

# A T O M W I D E

## WEBSCREEN

Having used off-the-shelf web filtering applications for many years and found them to lack the flexibility and functionality which primary and secondary schools wanted, Atomwide decided to develop its own product. The result was WebScreen™, a highly-scalable filtering system that targets the particular needs of the UK education sector and draws upon Atomwide's experience to provide unprecedented levels of protection from undesirable content for end users.

### Key features:

- Designed specifically for primary/secondary education customers in the UK
- Unified system takes full advantage of collective experience and expertise
- Backed by advanced A.I. categorisation engine
- Direct control over certain policy options for schools
- Global and local site policies
- Flexible category sets
- Full logging capabilities
- Policy enforcement based on client IP address, username and time of day



Unlike most filtering systems, WebScreen™ is especially focused on web sites likely to be visited by school-based users, rather than sites popular in other sectors such as business. This focus is possible because the known surfing history of Atomwide education customers has been built into the system.

Similarly, the database pays particular attention to UK-based sites, making it more relevant to British schools than the offerings of US-based competitors which concentrate on American sites.

Since all subscribing establishments are part of a single filtering system, rather than each having its own independent system, management of the filtering service becomes much easier, more efficient and more consistent at every level. End users in particular benefit from quicker responses to categorisation changes, a reduced chance of policy inconsistencies, and faster roll-outs of updates.

Despite the unified nature of WebScreen™, the system is, of course, arranged so that a failure in one location does not affect users elsewhere.

In addition, the cumulative knowledge acquired from monitoring the browsing activity of tens of thousands of users can be shared by all – if a user in one establishment encounters a brand new unsuitable site, for example, then that site will be categorised and consequently blocked everywhere within minutes.

WebScreen™ uses highly-regarded NetSweeper technology to handle ‘on-the-fly’ Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)-based classification of web sites which have not previously been encountered; categorisations can subsequently be reviewed by support staff.

Web-based management tools for WebScreen™ allow control over certain policy options to be delegated to appropriately privileged users, and so enable schools to instantly adjust the finer details of which category sets can be accessed by users.

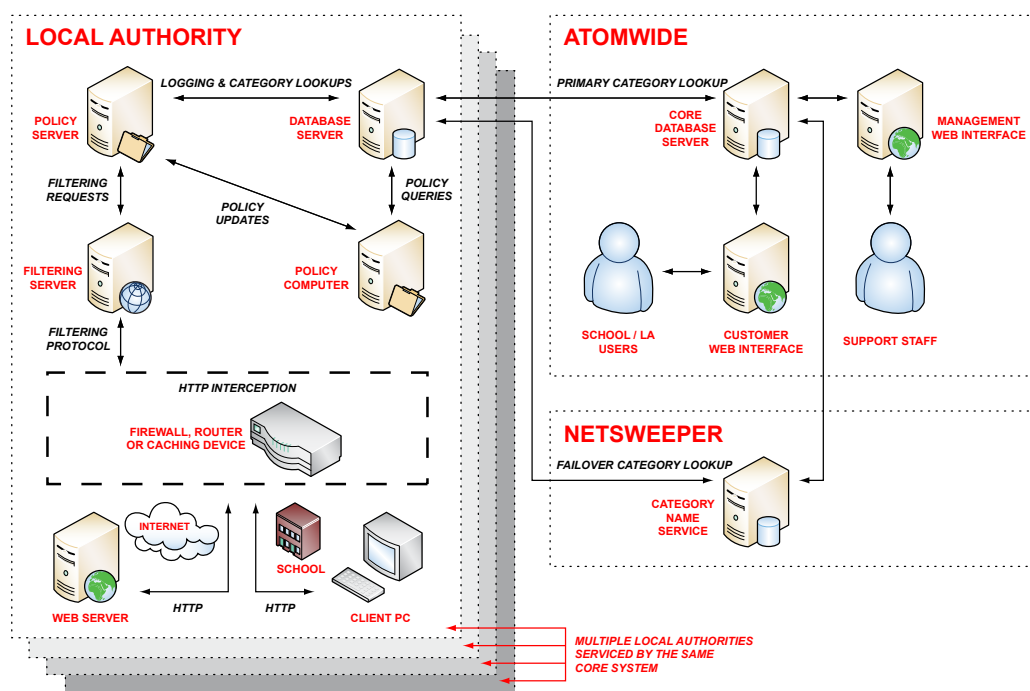
While a site re-categorisation request from one establishment can be approved and put into instant effect for all establishments, it naturally also remains possible to tailor policies for specific establishments when needed, as well as set up per-establishment exception lists.

Additional category sets can be easily created as needed to meet the challenge of filtering new web-based technologies such as blogs, podcasts, and Web 2.0 services.

Detailed logs of all web accesses are, of course, maintained. This not only allows thorough investigations to be carried out in the event of suspected system misuse, but also means that extensive reports about surfing activity, such as lists of the most popular sites, can be generated.

By default, filtering policies are applied to IP subnets, so all PCs on a school’s network are subject to the same rules. However, exceptions can be defined by IP address, allowing alternative policies to be enforced for specific departments or classrooms.

User authentication can be enabled so that browsing is restricted to people with valid USO accounts, and different filtering policies are applied to different categories of user - perhaps so that staff are granted more liberal web access than pupils.



For residential schools or establishments operating evening classes, for example, different policies can be set to operate during the school day and during evenings and weekends.

Specifications are subject to change. E&OE. Revision 3

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