



Knowledge Is Power  
Network Visibility and Effective Reporting

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# White Paper

## The Importance of Network Visibility

IT administrators are accountable for a growing number of tasks, such as, ensuring network health and optimisation, facilitating productivity, limiting liability, and satisfying regulatory compliance. To correctly set usage policies and budget computing resources to meet these responsibilities, IT administrators need to know exactly what is going on in the network at all times.

To ensure the network runs smoothly and stays healthy, IT professionals need to know about:

- Bandwidth usage at any given time
- Peak bandwidth usage
- Bandwidth use trends
- TCP connections usage
- Virus/malware infiltration
- Data leakage occurrences
- Bandwidth usage by individuals
- Bandwidth-intensive site usage, such as streaming media

To keep users productive and safe, IT administrators need to know about:

- Sites users are spending time on: productive or time-wasting
- Users causing liability issues like violating copyrights or engaging in inappropriate online behavior
- Whether students are accessing inappropriate sites for their age group
- Users being victims of inappropriate online behavior, such as cyberbullying
- Online activities by off-network users and remote devices

## Need for Wide Range of Reports

Network data reports range from high level overviews to in-depth forensic analysis. Sometimes a simple, top-level view of the most important network statistics is all that's needed to see how things are going. Often though, detailed information is necessary to find the cause of a problem or help determine the right policy changes. In-depth reports let administrators drill down and get to the source of an issue so they can fix it. For management, presentation reports are available that summarise network action and cover only the areas they are interested in.

Another way to receive network information is with immediate alerting or real-time feedback. This is advisable for events that require immediate action, such as a data leak.

## Common Shortcomings

Although reporting is a critical tool for network administrators, many networking products do not provide adequate reports for a number of reasons:

- **Costly:** Customers are required to purchase additional hardware and/or separate licenses. This makes the product more expensive and IT budgeting less predictable.
- **Useless:** The product provides unformatted log files that are voluminous and indigestible. Helpful information is nearly impossible to extract.
- **Labor-intensive:** There are no pre-defined reports ready to go. Getting useful reports is time consuming and wastes IT resources.
- **Disconnected:** The information is located in multiple locations, with no easy way to navigate to it. Finding the needed data is too difficult.

## Barracuda: Comprehensive Network Visibility and Alerting

### Extensive, integrated reports

Barracuda understands the importance of providing comprehensive, flexible, easy-to-use reports. Our integrated, native reporting engine can generate more than 60 different reports, covering all aspects of monitored online activity. Reports can be based on user activity, domains, categories, or action taken.

### Summary Reports

These sets of reports show a consolidated view of network and user activity.



### Flexible delivery

Administrators can quickly select criteria and view a report right away, or have reports automatically emailed or archived to network shares at specified intervals. Syslog files can be exported to a syslog server.

### Multiple formats

Reports are available in HTML, PDF, text, or CSV formats.

### Trends

View trends over time including bandwidth usage, aggregate number of web requests, and policies.

### Suspicious activity alerts

These alerts enable admins to take immediate action against suspicious activities like data leakage and cyberbullying.

**Subject: Suspicious Keyword Alert from Barracuda Web Filter 410 (68WebFilter 64bit Platform3)**

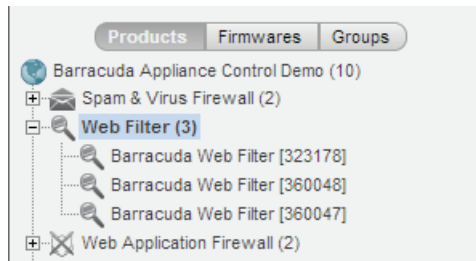
**Description:** Suspicious Keywords found in user web requests.

**Start Time:** 2013-06-19 13:00  
**End Time:** 2013-06-19 14:00

IP Address	User	Category Name	Keywords	Count
10.1.0.195	Local.qa	Adult/Pornography	Keywords sex	1

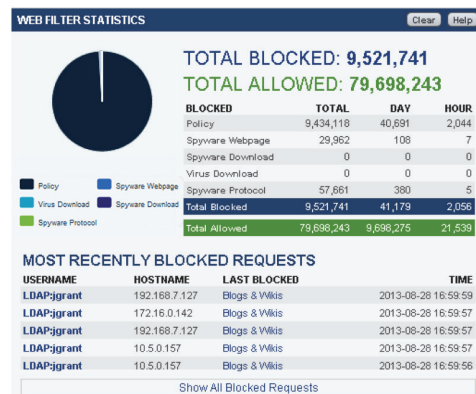
### Centralised Reporting

Manage, view, and consolidate reports (and many other features) for multiple Web Filters from a single location with Barracuda Cloud Control (included at no additional cost).



### Status dashboards

Status dashboards are easily visible on the status page and show the most relevant information about the network.



### Malware infection activity

This report shows detected malware infections on client computers as well as harmful downloads that were prevented.

HOSTNAME	THREAT	TIME
192.168.6.236	Spyware Website	2013-08-28 16:30:05
192.168.7.84	Spyware Website	2013-08-28 16:24:57
172.16.0.151	Spyware Website	2013-08-28 16:17:07
192.168.7.69	Spyware Website	2013-08-28 16:17:07
10.5.0.66	Spyware Website	2013-08-28 16:10:35

### Web/application logs

Comprehensive web/application logs with powerful filtering capabilities list every event that took place in the network, letting admins hone in to a specific occurrence.

### Web 2.0 application monitoring and archiving

Activity taking place on social networking sites, search engines, and other interactive sites is monitored by productivity and safety indicators. These interactions can also be archived for compliance, and eDiscovery support.

**Remote devices log**

This log shows network activity taking place on remote devices, and where those devices have been.

**Remote activity log**

Online activity of off-network devices is recorded within the web log.

**Superior Network Visibility with Barracuda Web Security Solutions**

The Barracuda Web Filter, the Barracuda Web Filter virtual appliance, and the Barracuda Web Security Service provide complete visibility into all user activity, letting administrators create and enforce effective content and access policies. Included free are unlimited agents and software licenses to enforce policies and monitor activity on mobile devices being used outside the network.

**Barracuda Web Security Reports**

Productivity	Web Activity
Internet Activity Summary Report	Categories by Requests
Network Activity Summary Report	Categories by Bandwidth
Top Social Networking Domains by Requests	Categories by Number of Sessions
Top Users by Browse Time on Social Networking Sites	Categories by Session Time
Top Facebook Users by Browse Time	Categories by Browse Time
Top Streaming Media Domains by Requests	Categories by Users
Top Streaming Media Domains by Bandwidth	Domains by Requests
Top Users by Bandwidth on Streaming Media Sites	Domains by Bandwidth
Top Users by Browse Time on Streaming Media Sites	Domains by Number of Sessions
Top YouTube Users by Bandwidth	Domains by Session Time
Top YouTube Users by Browse Time	Domains by Browse Time
Top Gaming Domains by Requests	Domains by Users
Top Users by Bandwidth on Gaming Sites	Users by Requests
Top Users by Browse Time on Gaming Sites	Users by Bandwidth
Top Users by Blocked Requests	Users by Number of Sessions
<b>Web Activity</b>	Users by Session Time
Requests by Hour	Users by Browse Time
Bandwidth by Hour	<b>Network Activity</b>
Number of Sessions by Hour	Total Usage
Session Time by Hour	TCP Connection Usage
Browse Time by Hour	Daily Requests
Requests by Time of Day	Daily Bandwidth
Bandwidth by Time of Day	Actions By Hour
Number of Sessions by Time of Day	Actions by Time of Day
Session Time by Time of Day	Web Requests Log
Browse Time by Time of Day	Web Requests Summary
Source IPs by Requests	<b>Infection Activity</b>
Destination IPs by Requests	Application Blocks
<b>Safety &amp; Liability</b>	Malware Blocks
Top Users by Requests to Adult/Pornography/Nudity Sites	Virus Blocks
Top Users by Requests to Anonymizer Sites	Infected Clients
Top Users by Requests to File Sharing/P2P Sites	Spyware Sites
Top Users by Requests to Intolerance and Hate Sites	<b>Administrative Reports</b>
Top Users by Requests to Spyware Sites	Audit Log
Top Users by Requests to Weapons/Violence and Terrorism Sites	Temporary Access Request Log
Top Suspicious Keywords	Categories By Temporary Access Requests
Suspicious Keywords by Users	Domains By Temporary Access Requests
Search Queries by User	Users By Temporary Access Requests

#### About Barracuda Networks, Inc.

Protecting users, applications, and data for more than 150,000 organisations worldwide, Barracuda Networks has developed a global reputation as the go-to leader for powerful, easy-to-use, affordable IT solutions. The company's proven customer-centric business model focuses on delivering high-value, subscription-based IT solutions for security and data protection. For additional information, please visit [www.barracuda.com](http://www.barracuda.com).

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