



# ComSifter

*protect web users now!*

**Model CS-1**



## **Pornography. Gambling. Hate sites.**

### **All Web sites children should not see.**

But how do you protect children 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 children. You don't have to worry about kids 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*. Educational sites that happen to have a "suspicious" word or two will be allowed. Children 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 and requires no changes to individual computers on the network. Plug it in, turn it on and know that your children 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.

A three-tier filter system ensures that inappropriate content does not reach the user.

- First, ComSifter compares the site with its blacklist to determine if the address has already been deemed inappropriate.
- The product then looks at the site rating, searching for the industry-standard rating tags.
- Finally, ComSifter scans every word on the Internet page looking for words 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 three 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

ComSifter operates in a Network Address Translation mode (NAT). In this mode only non-routable IP addresses are used on the internal LAN.

#### Number of Computers

ComSifter is not limited to a certain number of computers but rather will be limited 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.

#### Typical Access Time

Access time per HTTP request is less than 20ms.

#### DHCP Requirements

ComSifter is configured with an active DHCP server. The DHCP server is easily disabled if an existing DHCP server is used. In this case the existing DHCP server will need to redirect its DHCP client's gateway to ComSifter.

#### Port Requirements

Port 80 for standard HTTP operation  
Port 10000 for configuration

### 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

## Sensitivity Levels

**Level 1- this level is suggested only for the youngest children or where the strictest policy is enforced.**

- Incorporates very strict filtering and minimal downloading capabilities.
- Porn, hate, hacking, advertising and gambling are not allowed.
- Web based email is not allowed at common sites such as Hotmail and Yahoo.
- Downloading of files including exe, mp3, dll, avi, visual basic extensions and many more are not allowed.
- Many automatic program updates will not work with this setting.

**Level 2 - this level is suggested for Elementary Schools**

- Porn, hate, hacking, advertising and gambling are not allowed.
- Web based email is not allowed at common sites such as Hotmail and Yahoo. Downloading of files, excluding mp3 and exe, is allowed.

**Level 3 - this level is suggested for Middle or Junior High Schools**

- Porn, hate, hacking, advertising and gambling are not allowed.
- Web based email and downloading of files is allowed.

**Level 4 – this level is suggested for public access points such as kiosks and library terminals, High School and colleges and filtered adult use.**

- Porn is not allowed.
- Web based email allowed.
- Downloading of all files is allowed.

**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.

