



ComSifter

protect web users now!

Model CS-8



Pornography. Gambling. Hacking. Hate sites.

All Web sites users should not see.

But how do you protect users while still letting them enjoy the significant educational benefits of the Internet?

That question is even more compelling today, as the operators of these offensive sites are employing the latest techniques to lure visitors to their sites...and to keep them there.

Purifying the Net

ComSifter™ stops the pornography, the on-line gambling, the hate sites at the Internet gateway, before the offensive material reaches users. You don't have to worry about users surfing the Net. With ComSifter, if they accidentally misspell a word or use a search word that takes them to the "dark side," they will see a friendly message telling them the site has inappropriate content.

ComSifter differs from most other content-filtering products in that it looks at key words in *context* using CSphrase™ Filtering Technology. Educational sites that happen to have a "suspicious" word or two will be allowed. Users can do appropriate research, without being exposed to the Net's harmful aspects.

ComSifter uses patent-pending methods to outperform the competition in its accuracy, simplicity and cost-effectiveness.

Accuracy: ComSifter uses a multi-tiered filtering system that stops more than 98% of inappropriate content, compared to 50-75% for other filtering technologies.

Additionally, the ComSifter staff constantly monitors the Internet for new sites and adds them to the blacklist. ComSifter updates the blacklist either on a daily or weekly basis (depending on the service agreement), ensuring that these sites are added to the filtering system.

Simplicity: ComSifter can be installed in your network in less than 10 minutes. Plug it in, turn it on and know that your users are being protected from the dark side of the Internet.

Inexpensive: ComSifter is competitively priced, putting it within the reach of libraries, schools, small businesses and even homeowners.

How it Works

ComSifter is a hardware-and-software, set-it-and-forget-it device that plugs into your network and redirects all Internet traffic to itself. Only the ComSifter communicates directly with the Internet. Internet information for all computers in your network (e.g., Windows, Apple, Linux) must first go through the filter system built into the ComSifter.

Model CS-8, with eight configurable filters, allows individual users to be directed through a specific filter, based on their username.

- First, ComSifter queries the requesting computer for the username of the user logged into the client computer.
- ComSifter then looks up the user name and associated filter in the ComSifter database. ComSifter then retrieves the requested page and applies the rules for the filter.
- Finally, ComSifter scans every word on the Internet page, using CSphrase Filtering Technology, looking for words and phrases that indicate inappropriate content. The context of these words is then analyzed to determine if the page should be blocked. This greatly reduces the number of false positives while blocking those pages that are offensive. *This feature accounts for ComSifter's remarkable accuracy.*

If the content passes through all filters, ComSifter allows the page to be loaded on the user's computer. If the content fails to pass through any of the filters, an "Access Denied" page is sent to the user's computer. All this is done in a *fraction of a second*, with no delay seen by the user.

CIPA Compliance

ComSifter is CIPA compliant and fulfills the Technology Protection Measure requirement of the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Specifications

Network

Network Type

10/100 Ethernet. ComSifter's built-in routing function allows it to act as the pseudo-Internet gateway for client computers. All client computers request web pages from ComSifter who in turn make the request from the true Internet Gateway. In this manner all web traffic flows through ComSifter where it is filtered for content.

Number of Computers

ComSifter is not limited to a certain number of computers but rather by the load presented by the computers requesting connection to the Internet. Based on a Typical Access Time of 20ms, ComSifter can process 50 requests per second. With typical user viewing patterns this can translate to hundreds of computers being connected to ComSifter at once.

DHCP Requirements

ComSifter is configured with an in-active DHCP server. The DHCP server may be used if an existing DHCP server cannot change the default gateway setting.

Port Requirements (outbound to Internet)

Minimum port 80 for web browsing. Other ports as required by the applications using the Internet.

Port Requirements (inbound from Internet)

No requirements, all ComSifter requests are made outbound to the Internet.

Port Blocker

ComSifter includes a patent-pending Port Blocker which permits blocking of port-hopping peer-to-peer download and chat programs such as Kazaa (music) and IM (chat).

Caching Proxy

ComSifter incorporates a caching proxy that caches web pages that have been accessed and filtered. Subsequent accesses to these pages are served from the caching proxy – not from the Internet. Access time from the cache is near instantaneous and depending on network usage patterns this may result in a substantial reduction in Internet network traffic.

Blacklist Update

The Blacklist is updated automatically daily between 11 PM and 6 AM local time or weekly on Sundays depending on the Service Contract. The update takes approximately 2 minutes over a typical 1.5mbps line.

Mechanical & Environmental

Dimensions – HxWxD 11.5" x 5.5" x 10.5"

Weight – 10 lbs

Temperature 50 - 95° F (10 - 35° C)

Electrical 115 VAC, 75 watts

Configurable Filters

CS-8 includes eight filters that may be configured to the needs of your users.

- Complete domains, URLs or individual site may be filtered or un-filtered.
- Individual users may be assigned to a filter.
- Individual users or computers can be blocked or can bypass.
- 10 configurable filter groups per individual filter.
- Defined extension and MIME types may be blocked.
- Warn & Go for temporary viewing of web site.
- Time of Day scheduling for each filter.
- Comprehensive search facility for finding words, domains, URLs, extension and MIME types in the filter.
- Master Filter allows fast, system wide changes.
- Filters 1-4 pre-configured for fast, out of the box, installation.

Configurable CSphrase Word Lists

- Web pages are scanned for banned or weighted words or phrases.
- 12 configurable words/phrases categories.
- Words may be added or deleted to each category.
- Configurable Sensitivity settings.

Administrator Functions

- Module based admin functions allow granting only needed rights to each admin.
- Security Log File.
- User Access Log File.
- Extensive diagnostics including DNS and Internet tests.
- Customizable Access Denied Page.
- Import facility for inputting usernames from external sources.

Configuration - any browser on the Local Area Network.

Licensing - includes an unlimited number of seats.

Service Plans

- **Standard Plan** – includes unlimited phone support and a weekly Blacklist Update.
- **Premium Plan** – includes unlimited phone support and a daily Blacklist Update.

Warranty

- ComSifter is warranted from hardware failure for one year from the date of purchase.
- Extended warranty plans are available.



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