



Case Study

Lewisville Independent School District

PROFILE:

COUNTRY: USA
INDUSTRY: Education
SIZE: 53,000 Students

KEY REQUIREMENTS:

- CIPA compliance
- 1:1 iPad device control
- Device agnostic BYOD support
- User activity reporting
- SSL inspection
- Granular control of Web 2.0 and social media technologies
- Ease of use and administration

MAIN BENEFITS:

- Granular Web policy control for student allocated iPads
- Future-proof flexibility to accommodate new devices and technologies
- Embrace next-generation mobile technologies enabling 21st Century learning opportunities for students and teachers
- Highly responsive vendor technical support with same day resolution on a pioneering national best practice initiative



ContentKeeper Provides Mobile Device Accountability and Control for a 1:1 Best Practice Initiative

OBJECTIVE

Lewisville Independent School District (ISD) required a cost effective and easy to manage solution that could support the successful rollout of approximately 20,000 new iPads in 2013 and their existing network infrastructure, ensuring Web use remained CIPA compliant.

SOLUTION

Lewisville ISD deployed ContentKeeper Web Filter Pro to secure all of its allocated 1:1 devices, and future-proof the school's wireless network for BYOD (bring your own device) mobile use.

Background

In 2013, Lewisville ISD began a ground-breaking technology rollout of the district's 1:X™ initiative, where approximately 20,000 iPads were allocated to students and staff. Manager of Network and Technical Services, Patrick Johnson was charged with ensuring 1:X remained CIPA compliant and students remained accountable for their Web use. The vision of the district's 1:X initiative was to provide the right device at the right time and support both 1:1 and BYOD.

Lewisville ISD already had a CIPA compliant Web filtering technology solution in place. But, the existing filter did not meet the district's needs for ensuring Web protection for students on their iPads. Mr. Johnson began the challenge of finding a new Web filter that could support the daunting requirements of the 1:X initiative and be scalable and flexible enough to meet the unknown needs of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) mobility support in the future.

BYOD to Mobile Device Accountability and Control

Lewisville ISD initially considered network access control (NAC) solutions to meet the 1:X requirements. However, the NAC solutions were cost prohibitive and didn't fulfill additional requirements for planned BYOD support.

"We knew we had an existing requirement to support device management and appropriate Web use on the iPads. But we wanted to find a solution that was flexible and device agnostic. With the fast changing nature of technology, we knew we might have a need to support different devices in three years' time, but we just don't know what those devices might be," explained Mr. Johnson.

Why Choose ContentKeeper?

This was uncharted territory. The 1:X initiative was a national best practice development project to introduce tablet mobile devices use into schools and reshape how students and teachers interact with technology in the 21st century learning environment.

"1:X was totally new for us. There was no roadmap for this. Introducing iPads, which are essentially consumer devices, into an enterprise network and getting everything to work is challenging," said Mr. Johnson

As such, Mr. Johnson sought out several Web filtering technology vendors to evaluate and co-develop a solution for their 1:X requirements.

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“ContentKeeper was device agnostic and helped make a logistically challenging task easier by enabling us to ensure devices are managed centrally, without having to touch the devices themselves.”

Patrick Johnson

Manager of Network & Technical Services

“We narrowed our search down to two vendors that offered an in-line bridge filtering design. As we put the products through extensive testing we began to realize that similarities between the two on paper did not appear in the evaluation. ContentKeeper provided what we needed for our environment,” Mr. Johnson revealed.

The Importance of HTTPS Inspection

With increasing volumes of SSL encrypted Web traffic being the trend, Lewisville ISD especially wanted to evaluate how the two solutions performed HTTPS content inspection.

“The way SSL traffic is handled was important. We wanted a solution that didn’t require a custom browser and could be managed centrally. The less we have to touch the endpoint and not have to load software on the devices the better for us. We liked the way ContentKeeper handled SSL filtering.”

Managing Web 2.0 and Social Media on Mobile Devices

Web 2.0 and social media was also of key concern for Lewisville ISD, especially with the introduction of mobile devices onto the school’s network.

“We had a number of Web 2.0 and social media applications we needed to be able to control. This was a key requirement for us; it’s what the kids do. It’s one of the reasons we picked ContentKeeper. They provided granular controls to manage a wide range of social networking sites and applications. And when we identified certain media types that didn’t appear to be available in the product, ContentKeeper added support for them overnight. It’s a level of support and responsiveness that we hadn’t seen from a vendor before.”

Redefining Industry Leading Support

“ContentKeeper provided amazing support. They even helped us develop a custom solution to centrally manage devices and help ensure students only used approved software profiles. When we had questions about how we could prevent students from wiping the fixed settings on their iPads, ContentKeeper delivered the answers.”

Making 1:1 Deployment Easier

As Lewisville ISD settled on their choice with ContentKeeper, Mr. Johnson began to turn his sights on the next phase of the project and the logistics of rolling out additional tablet devices to continue the initiative.

LISD decided to rollout devices to grade levels simultaneously across all the schools in the district. ContentKeeper helped make a logistically challenging task easier by enabling us to ensure devices are managed centrally, without having to touch the devices themselves,” said Mr. Johnson.

RESULT

Lewisville ISD has been able to successfully deploy thousands of consumer-oriented devices over a large enterprise education IT network in a controlled and planned manner. ContentKeeper has been there to assist and support all phases of the project and helped ensure regulatory compliance and improve ease of administration on a ground-breaking and challenging national best practice initiative.



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