

# M86 Web Filter Database

## URL Category Database for Enhanced Policy Enforcement and Web Activity Reporting

The M86 Web Filter Database is a URL category database that provides millions of URLs and wildcard domains in more than 100 categories. It offers greater control for access to specific categories of websites and higher granularity in Web activity reporting.

Built from the ground up, the M86 Web Filter Database uses advanced search tools and employs content verifiers to review, analyze and categorize websites and signatures/patterns. It's widely regarded as the most complete and accurate filtering database ever compiled.

### KEY BENEFITS

- **Integrates seamlessly** – works with M86 Web Filtering and Reporting Suite and M86 WebMarshal
- **Enforces acceptable use policies based on category** – accurately controls access to websites based on the type of site and its content.
- **Improves security** – contains website categories related to hacking, phishing, spyware and botnets as well as sites known to serve malicious code or viruses.
- **Increases report granularity** – provides meaningful detail within the reports generated by the M86 Security Reporter, enabling users to compartmentalize data into more manageable and appropriate categories.

### M86 SECURITY LABS

M86 Security Labs employs highly-skilled Internet threat experts who work around the clock on multiple continents to ensure that the M86 Web Filter Database is updated.

The five key components that go into the M86 Web Filter Database include: **Customer Feedback Module, TRACENet, M86 Web Crawlers, third-party feeds, computer-based classification, and human verifiers.**

#### Customer Feedback Module (CFM)

The CFM is a feed that comes to M86 Security Labs from M86 Web filtering products. Customers have the option to send feedback on uncategorized URLs for identification. With more than 7,000 Web filtering customers, this ensures a high degree of relevance and coverage within the database.

#### TRACENet

TRACENet, an aggregated intelligence offering from M86 Security Labs, is a network designed to correlate data taken from spam analysis, URL library data, customer feedback and Internet research, maximizing the value of this combined threat information for M86 Security's email and Web security products.

The M86 Web Filter Database is created and maintained using a variety of website classification methods incorporating both computer and human analysis. These include:

#### Third-party Feeds (Data Integration and Aggregation)

M86 uses data from a variety of sources to ensure categorization efforts are relevant and incorporate a wide perspective. These sources include independent security watchdogs, domain and search engine trending services, URL harvesting from millions of spam and phishing messages captured daily, and regular customer feedback.

#### Computer-based Classification and Filtering

M86 incorporate a number of technologies and automated classification tools to analyze and filter unknown websites. They include lexical content analysis, regular expressions, automated malware behavior analysis, pattern identification and reputation cross-checks. These continuously-researched technologies evolve as new methodologies or innovations are introduced.

#### Human Verification

M86 employs a global team of URL Verifiers who specialize in a range of languages and take a regional approach to website categorization. These verifiers monitor and validate URL categorization and administer changes and updates to the M86 Web Filter Database.

#### Regular Updates

The M86 Web Filter Database is updated multiple times per day, and different update schedules apply to specific categories. General categories are updated incrementally with new or expired URLs at least once per day, ensuring efficient bandwidth and memory use. Time-sensitive categories such as phishing or malware are updated every few hours or as needed for zero-hour alerts.

## M86 WEB FILTER DATABASE LIBRARIES

### URL Keyword Library

The URL Keyword Library includes character strings that could appear in a URL. For example, an administrator can block URLs that include a specific keyword by adding the keyword or characters to URL keyword library. By default, the URL keyword feature is disabled in M86 products; however, the administrator can enable this feature.

### Search Engine Keyword Library

The Search Engine Keyword Library can categorize the searches users perform via search engines. For example, if a user searches for "Myspace Bypass" or "Pamela Anderson Nude", that search can be categorized as "Web-Based Proxies" since the user's intent is to find a Web-based proxy.

### URL Library

The URL Library includes millions of URLs divided into 100+ categories. For example, [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) is categorized as a search engine, while [mail.google.com](mailto:mail.google.com) is categorized as Web-based email. Using M86 filtering products, customers can choose to log, block, warn or allow Internet requests based on the categorization.

### Wildcard Library

When adding URLs to the M86 Library, additional protection can be gained by using a wildcard. Sub-domains can be used to separate portions of a site (there could be hundreds of different sub-domains). Using a wildcard entry, every current and future sub-domain will be covered. For example, [espn.com](http://espn.com), [mlb.espn.com](http://mlb.espn.com), [nfl.espn.com](http://nfl.espn.com) and [nba.espn.com](http://nba.espn.com) can all be covered with the [\\*.espn.com](http://*.espn.com) wildcard.

### Patterns Library

This library includes a series of patterns designed to provide identification and control of Internet-based applications. The Patterns Library provides zero-day protection by identifying the traffic type dynamically, regardless of Web page or website. The Patterns Library currently includes patterns for:

- Web-based proxies
- Instant messaging
- Peer-to-peer
- Streaming media
- Remote desktop
- Online games

### User Customization

Users can customize an M86 library on their own M86 products. With the exception of the Patterns Library, items can be customized via addition and/or deletion. Users can also create custom categories that can contain URLs, wildcard URLs, URL keywords, and search engine keywords.

Find a complete list of M86 Web Filter Database categories at: <http://www.m86security.com/resources/database-categories.asp>

## ABOUT M86 SECURITY

M86 Security is the global expert in real-time threat protection and the industry's leading Secure Web Gateway provider. The company's appliance, software, and Software as a Service (SaaS) solutions for Web and email security protect more than 24,000 customers and over 17 million users worldwide. M86 products use patented real-time code analysis and behavior-based malware detection technologies as well as threat intelligence from M86 Security Labs to protect networks against new and advance threats, secure confidential information, and ensure regulatory compliance. The company is based in Orange, California with international headquarters in London and development centers in California, Israel, and New Zealand.

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