

# How To Easily Save \$5,000 Per Employee AND Increase Their Productivity

Do you have any idea how much time your employees spend on Facebook, Twitter, dating sites, G- Mail, Hotmail, March Madness or any other non-work relevant and time-sucking websites? If they are doing it on your time, then you should know. A \$20 an hour employee losing 1 hour a day costs you over \$5K a year. Content filtering helps you control that cost.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Content filters can be software only or a combination of software and hardware. The type of content filter will depend on your network and how much reporting you would like. Most content filters have a way that you can block everything or you can allow specific employees to have access.

## WHAT CAN YOU BLOCK?

**Content Categories.** You can block websites based on a category such as pornography, violence, hackings, sports, news, dating, bank and chat sites.

**File Type.** You can restrict your employees from downloading files. For example, you can block the download of executables or EXE files. This would prevent anyone from accidentally installing a virus or pirated software.

**Instant Messaging (IM).** You can block instant messaging services such as MSN Messenger. These can cause security vulnerabilities and are often the target of hackers. Blocking public IM communications outright is one strategy to secure information flow and increase network security.

**Application Blocking.** You might want to block applications including Internet music applications, software updates, and browser toolbars.

**Allowing Access.** As some people need higher levels of access and functions, you can set filtering by the individual user or a group.

You might want to block all social media sites. This would include LinkedIn, but some of your employees should be using LinkedIn as part of their business networking. If you restricted their use, you would force them to use it from home or worse, their mobile phone. Using their mobile phone will take 4 times longer and now you are losing time and money. Most filters will allow you to let specific employees have access to specific websites.

**Warning Policies.** You can show employees a custom 'block page' but allow them to proceed after being warned. Warning policies are useful for reminding users about sites which may violate your corporate internet usage policy without blocking them outright.

**Web Traffic Monitoring.** You can set up the filter for monitoring specific website categories or domain names without presenting blocked pages to users or preventing access. Monitoring will help to make a business decision on what blocking you might want to use.

**Time-based Exceptions.** Another common feature is allowing access during specific time periods. You could let all your employees have access to Facebook over their lunch break.

**Spyware and Virus Protection.** You can block access to known spyware sites, spyware downloads and detect and block spyware activity.

#### **WHAT DOES IT COST?**

Content filters can cost between \$900 and \$3,000 in software / hardware costs the first year. Most content filters have a renewal fee the following years.