



# Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology Gives Marshal8e6 an A+ CIPA Compliance

## Client:

RINET (Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology)

## Web Site:

www.ri.net

## Number of Users:

183,000+

## Requirements:

Web Filtering

## Solutions:

R3000 Internet Filter

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## Pam Christman

Director of Technology Programs and Services

## Profile

The Rhode Island Network for Educational Technology (RINET), a non-profit corporation, is a collaborative center for developing partnerships and technologies to foster educational and community excellence in Rhode Island. Utilizing its statewide network, RINET supports its members' collective technology needs. RINET's programs and services include high-speed Internet access to schools, libraries, and municipalities; E-rate application assistance; data services; and e-mail services such as virus protection and listserv management. With over 175,000 students and 7,500 teachers, RINET provides services to 100% of Rhode Island's public school districts, as well as many private and independent schools.

## Challenge

The majority of schools depend on federal technology funding that demands compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). In response to this requirement, Rhode Island's schools and districts asked RINET to find a centralized solution capable of supporting multiple high-bandwidth sites while allowing each entity to set its own filtering parameters and rules. In addition to finding a solution that fit administrator needs, RINET needed to effectively curb "illegal" Web site surfing. Schools had experienced problems with students attempting to access unacceptable sites, as well as bandwidth-consuming music file sharing and broadband radio.

With these issues in mind, RINET reviewed a variety of Internet filtering products. Director of Technology Programs and Network Services, Pam Christman, says, "We researched a number of products, but found they were too expensive and the interface was not as user-friendly as the R3000G. We chose Marshal8e6 over competitors because of tech support assurance, the Linux-based appliance, friendly interface, and ease of use and management."

## Solutions

"The R3000 is Marshal8e6's flagship filtering appliance, offering an easy to use Java-based GUI, a database consisting of millions of Web sites in 80 categories, transparent user authentication, and instant message and peer-to-peer file share blocking. The R3000G, in particular, has GigE-ready capability and enhanced system board features, where users may see improved performance gains of up to 33% depending on their network infrastructure. In addition, the R3000G is completely backward compatible, providing a cost-efficient way to future-proof a school district's technology. What this means is that the R3000G is able to handle higher bandwidth while remaining user-friendly and cost-effective.

Christman adds, "Downstream administration and Marshal8e6's pass-by technology make the R3000 a superior product. Downstream administration means that we can offer to our members a service that truly meets their CIPA compliance requirements by allowing them to set their own community-developed filtering parameters. Local

administrators have the flexibility to make changes when they are needed.” In addition, Marshal8e6’s by-pass technology ensures that nothing slows down on the RINET infrastructure. “For instance,” Christman says, “we never run the risk of having our video-over-IP traffic degraded due to Internet content filtering.”

## Result

With over 100,000 Internet users at any given time, RINET found the R3000G to be an excellent solution to keeping bandwidth congestion down and Internet learning up Christman says, “The pass-by filtering technology from Marshal8e6 allows normal traffic and high bandwidth applications (such as video conferencing) to flow smoothly, while keeping students safer on the Internet.” She adds, “Marshal8e6 was the logical choice for RINET in 2001 and remains so today. Use of the R3000 filters allows schools and districts to maintain CIPA compliance, which means that RINET members remain eligible for federal E-rate funding.”

## About Marshal8e6

Marshal8e6 is a global provider of Secure Internet Gateway products for organizations of all sizes. Marshal8e6 is the only security company capable of delivering comprehensive content security across multiple delivery platforms, including software, appliances and Software-as-a-service (SaaS). The company’s complete security portfolio delivers the tools necessary to manage and secure email, Web and the endpoint as well as protect against data leakage. Today, more than 16 million end users in more than 20,000 companies in 96 countries rely on Marshal8e6 solutions to protect their businesses at the email and Web gateway.



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