# WebWatcher keeps kids safe online

Submitted by: MJO Associates

Monday, 8 June 2009

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Web-based software allows parents to remotely monitor and control all PC activity from any online computer, at anytime.

Recent media reports show that an increasing number of young people are being exposed to inappropriate material over the internet, either accidentally or due to their inquisitive nature. The net can be a fabulous tool for learning and sharing knowledge. It can, at the same time, be a significant danger, offering unsavoury content to underage children and the real danger of personal contact with an undesirable internet 'friend'. It is therefore understandable for parents to be concerned about the safety of their children online.

WebWatcher, a parental control software being marketed by Security IP of Oxfordshire, provides parents with safety countermeasures for their child's online activities. Once installed on the computer that you wish to monitor, WebWatcher begins to invisibly record all data (Instant Messaging/chats, emails, websites visited, etc) on the PC. This data can then be accessed by the parent from any computer via a standard web browser – there is no need for further physical access to the monitored PC.

The software, developed in the USA by Awareness Technologies Inc, is completely invisible on the monitored computer. Both sides of all communications can be read by the user and screenshots of activity on the monitored PC can be taken to highlight any unauthorised use.

WebWatcher also enables users to block or allow limited use of applications and websites. All keystrokes can be recorded and 'alert words' can highlight communications containing sensitive information.

All of the recorded activity is sent to an online account and can be viewed by logging in to the easy to use interface, from any computer.

Andi Robinson, Managing Director of Security IP comments, "Sadly there are many risks to children online. Parents can monitor their child's online activities to some extent when they are at home, but this is difficult if the parent spends a lot of time away at work or elsewhere. WebWatcher gives parents, no matter where they are located, the peace of mind that their child is using the internet safely."

A widely publicised example of how WebWatcher can be used to protect children online occurred in 2006, when an ice hockey teacher was jailed for four and a half years after being found guilty of having sex with an under-age girl. He was only caught after the teenage girl's father installed WebWatcher onto her PC. The emails and instant messages recorded by WebWatcher between the girl and the man provided enough evidence for the police to make an arrest.

ENDS

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