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## F-Secure Corporation, F-Secure Internet Security 2006 6.12

F-Secure Internet Security 2006 provides an integrated suite with application-independent web and email filtering, file-level filtering for FTP, Voice over IP and streaming media, as well as anti-virus, firewall and anti-spyware.

Its support of platforms and languages is summarised in the table below:

Type	Client	Server	Service						
Platforms	Win95	<b>Win98</b>	<b>WinME</b>	<b>Win2k</b>	Win03	WinNT	<b>WinXP</b>	Linux	MacOS
Protocols / Applications	<b>browser</b>	instant msg	chat	<b>e-mail</b>	news	file transfer	peer2peer	VoIP	Stream
Languages User Interface	<b>Czech</b>	<b>Danish</b>	<b>Dutch</b>	<b>English</b>	Estonian	<b>Finnish</b>	<b>French</b>		
	<b>German</b>	<b>Greek</b>	<b>Hungarian</b>	<b>Italian</b>	Latvian	Lithuanian	Maltese		
	<b>Polish</b>	<b>Portuguese</b>	Slovak	Slovenian	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Swedish</b>			
Languages Filtering Criteria	<b>Czech</b>	<b>Danish</b>	<b>Dutch</b>	<b>English</b>	Estonian	<b>Finnish</b>	<b>French</b>		
	<b>German</b>	<b>Greek</b>	<b>Hungarian</b>	<b>Italian</b>	Latvian	Lithuanian	Maltese		
	<b>Polish</b>	<b>Portuguese</b>	Slovak	Slovenian	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Swedish</b>			

The feedback given by the User Reference Group is summarised as follows:

Test domain	Score	Actual score	Average all tools	Best tool
(Un)installing and updating the tool	●●○○	2,4	2,3	2,8
Tailoring and monitoring the filtering	●●○○	2,2	2,5	3,2

The scores of the Lab tests are summarised as follows:

Test domain	Score	Actual score	Average all tools	Best tool
Local language support	●●●●	4,0	2,6	4,0
Effectiveness for kids	●●●○	2,5	2,0	4,0
Effectiveness for adolescents	●●●○	2,5	1,8	2,5
Effectiveness for kids (porn only)	●●●○	2,5	2,6	4,0
Effectiveness for adolescents (porn only)	●●●○	3,0	2,5	4,0
Speed of filtering	●●●○	3,0	3,2	4,0
Security Integrity	●●●○	3,0	2,7	4,0
Legal Compliance	●●●●	3,5	2,4	3,5

## 1. Configurability

F-Secure Internet Security 2006 can be configured to allow or block web content from 7 categories, as categorised by F-Secure. On top of F-Secure's listing, sites can be black-listed (blocked) or white-listed (allowed) manually.

The application does not define separate users with different filtering levels. Therefore, all users are subject to the same filtering and blocking rules. However, child carers can overrule the blocking by using the child carer's password.

Updates can be downloaded automatically, but child carers can also choose to disable to automatic updates.

## 2. Usability

The user interface is split per type of functionality, i.e. Virus & Spy protection, Internet shield, Spam control and Parental control. The Parental Control page is straightforward and provides an overview of the options that are switched on or off.

The screen layout is consistent and clear. Configuration is to be done with the mouse, as not all options are accessible with the keyboard.

Help is available on-screen and provides additional information for each of the options.

## 3. Filtering Algorithm & Effectiveness

The scores of the Lab tests for the individual effectiveness tests are:

Content Type	Score
<b>Web ICRA filtering</b>	N/A
<b>Instant Messaging</b>	N/A
<b>Chat</b>	N/A
<b>Email</b>	N/A
<b>Newsgroup</b>	N/A
<b>File Transfer Protocol</b>	N/A
<b>Voice over IP</b>	N/A
<b>Streaming media</b>	N/A
<b>Peer-to-peer</b>	N/A

### Web filtering: URL based filtering

Based on the tests performed, we noted significant underblocking.

### Web filtering: Content filtering

F-Secure does not support ICRA filtering. Based on the tests performed, we noted significant underblocking.

### **Instant messaging MSN**

F-Secure does not filter or block instant messaging. It is possible to prevent the use of individual messaging applications via application control.

### **Chat IRC filtering**

F-Secure does not filter or block IRC chat. It is possible to prevent the use of individual chat applications via application control.

### **Email filtering**

F-Secure provides the option to filter incoming email messages and check their content for spam and other potentially harmful content. However, it does not filter content that could be harmful for minors.

F-Secure also provides the option to block browser based email services. When active, browser based email services are not accessible.

### **Newsgroup filtering**

F-Secure does not filter or block news traffic. It is possible to prevent the use of individual newsgroup applications via application control.

### **File Transfer (FTP) filtering**

F-Secure does not filter or block FTP. It is possible to prevent the use of individual FTP applications via application control.

It is also possible to block specific FTP web sites by adding them to the black (denied) list. It is not possible to specify which content has to be filtered.

### **Voice over IP, streaming media, peer-to-peer blocking**

F-Secure does not filter or block Voice over IP, streaming media or peer-to-peer. It is possible to prevent the use of individual FTP applications via application control.

## **4. Performance**

Based on the values observed during our tests, we determined that the impact on memory consumption and CPU usage for the tool F-Secure was moderate.

Based on the HTTP loading tests for this tool, it scored a 3, meaning that there was a low impact in terms of delays and therefore did not degrade the surfing experience significantly.

## **5. Transparency**

If the user visits a blocked web page, a message is shown indicating that access has been denied and why it has been denied. F-Secure can also be configured to only log the web pages visited, without blocking them. The child carer can choose how many days the log will be retained (between 1 and 365 days).

However, we did not find the log results or reporting functionality in the application.

## 6. Security Integrity

### Network tests

The network security tests performed did not identify security issues caused by the tool.

### Local tests

When attempting to access prohibited websites by directly giving in their IP addresses in the browser, we found that most websites were blocked, but some were still accessible.

## 7. Legal Compliance

The vendor uses layman and user-friendly language to explain the product's features and functionalities. Further product details are provided to users through the on-line helpdesk, tutorials and the "product support" services. We appreciated the clear and detailed information on the different alternatives the vendor offers to users requiring technical support.

The vendor's copyright, privacy statement and sales terms and conditions adhere to EU good commercial practices. It is noteworthy that terms and conditions contain the vendor's warranty that products are sold free of defects and an explicit clause on the applicable return policy.

Yet, there are a few improvements that may be envisaged on the privacy/data protection area. Notably, although the privacy statement clearly reads that data that are not personally identifiable as such (e.g. tracking of users' activities through IP address or most-recently visited URLs), there is no explicit mention that such types of information are not used (in any form and manner, e.g. if combined with personal data) to identify users. Furthermore, the privacy statement is not directly visible when users enter the on-line ordering process contrary to the rest of contractual terms (sales terms and conditions, return policy, etc.).