

DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

INDUSTRY:

Higher Education

NO OF STUDENTS:

25,000

WEBSENSE INTEGRATION:

Check Point FW-1

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Neil Faver, Network Security Team Leader

De Montfort University



De Montfort University Leads the Way With a Clear and Positive Student Internet Management Policy

De Montfort University, based in the Midlands, has always prided itself on setting high educational standards. So when it was time to grant Internet access to its students and staff, the university leapt to the head of the class by introducing a workable and sensible employee/staff Internet management (EIM) solution using filtering software from Websense Inc.

Senior management at De Montfort University had five main reasons why they decided to install filtering software. These included:

- 1 Enforcing the university's security policy
- 2 Managing university bandwidth
- 3 User demand - responding and respecting those around them
- 4 Moral obligation
- 5 Positive selling point for the university

"Perhaps most importantly, we had a security policy that we wanted to enforce. This involved adhering to the terms and conditions of all licence agreements relating to IT facilities, including software, equipment, services, documentation and other items. It also meant not creating or displaying offensive material in any form," said Neil Faver, network/security team leader for the university. "Websense Enterprise allowed us to achieve all of these objectives in one easy-to-use software programme."

Of course, knowing is half the battle, so before De Montfort University installed Websense EIM software, it created an acceptable Internet use policy and distributed it to students and staff. The policy stated that users could not:

- Create or transmit (other than for properly supervised and lawful research purposes) any offensive, obscene or indecent images, data or other material, or any data capable of being resolved into obscene or indecent images or material.
- Create or transmit material, which is designed or likely to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety.
- Create or transmit defamatory material.
- Transmit material such that this infringes the copyright of another person.
- Transmit unsolicited commercial or advertising material either to other user organisations, or to organisations connected to other networks, save where that material is embedded within, or is otherwise part of, a service to which the member of the user organisation has chosen to subscribe.

"Just having a policy is half a solution," said Faver. "But with Websense Enterprise software, we were able to go beyond meeting all of the objectives of the acceptable use policy by actually enforcing it."



Traffic management has also been a major consideration for De Montfort University. Non-educational-related or offensive surfing can quickly eat up space on the university's Internet connection and slow down overall network speed. "Students need to use the Internet to research their work promptly and efficiently," Faver said. "However, if they use it for non-work-related activities, bandwidth can become a major issue. Since introducing Websense, we have eased the problem significantly, making an enormous difference to both students and staff, as well as making significant cost savings." In fact, Faver estimates that the costs of external Internet access at the university are now 50 percent less than institutions of a similar size and configuration.

By having a clear Internet usage policy and restricting access to inappropriate sites on the Internet, De Montfort University have also been able to convey a positive image to parents. And it also means a reduction in the time staff have had to spend in managing problems related to inappropriate access of the Internet on campus. "Viewing of offensive or obscene material has caused distress to other students and staff in the past," said Faver. "We are no longer faced with embarrassing confrontations or having to waste valuable time investigating people's allegations. This frees us up to do the work we are employed to do."

De Montfort University is a dynamic organisation, formed from a diverse range of specialist institutions. Its long history of excellent teaching, learning and research is founded in the technical and trade education of the late 19th Century. Today, the university has six campuses at three centres, in the UK, and special arrangements with many more universities and colleges in other countries. It has 25,000 students, and more than 3,000 staff, and an annual turnover in the region of £100 million.

For further information about De Monfort University, visit www.dmu.ac.uk.

For more information about Websense, visit www.websense.com.



Websense is accredited with approved Internet Filtering Product certification by the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency). As an approved supplier, Websense is certified to provide schools with Web security and Web filtering solutions in line with national strategies and regulations on safe Internet use in education.

About Websense

Websense, Inc. (NASDAQ: WBSN) is the worldwide leader of web filtering, and premier provider of web security and desktop security software. Websense software is preferred by leading Fortune 500 and FTSE customers, as well as government agencies and educational institutions. Websense software increases employee internet productivity and secures organisations from emerging internet threats by providing a proactive web security component that compliments traditional security solutions. Only Websense delivers flexible, integrated policy enforcement at the internet gateway, network, desktop and remotely with over 25 million seats under subscription, ranging in size from 100-person firms to many of the world's largest corporations.

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