Question

Any changes I make to Web pages, locker data updates, etc. are not shown when connecting from off campus, or there is a delay in the updates. Why is that?

Answer:

Due to security measures for our network services specific outside facing webpages (http://web.mit.edu, http://www.mit.edu and http://mit.edu pages and their underlying pages) are now being hosted by the Akamai content distribution network service, when connecting from off campus.

These pages are cached for 15 minutes. Because of this, changes made to web pages may see a delay of up to 15 minutes, for users connecting and updating these pages from off campus.

If real time updates need to be checked or verified, you can avoid retrieving the cached pages by using appending a different random query string starting with ? to the URL each time you want to see the most recent version. Examples:

http://web.mit.edu/yourname/www/?fahklajsdlfja
http://web.mit.edu/yourname/www/?dfkjshasdagfdg
http://web.mit.edu/yourname/www/?asfklhjdgsasf

Or two, view the page under https://web-cert.mit.edu with MIT certificates:

https://web-cert.mit.edu/yourname/www/

Any questions or concerns about these new measures can be directed to cybersecurity-questions@mit.edu.