

Web content managers go beyond filtering to include peer-to-peer, IM, social networking sites, and they even look at malware, says **Peter Stephenson**.

For almost three years we have been watching the web content management landscape. We have seen a steady evolution from a group of products that were largely URL filters. The first time we tested these products all we had to do was develop a suite of black lists for various websites and types

of content and tell the device being tested to try to go to those sites. Then we read the success rates. That was then and this is now. Today, web content managers go way beyond filtering on bad sites and dirty word lists. Now they include peer-to-peer, instant messaging, social networking sites, and

they even look at various types of malware. These are critically important functions in the emerging cyberthreat environment. While identifying bad sites and content is still important, the definitions of what that means has changed markedly in the past two years.

## 8e6 Professional Edition



**Vendor** 8e6 Technologies  
**Price** \$24,910  
**Contact** [www.8e6.com](http://www.8e6.com)

This web content management package from 8e6 Technologies offers high flexibility for the large enterprise. The bundle consists of the R3000, which is the main component, and then two types of reporters: the Enterprise Reporter and the Threat Analysis Reporter. Filtering capabilities of the R3000 include URL-based filtering and blocking of unauthorized sites and file types, as well as peer-to-peer and IM filtering. The Enterprise Reporter provides quick and easy analysis of common web traffic and policy violations. However, where this

product really shines is the new component, the Threat Analysis Reporter. This piece provides the ability to create custom gauges to really get deep into how users are surfing the internet. We found that even though this product has several modules, setup and installation was quite simple. Deployment can be done in one of three ways: Stealth, Router and Firewall modes. The R3000 sits off of a hub or network tap to filter traffic. The other devices sit directly on the network and communicate with the R3000. Once the devices are setup and communicating, most administration is done via the intuitive Java-based management interface of the R3000. Documentation includes quick start and user guides for all the devices. 8e6 provides many types

of support, including phone, email and a web-based support section on the website. Starting at just under \$25,000 for 1,000 users for all three devices, this product is an excellent value for large scale environments. This product provides the flexibility and analysis capability needed for high traffic or high security environments.

SC MAGAZINE RATING	
Features	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Documentation:	★★★★★
Support	★★★★★
Value for money	★★★★★
<b>OVERALL RATING</b>	<b>★★★★★</b>
<b>Strengths</b> Three solid devices providing filtering, monitoring, reporting and analysis.	
<b>Weaknesses</b> None that we found.	
<b>Verdict</b> Top of the line. For its power and analysis capabilities, along with ease of use, we rate this our Best Buy.	



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**Peter Stephenson**



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