

## How to make wicd systray to appear in GNOME on Ubuntu 11.10 / How to fix missing wicd network manager systray on Ubuntu

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After upgrading my sis's notebook from **Ubuntu 11.04** to **Ubuntu 11.10** on her **Acer Aspire 5736Z** the default gnome wireless network manager started behaving oddly.

The **Network Manager** did not show any networks, even though the network drivers showed that are loaded properly on the Linux host and using the normal commands like **iwlist** or **iwconfig** I could list and see the networks and even connect to a network.

As my sister is not a console geek like me it was necessary of course to have an easy way to connect herself to the Internet with nice GUI application. I personally love **WICD Network Manager** and as the default gnome manager was misbehaving I immediately installed her wicd.

With **wicd**, the wireless networks were properly listed and there was no connection issues to the wireless networks, however the *wicd system tray* was missing and hence everytime she wanted to connect to a wireless network, she had to keep *wicd-client* running active in the Dock or run it manually every time on connect, when she had to change her physical location and connect to another wireless network. This of course is quite unhandy and gives her a bad image of Linux and I definitely want to make her love free software and GNU / Linux. Thus I want to give her a GNU / Linux she will be easy to use.

To make her more satisfied with her Ubuntu I googled around to see **what causes the wicd systray to be missing** after some research online I found out, its probably due to either wicd bug or some kind of interface changes in **unity** newer versions of Ubuntu. Some people online suggested a fix via changing values in **gconf-editor** but this work around by changing the values in *gconf-editor*:

```
'desktop' -> 'unity' -> 'panel'
```

I tried this suggested fix which was reported to work on Ubuntu 11.04 but the gconf registry suggested pathway was missing at all so this solution did not worked.

I further read some other suggested solution using *wicd-client* by invoking it with two args like so:

```
stanimira@ubuntu:~$ wicd-client -n &  
...stanimira@ubuntu:~$ wicd-client -a &
```

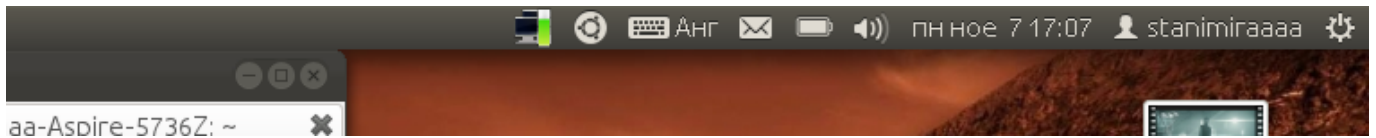
This proposed solution did not worked either, then I found in one of the Ubuntu bugs reports, a little [shell script \(add-wicd-to-whitelist.sh\) that changes some values in gconf](#) so I proceeded downloaded and give it a try:

```
stanimira@ubuntu:~$ wget http://www.pc-freak.net/files/add-wicd-to-whitelist.sh  
...  
stanimira@ubuntu:~$ sh add-wicd-to-whitelist.sh
```

...

For my surprise running the script doesn't immediately changed nothing and wicd wireless connectivity indicator was still missing from the tray.

I thought it might need to reload gnome so I give it a restart and HOORAY! after the restart the WICD connected wireless strength show up, like you can see in the screenshot below ;)



Now hope this fix will, help out there experiencing the same issues to work around his wireless network connectivity issues ;) Cheers.