

Introduction

Web filtering solutions exist in such forms as a virtual appliance, appliance, cloud service, and hybrid solution. The hybrid approach is a combination of a cloud service and a local virtual or hardware appliance implementation. This approach best covers an organization that is composed of a main office, branch offices, and remote and roaming users. The following information on CyBlock Hybrid is presented to help you make decisions appropriate for your environment.

Deployment

CyBlock Hybrid provides a flexible Web filtering solution, combining a local CyBlock installation with a CyBlock Cloud service. The local installation could be CyBlock Virtual Appliance, CyBlock Appliance, or CyBlock Mini Appliance. The hybrid deployment uses CyBlock Cloud to extend Web filtering to off-premises employees, for example, those at hotels and airports.

Pros

- Minimal up-front costs with a cloud data center.
- Reduced operating costs with secure, multi-tenant cloud infrastructure.
- No need to backhaul remote Web traffic through VPN to the main office, improving performance and user experience.
- Able to reach hard-to-manage remote locations.
- Manage the CyBlock cloud service and local install from a single admin console.
- Complete enterprise view with reporting on both on-premises and remote employee Web traffic.
- Control over all data with cloud log data stored locally, not in the cloud.
- Ability to scale up and down in response to demand.

Cons

- Risk of service outages due to uncontrollable circumstances.
- Requires a certain level of IT expertise.
- No control over scheduled upgrades applied by cloud vendor.

Conclusion

CyBlock Hybrid secures remote and mobile users so there is no need to route Web traffic back to the main office. It acts as a seamless extension of a local CyBlock implementation, freeing up local server bandwidth, and filtering and monitoring remote traffic in the cloud. It is a viable Web filtering solution for companies where geographic locations make deployment and support of on-site equipment difficult, due to high cost or lack of IT resources.

Since 1996, Wavecrest Computing has provided business and government clients with reliable, accurate employee Web-access security, monitoring, and analytics solutions. IT specialists, HR professionals, and business managers trust Wavecrest's Cyfin and CyBlock products to manage employee Internet usage with today's distributed workforce in mind—monitoring VPN use, following roaming and remote users, managing and monitoring Web usage for hybrid work environments, comprehensive reporting on Microsoft 365 use, and more. Focused on our customer's needs—reducing liability risks, improving productivity, managing cloud services, saving bandwidth, and controlling costs. Wavecrest has clients worldwide, including Canadian National Railway, Johns Hopkins, Goodyear, USPS Office of Inspector General, Chevron, Health Choice Network, and a growing list of enterprises and government agencies. For more information on our company, products, and partners, visit www.wavecrest.net.

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