

## Making a Web Filtering Hybrid Solution Decision

### 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.

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