

## More responsible usage of the Internet

Educate your students to use the Internet more responsibly with Blue Reef's innovative, self-service dashboard – MySonar

### How can your school achieve the best educational outcomes through technology?

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Educators worldwide are struggling with the challenges posed by integrating technology into the curriculum and enabling students to use it successfully as a tool to deliver better learning outcomes.

The main and most important technological tool is the Internet. It has the widest influence on the lives, careers and future of today's students – tomorrow's workforce.

### How can you educate students to use the Internet in a responsible and accountable way to achieve better educational outcomes?

There are two possible approaches:

- 1) You can focus your efforts on blocking, limiting and closing certain areas of the internet. You can waste time and money chasing offensive keywords and trying to predict the next trick to bypass content filtering.

OR

- 2) You can empower and enable **students, parents** and **teachers** to participate in the processes of education by creating reasonable controls, increasing the visibility of Internet usage and the transparency of surfing while providing an "expectations baseline" to assist students, teachers and parents to implement a process of monitoring and improvements.

### Challenges

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The challenge of educating students to use the Internet safely and responsibly to improve their learning requires a combination of policies, technology and parental participation.

The solution needs to answer the following questions:

- How to enable students to monitor their own Internet usage?
- What is the best way to communicate to the student what is expected?
- How to get parents involved?
- How to give parents access to the relevant information?
- How to show students why their Internet access has been limited?
- How to provide a summary of all usage information every period?

And, most importantly:

- **How to do all of the above without hiring another expensive IT resource or overwhelming the existing IT department?**

Blue Reef's MySonar has the answer to all these questions and provides a cost-effective and easy-to-use solution.

## Blue Reef Best Practice Solutions

Blue Reef, through a long process of consultation with education experts, school principals, IT managers and key schools has developed an innovative self-service Internet portal called MySonar. MySonar allows every student, teacher and parent to instantly access the student's summary of usage in a graphical and easy-to-understand form. The portal is accessible by students and staff at school as well as by parents or staff at home through a very easy-to-use web-based interface.

My Sonar provides a quick overview of:

- **how much Internet individual students have used and how much is left**
- where each student spent his or her time on the Internet
- and whether or not the student has complied with the school's expectations.

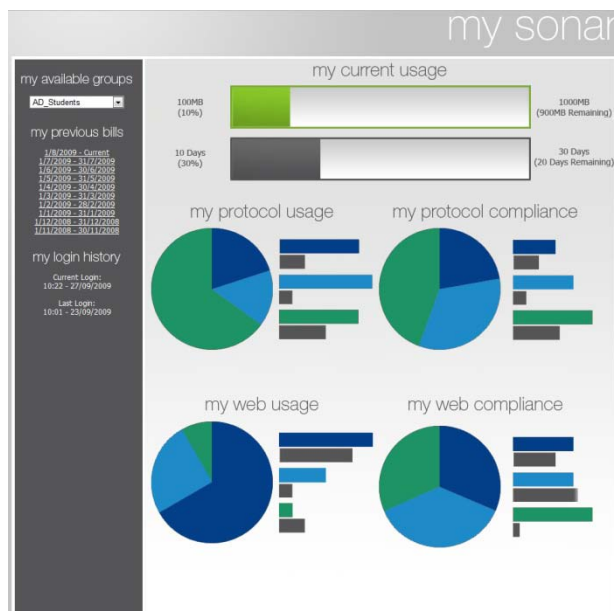
In addition, MySonar allows the parent, teacher or student to drill down into detailed reports which can be downloaded as PDFs.

### What our customers say about My Sonar:

"My Sonar is revolutionary! It is the first of its kind to move away from traditional IT reporting to a platform which allows parents to participate"

"My Sonar is outstanding and allows our school to maintain an open Internet strategy which we believe is very important for the students' online usage education!"

"My Sonar is my biggest relief; as an IT manager I no longer have to produce endless reports all day, it is now completely self-service!".



## About Blue Reef Pty Ltd.

Blue Reef is the first choice Internet Management provider to over 300 educational institutions in Australia. We have been assisting schools achieve automation solutions to Internet management and provisioning issues for over a decade. Our extensive experience in the development of tools, policies and technology to address these types of education needs is unsurpassed.

Blue Reef's Internet management solution includes a full guest management system which allows creating an Internet Access Plan for guests which will include all content, quota, bandwidth and usage policies. The Guest access solution allows configuration of time to automatically terminate the access and a full reporting framework for management and guests.

**For more information on Guest Internet Management solution, visit our website on [www.blureef.com.au](http://www.blureef.com.au) or send email to: [sales@blureef.com.au](mailto:sales@blureef.com.au)**

## About the Author

Guy Lupo, VP Product & Services Blue Reef Pty. Ltd. has 20 years of experience in the governance, compliance and security in enterprise and education space, and is continuously working with education organization to better their processes and supporting technologies to achieve better educational outcomes.

Guy's career history includes strategic product and management roles with worldwide international leaders such as Check Point, CA, Microsoft, Cisco, BMC Software and other start-up in the Governance, Compliance and Security space.