GROUP TEST | Web content management

Web content management includes overseeing all data flows related to surfing the web. Peter Stephenson and the SC Lab team put 12 offerings through their paces.

f all the areas of information security that have spawned a variety of tools and tool types, content management has got to be close to the top. Over the years we have had web firewalls, web content management (WCM) tools, email content management and content management

in general. All of these have converged somewhat, but web content has become more focused.

Web content management includes managing all of those data flows that are related to surfing the web. Today that covers more than 70 percent of all end-user computing, according to some sources.

Certainly the percentage is quite large regardless of what the specific number is. That means that there is a lot of opportunity to be exposed to web-borne mischief. One estimate puts web-borne threats up 225 percent and cites application layer exploits as the leading cause of infections.



iBoss Enterprise Filter



Vendor iBoss Web Filters, a division of Phantom Technologies

Price \$1,500 for the hardware/ software, plus one-year activation/updates: \$795.

Contact http://iboss.com/

he iBoss Enterprise Filter includes a massive array of protection from web-based threats, as well as control over applications and web browsing.



This appliance features a massive URL database along with BEST BUY gateway-level protec-

tion from spyware, malicious code and phishing attempts.

Also featured is a large application protocol filter that can block IM, P2P, streaming media and various file types.

We found this product to be easy to deploy and configure. The initial configuration is done manually by connecting either through

a console port or to the initial IP address of the appliance through a web browser. Once connected to the appliance, the IP and network information are entered and the device can be placed into the network. All further configuration and management is done via the web GUI. We found the interface to be quite intuitive to navigate due to a well-organized layout.

ple. The box comes loaded with a decent default filtering policy that can be tweaked to match the needs of the environment, or the administrator can choose to create custom policies. Policies can then be easily deployed using existing Active Directory or eDirectory groups and users, or by IP address.

Configuration is also quite sim-

Documentation included a short quick-install guide that provides the steps to get the appliance up and running in the environment. There is also a more in-depth

deployment guide that includes these same steps but with more detail and screen shots.

Customers who purchase the iBoss Enterprise Filter receive basic phone and email technical support, as well as access to an online knowledge base and other resources at no cost.

At a price of \$1,500, plus \$795 per year, activation fee, this product offers an excellent value for the money. The iBoss Enterprise Filter offers a nice feature set with easy-to-use controls for a reasonable cost.

SC MAGAZINE RATING

Features	****
Ease of use	****
Performance	****
Documentation	****
Support	****
Value for money	****

OVERALL RATING

Strengths Full feature set including a vast application control library. Weaknesses None that we found. Verdict Solid, priced right and fullfeatured, this one is our Best Buy this month.

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- Peter Stephenson



iBoss Web Filters

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