN Client. This can also be changed to connect automatically. In order to achieve this, the user has to change the following settings:

- Make sure the VPN profile is configured properly
- On the connection window select “Save this username and password for the following users:”
- Click on the “Properties” button on the connection window
- On the “general” tab check the box for “Dial another connection first” and select the profile for the Vodafone Mobile connection
- On the “Options” tab deselect the check box for “Prompt for name and password…”
- Using the Windows drag and drop feature you can now copy a shortcut of the VPN connection to the “Start up” Windows menu

The precondition for establishing a connection automatically using the Vodafone Mobile Connect card is an inserted SIM without a PIN or a scenario where the PIN is already entered.

4.1 Testing Results & Observations

Due to our FTP tests, it was necessary to modify browser options within the Internet Explorer as follows:

- Uncheck the “Enable folder view for FTP sites” setting
- Uncheck the “Use Passive FTP (for firewall and DSL modem compatibility” setting
- HTTP 1.1 settings are not necessary, but do not affect the FTP usage

This may not be necessary on other systems.

4.2 “Keep alive” Frequency

If NAT-Traversal is activated, as is necessary with most countries GPRS and 3G services, the “Keep alive” packet frequency defaults to 5 seconds. This will cause a comparatively high administrative traffic volume. Setting the “Keep alive” packet frequency to 15 to 30 seconds is fully sufficient.

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5 Connections to Different Services

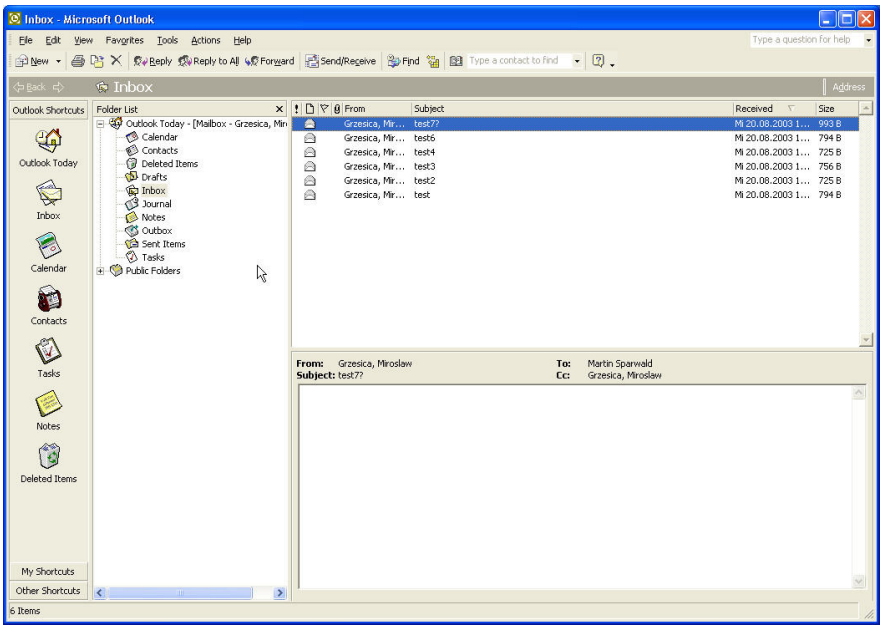
You can connect to all services via the VPN tunnel; you can connect to if you are in your local LAN.

It has to be an internet connection established and the VPN Client has to be started. If these requirements are fulfilled you can use all applications.

5.1 Connect to MS Exchange mail server / Outlook

Caused on time-outs and other problems depending on the VPN tunnel, sometimes you have to repeat the connection procedure. The dialog boxes (displayed below) will appear. Click **Retry** till you get a connection to the Exchange Server.

After connecting successfully to the Exchange Server, you can use MS Outlook like you are connected to your local LAN



5.2 Connect to file server

If a VPN connection is established, you have to map a shared network folder on the file server in the LAN.

The user connecting to the shared network folder must have the permissions (in the local LAN) to connect to this folder.

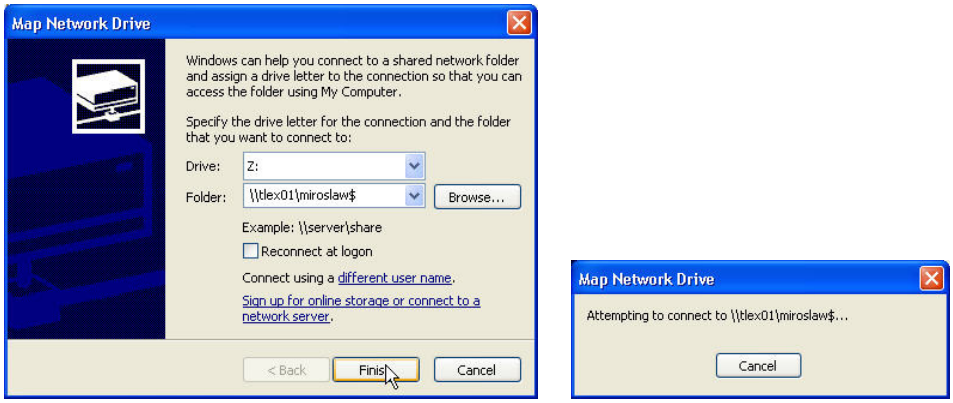


Figure 1 – Mapping Network Drive for VPN Access

After the connection to the file server via VPN is established, the user is able to transfer files between the file server and the local machine like he is connected to the local LAN.

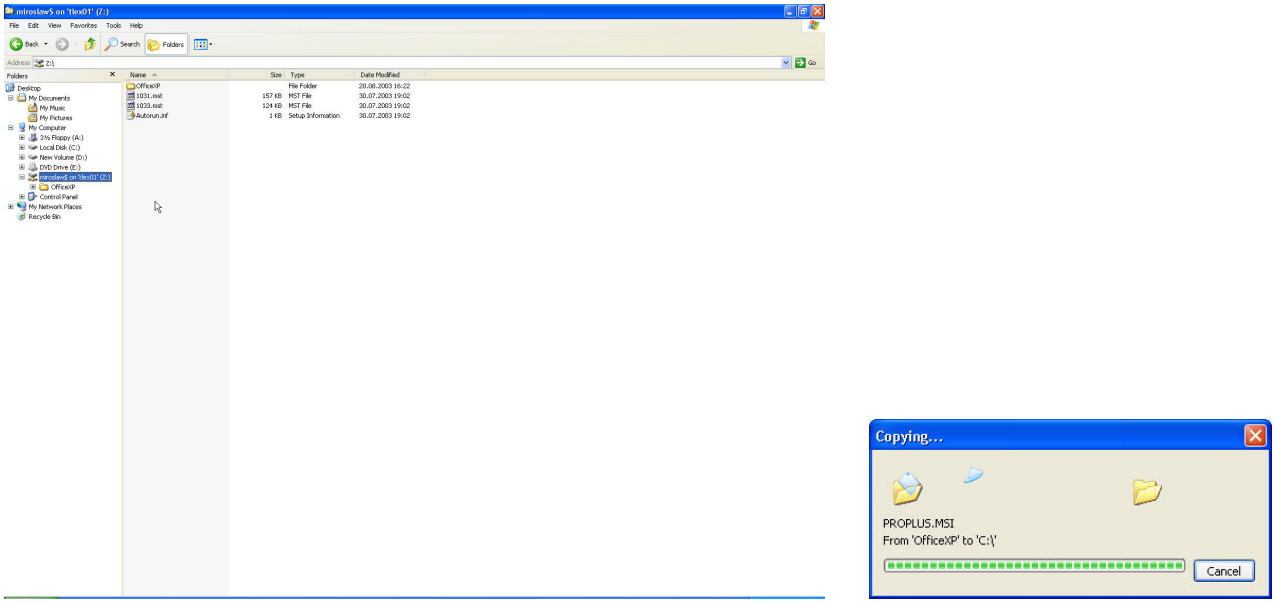


Figure 2 – File Transfer between LAN and local drives

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