

Carrier-grade Filtering, Compliance & Green IT

Netsweeper Case Study: du Telecom



“Netsweeper is not just a technology vendor; they are an active partner that supports our vision as we develop innovative, world-class security solutions to support a rapidly growing network and to serve our valued customers.”

Walid Kamal, SVP
Technology, Security & Risk Management
du Telecom

When your operations centre is located in the United Arab Emirates, Green IT isn't just a popular buzzword – it is a significant operational factor. In a country where average temperatures peak over 90 degrees Fahrenheit for half of the year, space in the server room is at a premium. With a web filtering solution from Netsweeper, du Telecom has reduced the number of servers needed by over 50% (from more than 70 to less than 30) while also reducing the number of switches and other infrastructure needed for filtering. Actual and projected savings over a four year period totaled more than \$7 million USD as a result of the solution.

Scalable to support ongoing growth (any level of growth)

During the evaluation process for the filtering solution, du Telecom's continuing growth caused a reevaluation of the scaling needed. The specification jumped from 10Gbps to 40Gbps. Thanks to the uniquely scalable architecture of Netsweeper, the engineering team was able to take this in stride and delivered a solution that met du's needs.

Keeping it Fast and Mitigating Network Risk

The Netsweeper solution as deployed at du Telecom uses an 'out of band' deployment model, which has two key benefits: first, there is no additional 'hop' for network traffic (which avoids added latency); second, because filtering is not inline it does not become a point of failure for the network. Netsweeper's filtering model does not impact allowed traffic at all; it simply interrupts the serving of content in blocked categories or on deny lists.

Regulatory Compliance and Web Threat Management Made Easy

As part of its licensing requirements, du is obligated to support regulatory guidelines for content filtering. The Netsweeper solution supported these requirements and ensured that du Telecom's services remained compliant. Netsweeper also enables the blocking of 'web threats' such as phishing sites, malware and other malicious content, which protects du's users and also reduces the impact on network traffic created by these threats.

Controlling Total Cost of Ownership

Ultimately, the Netsweeper solution represented a rapid return on investment and provided the best total cost of ownership for du Telecom. By using standard Intel-based servers (instead of expensive proprietary appliances) and by leveraging Netsweeper's highly efficient architecture, du was able to achieve their goals with a fraction of the resources and infrastructure needed by comparable solutions.

The Challenge

As a rapidly growing country-wide telecommunications provider, du Telecom needed to upgrade their filtering capacity to keep pace with a burgeoning customer base and escalating data usage across fixed and mobile networks. The existing appliance-based solution could not readily scale to meet demand and presented challenges in terms of the hardware and infrastructure required to meet the network's demands. The telco operates under regulatory demands that require filtering of inappropriate content.

The Netsweeper Solution

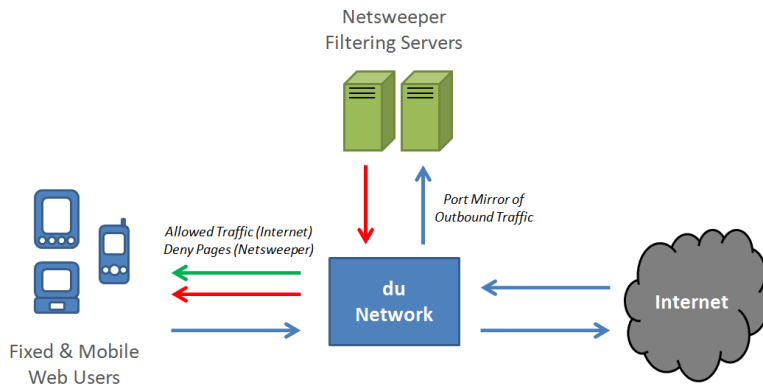
Netsweeper was installed on standard Intel servers in du Telecom's data centre, deployed in an out-of-band mode to protect network integrity. The solution as deployed is scalable to support du's network growth up to the 100+ Gbps range.

About du Telecom

du is an integrated telecom service provider, offering fixed and mobile telephony, broadband connectivity and IPTV services to individuals, homes and businesses, and carrier services for businesses. Based in the United Arab Emirates, du has more than 4.5 million subscribers, and revenues of more than 7 billion AED (approximately \$1.9 billion USD). More information is available online at www.du.ae

Deployed in the core, imposing no latency and no network risk

Deployed in the core of du’s network, Netsweeper provides filtering with no need for client applications to be installed, and it introduces neither latency nor risk with its non-inline deployment mode. Allowed traffic is not affected at all, and Netsweeper interrupts disallowed traffic based on usage policies, serving deny pages instead.



Content is scanned dynamically, and inappropriate web content is blocked

A challenge for compliance with regulation is the constantly growing amount of content on the web. With Netsweeper’s dynamic categorization, new content is continuously assessed and categorized based on the actual usage patterns of the subscribers. Any attempt to access content that is not permitted receives a bilingual deny page.



About Netsweeper

Netsweeper Inc. provides world-class web content filtering and web threat management that protects more than 100 million users. With more than a decade of experience in the filtering market, Netsweeper solutions ensure compliance with regulations, defend against web-based threats and help deliver a positive, productive and safe Internet experience.

Netsweeper web filtering is hardware-agnostic, AI-based, and its ‘in-the-cloud’ CNS (category name servers) are continuously updated by the web use of millions of users worldwide. Our approach gives you better protection at a lower total cost of ownership.

Netsweeper supports customers worldwide with offices in North America, the UK, the UAE, India and Australia as well as a network of partners and distributors. For more information about Netsweeper, visit our website at <http://www.netsweeper.com>

Netsweeper is on the web at www.netsweeper.com and can be reached at any of our global offices.

Guelph (Canada/HQ), Dallas (USA), London (UK), Dubai (UAE), Victoria (Australia), Chennai (India)