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8e6 3000 | Enterprise Filter



R3000 Backup/Restore

Scope

The scope of this white paper is to give a technical description of the Backup/Restore feature on the R3000

Product Definition

8e6 R3000 Enterprise Filter

The 8e6 R3000 Enterprise Filter is a hardware-based appliance solution that allows users to monitor, filter and log an organization's Internet traffic. Through user-defined parameters based on 8e6's 75+ categories of Web content, an R3000 filter will help improve employee productivity, reduce liability and preserve network resources.

Feature Definition

8e6 Library – A group of categories of URLs and IP addresses provided by 8e6 as part of the on-going filtering subscription

Category – A grouping of URLs based on website subject matter, such as Sports, Games, or General Pornography

Custom Library – A category, or group of categories, of URLs and IP addresses created by the customer locally on their R3000.

Library Additions – URLs or IP Addresses that have been manually added to a category by an administrator

Library Deletions – URLs or IP addresses that have been manually removed from a category by an Administrator

R3000 Configuration Options – Selections within the R3000 GUI, which customize the filtering levels to a customer's environment.

Overview

The back-up/restore feature on the R3000 is designed to allow a Global Administrator to create a back-up of the configuration options, and custom library changes for safe keeping in the event of a failure or mis-configuration.

There are two options that can be selected when creating a back-up. The first is configuration. When this option is selected, the R3000 Configuration Options will be included in the back-up. This would include the following items:

- Global Group Profile
- Rules
- Range to Detect
- Rules
- Minimum Filtering Level
- IP Groups and Subgroups with profiles
- Bypass Accounts
- NT Groups and Users
- LDAP Groups and Users
- NT Group and User Profiles
- LDAP Group and User Profiles
- NT Group Priority
- LDAP Group Priority
- Reporter settings
- NIC Mode
- System Alert
- Authentication Settings
- Operation Mode
- Proxy Environment Settings
- Global Administrator Accounts
- Group Administrator Accounts

The second option for creating a back-up is Library. When selected, this back-up will include:

- All Library Additions to the 8e6 Library
- All Library Deletions to the 8e6 Library
- All Custom Categories
- All Library Additions to Custom Categories
- All Library Deletions to Custom Categories

Once the selection option has been completed, the administrator will be prompted for a file name, and a comment. The file name is the name that will be given to the back-up file. The comment is available for a longer description on what the back-up contains.

Once the selection options and the following naming of the file take place, a back-up file is saved onto the R3000. This file creates a snapshot of the R3000 at that point in time. The back-up file can be used to restore the R3000 to this point at any time. This will be covered in the "Restore" section of this document.

It is important that the Global Administrator makes periodic back-ups so that in the event of a failure or mis-configuration, the R3000 can be restored to a known working configuration. This can also be useful if a Global Administrator wants to experiment with some configuration settings, a back-up allows the administrator to undo any configurations done during the experimentation.

Download of the Backup

Once a back-up file is created, the Global Administrator can download the back-up for storage off of the R3000. The administrator selecting the file to be downloaded, and clicking the download button, will save a copy of that back-up file to the administrator's workstation.

This is useful for saving a back-up off of the R3000 in the event of a hardware failure. It can also be used to duplicate settings from one R3000 to another R3000.

Upload of the Backup

Just as the back-up file can be downloaded, it can also be uploaded from the administrator's workstation to the R3000. In order to upload a back-up file, the Administrator would click the upload button, select the back-up file to be uploaded, and click OK.

Once a file is uploaded it is available to be restored.

Restore

Once a back-up file is created, or uploaded to the R3000, it can be used to restore the R3000 to the state contained within the back-up file. Restore is the process by which the data within the back-up file will over-write any changes made since the back-up file was created.

In the event that the back-up file is uploaded to a new R3000, the Restore functioned would apply all configuration settings contained within the back-up file to this new R3000.

It is important to note that since the 8e6 Libraries are not contained within the back-up file, if a restore is performed with a back-up file that contains library information, a full-library download should be performed immediately following the Restore.

Backup File Management

It is possible that over time an Administrator may create several back-up files as changes are made to the R3000. The back-up feature allows an administrator to delete back-up files from the R3000 to ease the amount of data that is stored, as well as to provide for the ability to remove outdated back-ups. This allows an administrator to manage which files are available for restore on the R3000. In order to delete a back-up file, select the file to be deleted, and click the delete button. A confirmation prompt will launch, affirm the confirmation, and the file will be deleted. Deleting this file should be done judiciously as once a file has been deleted it cannot be recreated under any circumstances.

8e6 Recommendations – Best Practices

8e6 recommends that prior to, and following, each time a Global Administrator logs into the GUI that the Global Administrator create a back-up, and download that back-up to his workstation. This will allow the Administrator to undo any

mis-configurations made during the administration session. This will also ensure that the administrator always has the last good running configuration stored both on the R3000, and on his/her desktop.