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On Behalf Of Paula Soares

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:46 AM

To: conntech@lists.libct.org

Subject: [CONNTECH] Internet Filters Responses

Thank you for your responses on Internet filter products

Great Bend Public Library, Central Kansas Library System

We have twenty public Internet computers. Sixteen are filtered with the statewide Kan-Guard filtering system to meet the CIPA standards. The remaining four are children's computers and filtered with CyberPatrol on each machine for further local control. It has worked well for us.

West Hartford Public Library

We use WebSense for our internet filter. It is server-based. WebSense examines and temporarily retains all our internet traffic, but the only internet workstations that are actually filtered are those in the children's department and teen room (that is 5 filtered workstations out of 13 total at the Main library, 7 filtered out of 20 total across all our three branches). WebSense automatically downloads a new filtering database nightly. If the download fails, I get an email the next morning. In addition to the default database we get, we also have the option of either submitting a site for re-classification or overriding the WebSense classification and putting an individual site into whichever of their categories we want. Not that you asked, but overall this is the best filter I've used. It is expensive to license and complicated to set up, but once in place, it works well, doesn't require much intervention, and is relatively accurate. You can still expect lots of overblocking and underblocking, but compared to the three or four other filtering products I've had experience with, it is far superior.

Fairfield Public Library

We use stand-alone copies of Cyber Sitter on our children's Internet PCs. There are 2 of them at the branch and we will soon have 6 in the main library. The PCs for adults and teens are completely unfiltered and we do not allow children to use them, nor do we allow adults or teens to use the children's computers (Pharos enforces those rules). Cyber Sitter is set to auto-update, but we use Deep Freeze, which more or less locks the C: drive so any changes made are lost when the PC is rebooted. Therefore, I have to manually update them.

Groton Public Library

At the Groton Public Library we use Cybersitter. It is a standalone software package (loaded individually on each pc). We have approx. 50+ computers running Cybersitter. (approx. 30 public, 20 staff) I, the tech person, load Cybersitter on each PC. Filter files are updated automatically. The biggest selling point is that each license is only \$10.00 (educational pricing)