

## URL FILTERING



EDU-210 Version A  
PAN-OS® 9.0

## *MAKE THE WEB SAFE AGAIN*

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- URL Filtering Security Profiles
- Attaching URL Filtering Profiles

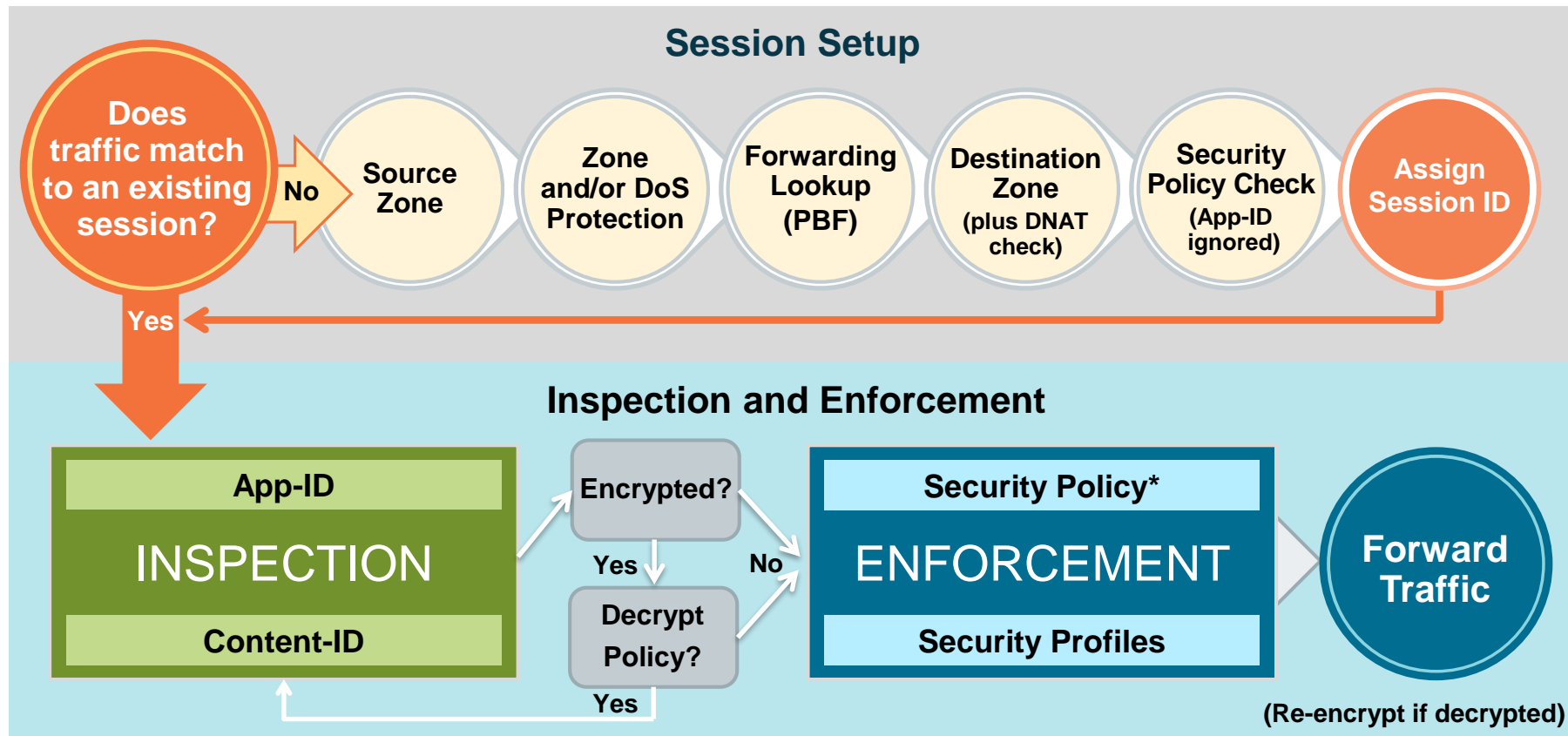
# Agenda



After you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Describe how the firewall uses the PAN-DB database to filter user access to websites
- Configure a custom URL Filtering Profile to minimize the number of blocked websites between trusted zones
- Configure safe search and logging options
- Configure access to only enterprise versions of SaaS applications

# Flow Logic of the Next-Generation Firewall



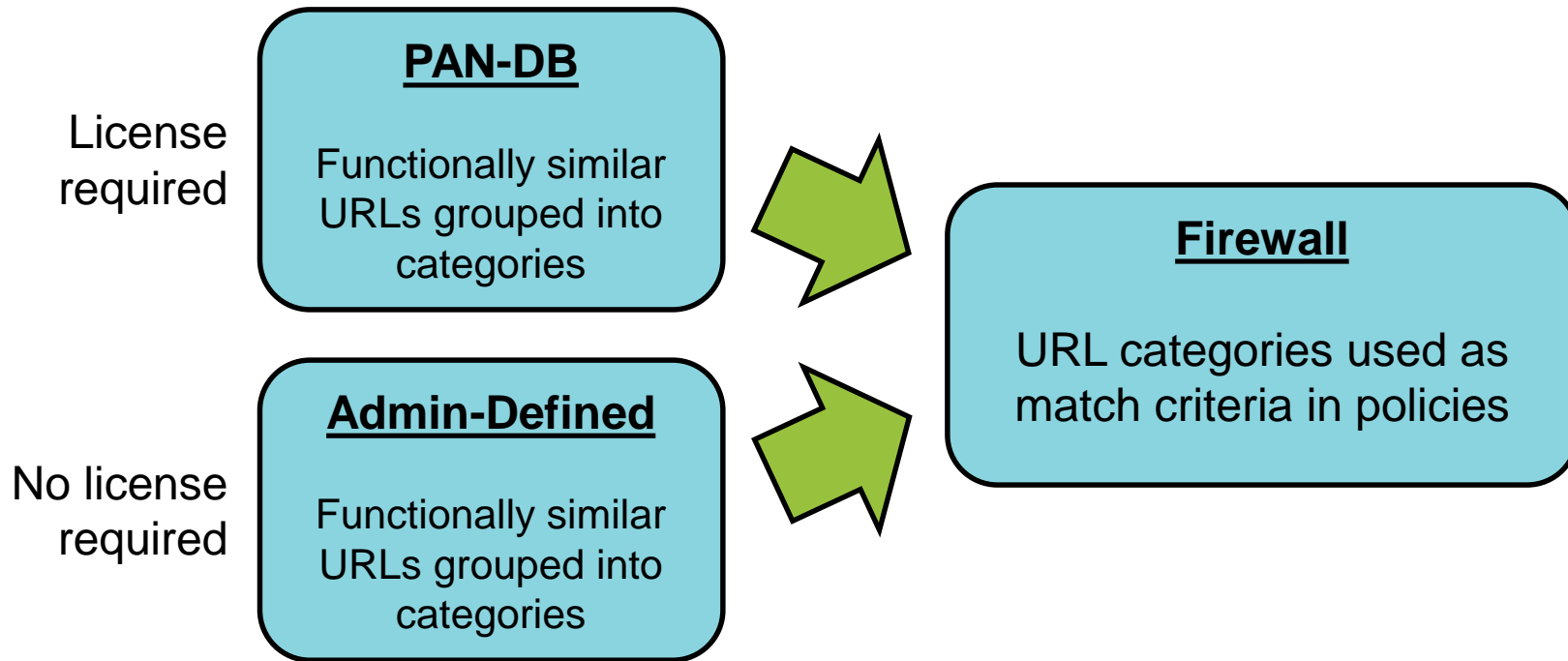
\* Policy check relies on pre-NAT IP addresses



## **URL Filtering Security Profiles**

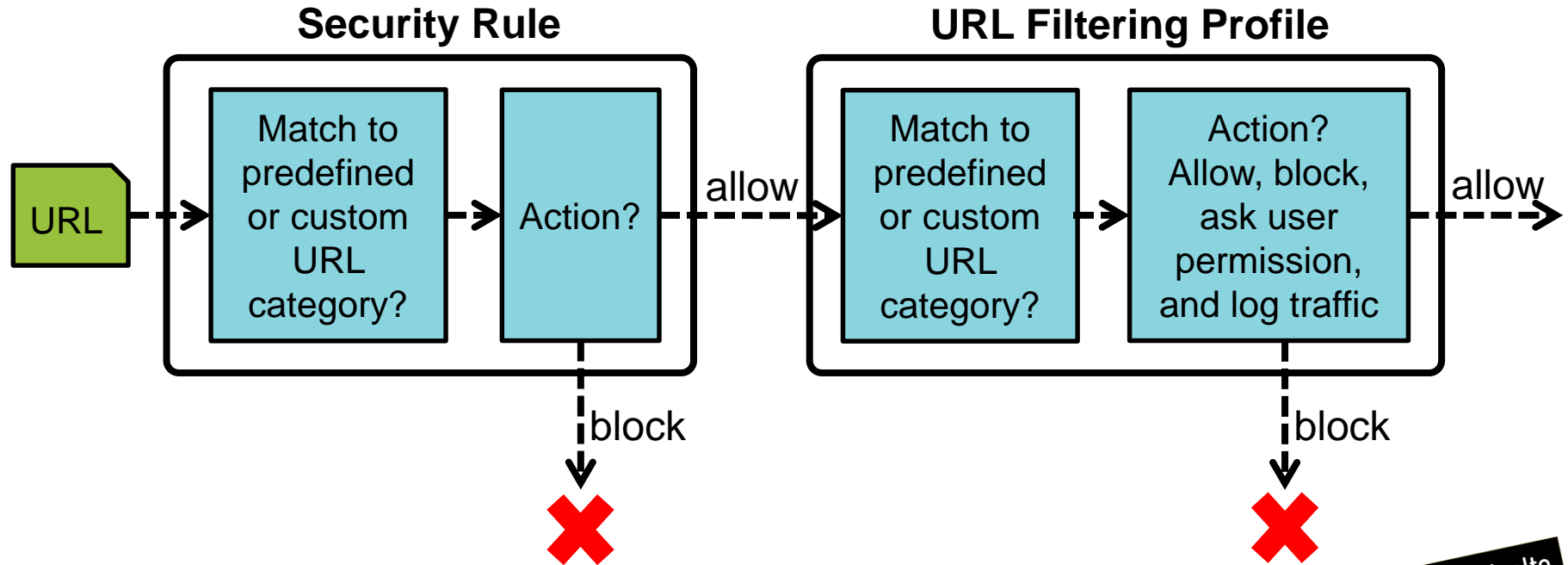
**Attaching URL Filtering Profiles**

# URL Filtering Feature



# URL Filtering Profiles

- URL Filtering Profiles implement additional security checks on allowed traffic.



# URL Category: Policy Versus Profile

## Policies > Security

	Name	Tags	Type	Source				Destination		Rule Usage			Application	Service	Action	Profile	URL Category
				Zone	Address	User	HIP Profile	Zone	Addre...	Hit Count	Last Hit	First Hit					
1	Social-Media	egress	universal	🏠 inside	any	any	any	🏠 outside	any	-	-	-	any	🔗 application-default	🚫 Deny	none	social-networking
2	Email	egress	universal	🏠 inside	any	any	any	🏠 outside	any	-	-	-	any	🔗 application-default	✅ Allow	🌐	web-based-email

### URL Category in a Policy

Used as a match condition

URLs matched to predefined or custom URL categories

Action determined in the policy rule

URL category name logged in the URL Filtering log

### URL Filtering Security Profile

Applied to traffic allowed by Security policy

URLs matched to “block” or “allow” lists and predefined or custom URL categories

Action more granularly configured for individual URLs or URL categories

URL details logged in the URL Filtering log

# URL Filtering Log

- Attachment of a URL Filtering Profile to a Security rule generates log entries:
  - “alert,” “block,” “continue,” and “override” actions trigger log entries.

## Monitor > Logs > URL Filtering

(URL contains '.craigslist')										
	Receive Time	Category	URL	From Zone	To Zone	Source	Source User	Destination	Application	Action
	01/18 20:28:49	shopping	images.craigslist.org/3kd3m13o55O25...	danger	danger	192.168.3.131	lab\jamie	208.82.236.130	web-browsing	block-url
	01/18 20:28:45	shopping	vancouver.en.craigslist.ca/search/mca...	danger	danger	192.168.3.131	lab\jamie	208.82.236.129	web-browsing	block-url
	01/18 20:27:26	shopping	vancouver.en.craigslist.ca/rds/mcy/21...	danger	danger	192.168.3.131	lab\jamie	208.82.236.129	web-browsing	block-url
	01/18 20:27:15	shopping	vancouver.en.craigslist.ca/search/mca...	danger	danger	192.168.3.131	lab\jamie	208.82.236.129	web-browsing	block-url
	01/18 20:26:54	shopping	images.craigslist.org/3kd3mb3pb5T65Z...	danger	danger	192.168.3.131	lab\jamie	208.82.236.130	web-browsing	block-url



# URL Filtering Security Profile

## Objects > Security Profiles > URL Filtering

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Location	Site Access	User Credential Submission	HTTP Header Insertion
<input type="checkbox"/>	default	Predefined	Allow Categories (58) Alert Categories (3) Continue Categories (0) Block Categories (9) Override Categories (0)	Allow Categories (70) Alert Categories (0) Continue Categories (0)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	lab-url-filtering		Allow Categories (69) Alert Categories (0) Continue Categories (0) Block Categories (3) Override Categories (0)	Block Categories (3)	

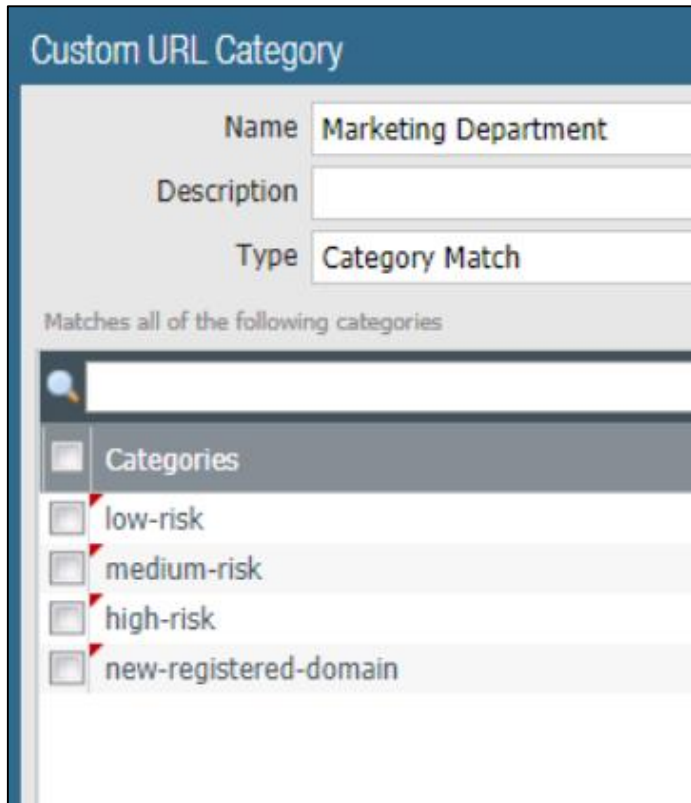
Out-of-the-box profile

Click each item to display categories in the list.

- To create customized profiles:
  - Clone the default read-only profile and edit the clone, or
  - Add a brand new profile

# Multi-Category and Risk-Based URL Filtering

Device > Setup > Content-ID > URL Filtering



The screenshot shows the 'Custom URL Category' configuration interface. It includes fields for 'Name' (Marketing Department), 'Description', and 'Type' (Category Match). Below these is a section titled 'Matches all of the following categories' with a search bar and a list of categories: 'low-risk', 'medium-risk', 'high-risk', and 'new-registered-domain'. Each category has an unchecked checkbox.

Custom URL Category

Name

Description

Type

Matches all of the following categories

☐ Categories

☐ low-risk

☐ medium-risk

☐ high-risk

☐ new-registered-domain

- PAN-DB URL Filtering cloud assigns websites to multiple categories.
- Categories indicate how risky the site is, the website's content, and the website's purpose or function.
- The security-related risk categories demonstrate levels of suspicious activity.
- Websites that have been registered for fewer than 32 days are considered new-registered-domains.

# Configure Per-URL Category Actions

The screenshot shows the 'URL Filtering Profile' configuration page for a 'Marketing Department' profile. The 'Categories' tab is active, displaying a list of URL categories and their associated actions. The categories are divided into 'Custom URL Categories' (lab-decryption \*, tech-sites \*) and 'Pre-defined Categories' (abortion). The 'External Dynamic URL Lists' section shows 'url-block-list +'. The 'Site Access' column shows actions like 'none', 'block', 'allow', and 'continue'. The 'User Credential Submission' column shows actions like 'none', 'block', 'allow', 'block', 'continue', and 'none'. A callout points to the 'Site Access' column header, stating 'Has drop-down list with option to change all actions'. Another callout points to the 'Custom URL Categories' section, stating 'Admin-defined URL categories – replaces overrides'. A third callout points to the 'Site Access' column, stating 'Action to take when URL is accessed; “allow” is default'. A fourth callout points to the 'User Credential Submission' column, stating 'Action to take if user submits credentials to allowed URL'. A fifth callout points to the 'url-block-list +' entry, stating 'Action to take when URL is accessed; “allow” is default'.

URL Filtering Profile

Name: Marketing Department

Description:

Categories: URL Filtering Settings User Credential Detection HTTP Header Insertion

Category

Custom URL Categories

- lab-decryption \*
- tech-sites \*

External Dynamic URL Lists

- url-block-list +

Pre-defined Categories

- abortion

\* indicates a custom URL category, + indicates a dynamic URL list

Check URL Category

Has drop-down list with option to change all actions

Admin-defined URL categories – replaces overrides

Action to take when URL is accessed; “allow” is default

Action to take if user submits credentials to allowed URL

Category	Site Access	User Credential Submission
lab-decryption *	none	none
tech-sites *	block	block
url-block-list +	allow	allow
abortion	allow	allow

## URL matching order:

1. Block list\*
2. Allow list\*
3. Custom URL categories\*
4. External Dynamic Lists\*
5. PAN-DB firewall cache
6. Downloaded PAN-DB file
7. PAN-DB cloud

\*Supports wildcard characters

# Configure a Custom URL Category

Objects > Custom Objects > URL Category > Add

Custom URL Category

Name: Marketing Department

Description:

Type: Category Match

Matches all of the following categories

Categories

- ☐ social-networking
- ☐ business-and-economy
- ☒ educational-institutions
- content-delivery-networks
- copyright-infringement
- dating
- dynamic-dns
- educational-institutions
- entertainment-and-arts
- extremism
- financial-services
- gambling
- games
- government
- hacking

Category Match

URL List

- Define URL categories enforcement separate from category defaults
- Create URL filtering based on URL or category
- Replaces URL filtering overrides

# URL Filtering Response Pages

## Web Page Blocked

Access to the web page you were trying to visit has been blocked in accordance with company policy. Please contact your system administrator if you believe this is in error.

**User:** 192.168.41.20

**URL:** www.2600.org/

**Category:** hacking

## Web Page Blocked

Access to the web page you were trying to visit has been blocked in accordance with administrator if you believe this is in error.

**User:** 192.168.41.20

**URL:** www.handdrawngames.com/desktopd/game.asp

**Category:** games

If you feel this page has been incorrectly blocked, you may click Continue to proceed logged.

Continue

[Return to previous page](#)

## Web Page Blocked

Access to the web page you were trying to visit has been blocked in accordance with company policy. Please contact your system administrator if you believe this is in error.

**User:** 192.168.41.20

**URL:** www.ketelone.com/

**Category:** alcohol-and-tobacco

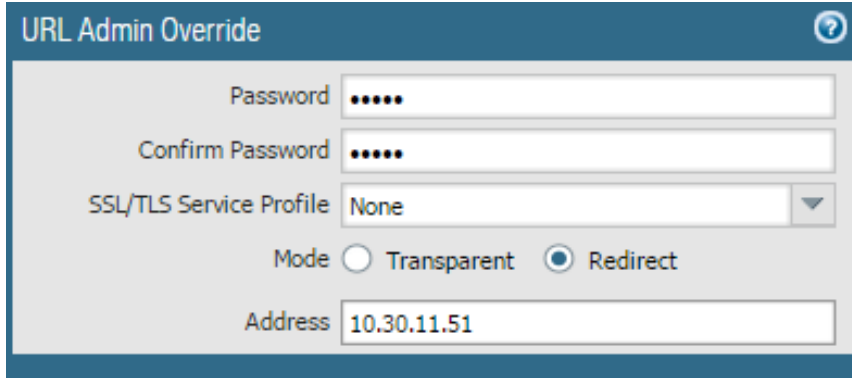
If you require access to this page, have an administrator enter the override password here:

[Return to previous page](#)

# URL Admin Settings

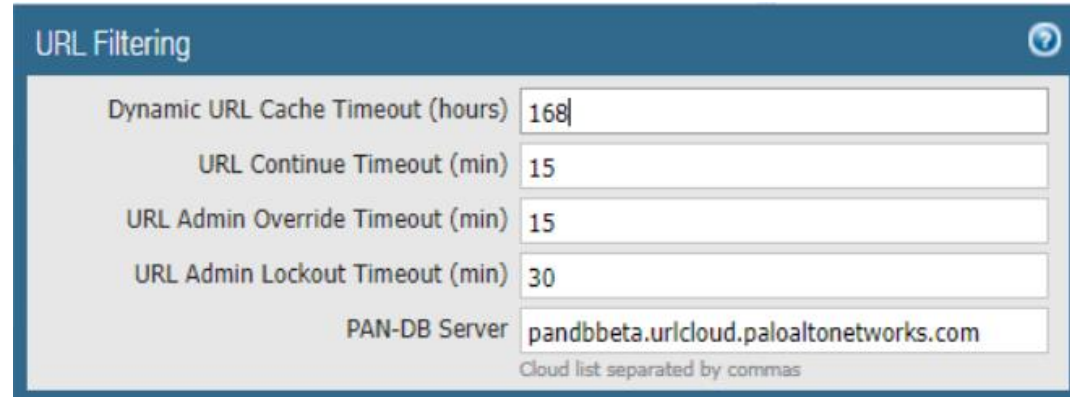
Device > Setup > Content-ID > URL Admin Override > Add



The screenshot shows the 'URL Admin Override' configuration window. It includes fields for 'Password' and 'Confirm Password', both masked with dots. The 'SSL/TLS Service Profile' is set to 'None'. The 'Mode' is set to 'Redirect' (indicated by a selected radio button). The 'Address' field contains the IP '10.30.11.51'.

Configure a URL Admin Override password that a user must enter to access a URL configured with an “override” action.

Device > Setup > Content-ID > URL Filtering



The screenshot shows the 'URL Filtering' configuration window. It contains several input fields for timeouts and a server address:

Field	Value
Dynamic URL Cache Timeout (hours)	168
URL Continue Timeout (min)	15
URL Admin Override Timeout (min)	15
URL Admin Lockout Timeout (min)	30
PAN-DB Server	pandbbeta.urlcloud.paloaltonetworks.com

Below the PAN-DB Server field, it says 'Cloud list separated by commas'.

# Configure Safe Search and Logging Options

Objects > Security Profiles > URL Filtering > Add

URL Filtering Profile

Name: Marketing Department

Description:

Categories: URL Filtering Settings | User Credential Detection | HTTP Header Insertion

☒ Log container page only

☐ Safe Search Enforcement

HTTP Header Logging

- ☐ User-Agent
- ☐ Referer
- ☐ X-Forwarded-For

Has dedicated block page; see **Device > Response Pages**

# Configure Credential Phishing Prevention Method

Objects > Security Profiles > URL Filtering > Add

URL Filtering Profile

Name: Marketing Department

Description:

Categories | URL Filtering Settings | User Credential Detection | HTTP Header Insertion

User Credential Detection

Use IP User Mapping

Log Severity

Valid Username Detected Log Severity: medium

Optionally, select one of three methods as the source for credential detection.

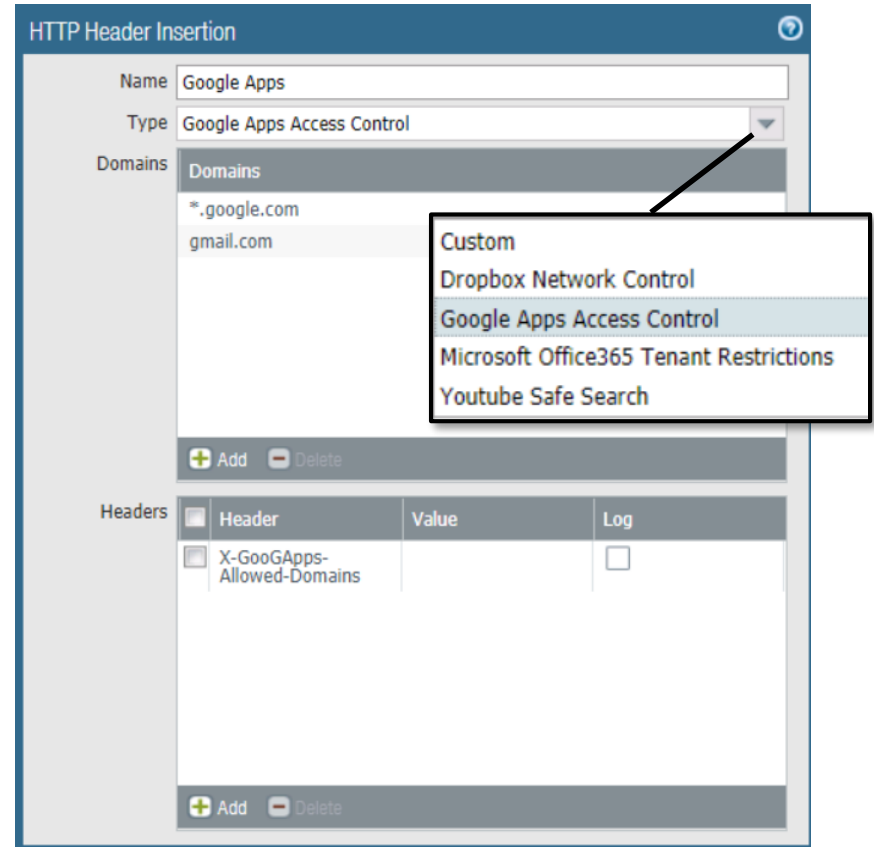
Disabled  
Use IP User Mapping  
Use Domain Credential Filter  
Use Group Mapping

critical  
high  
medium  
low  
informational



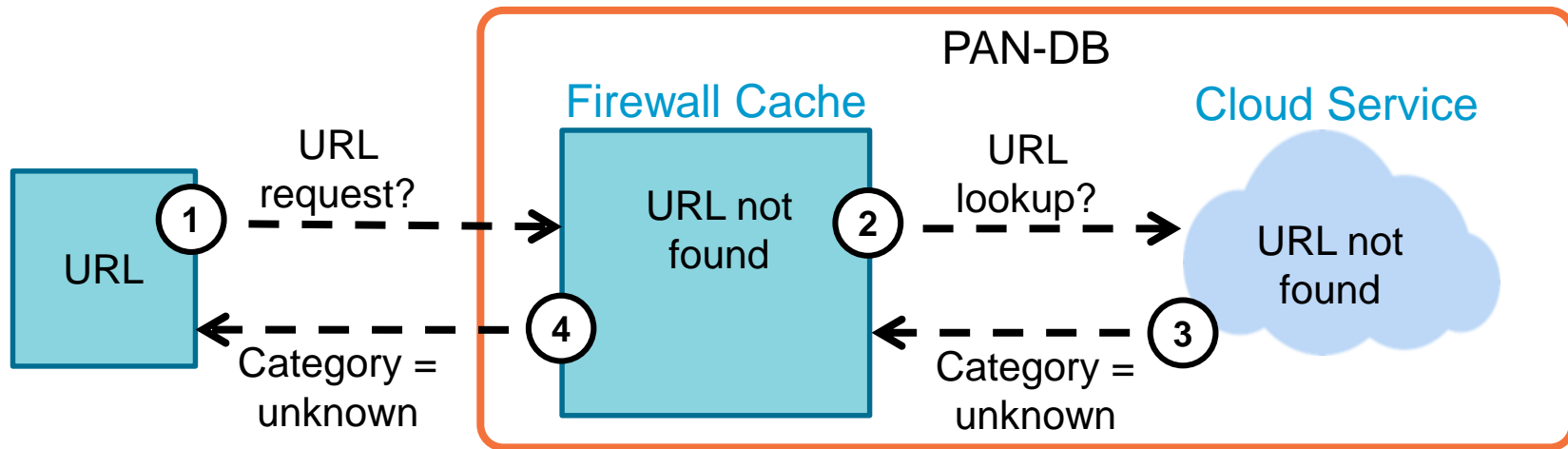
# HTTP Header Insertion and Modification

- Enable access to only enterprise versions of SaaS applications
- Inserts header if missing or overwrites existing header
- Four predefined SaaS applications:
  - Dropbox
  - Google
  - Office 365
  - YouTube



# Handling Unknown URLs

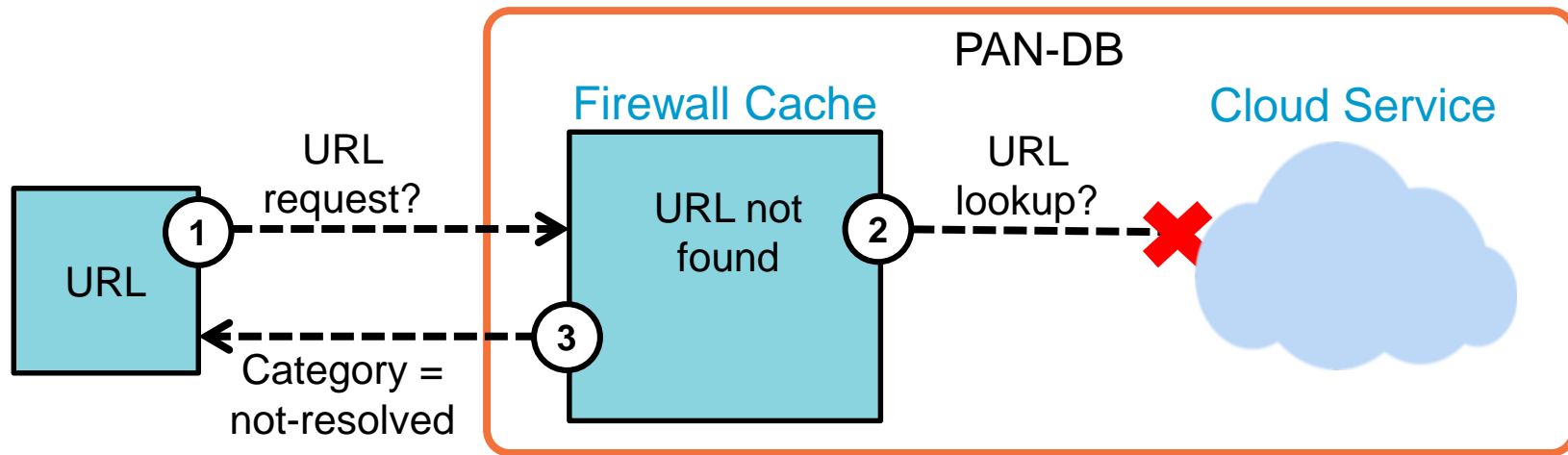
- Category column in URL Filtering log lists *unknown*.



Recommendation: Set unknown URL category action to support your security requirements

# Handling Not-Resolved URLs

- Category column in URL Filtering log lists *not-resolved*.



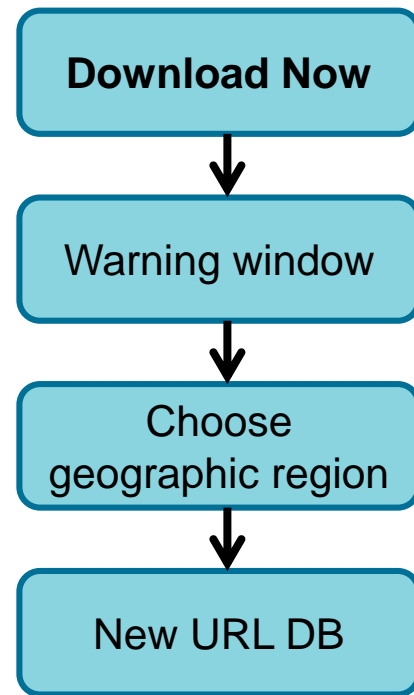
Recommendation: Set not-resolved URL category match action to “alert”

## Downloading the URL Seed Database

- Download an initial seed database to use the URL Filtering feature



### Device > Licenses

PAN-DB URL Filtering	
Date Issued	November 30, 2015
Date Expires	November 30, 2020
Description	Palo Alto Networks URL Filtering License
Active	Yes
Download Status	<a href="#">Download Now</a>



# Recategorization Request: Via Log Entries

## Monitor > Logs > URL Filtering

	Receive Time	Category	URL	Fr
	01/18 20:28:49	shopping	images.craigslist...	da
	01/18 20:28:45	shopping	vancouver.en.cr...	da

Details

Severity informational

Repeat Count 1

URL vancouver.en.craigsli...  
query=1995+kawasa...

[Request Categorization Change](#)

HTTP Method get

### Request Categorization Change

URL vancouver.en.craigslist.ca

Log Category shopping

Suggested Category  [get descriptions](#)

Email

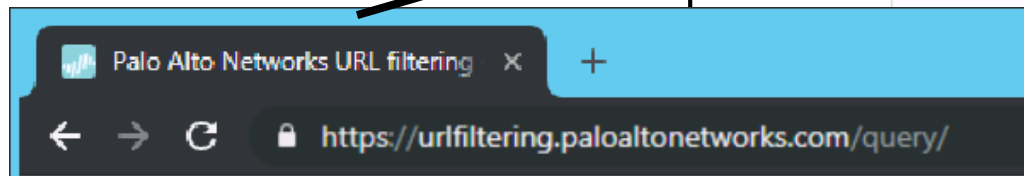
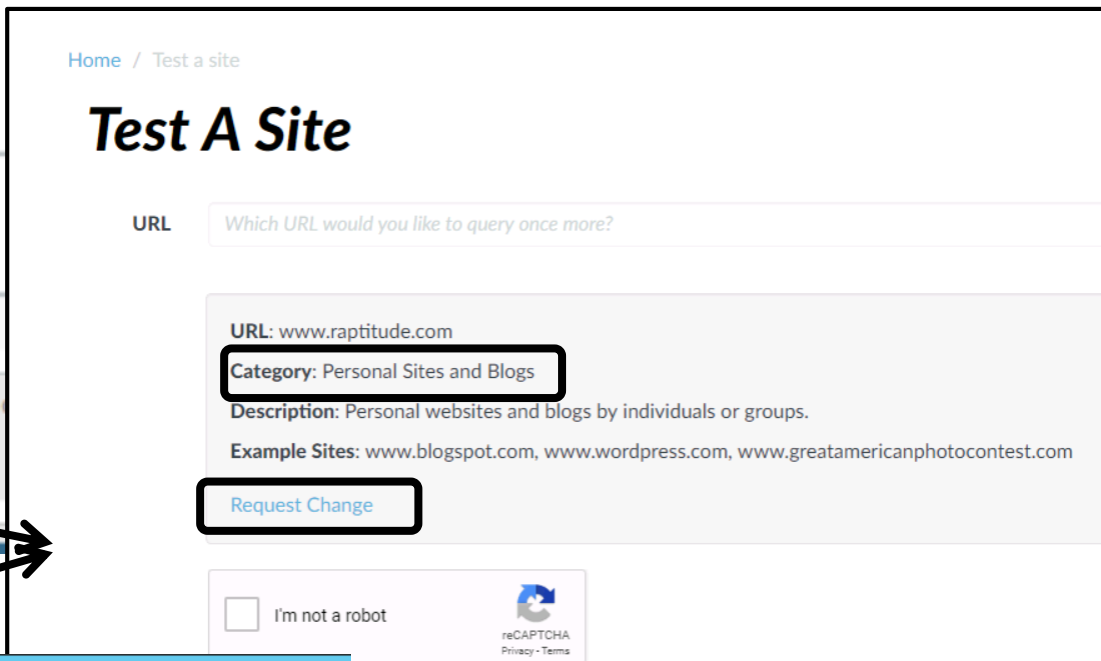
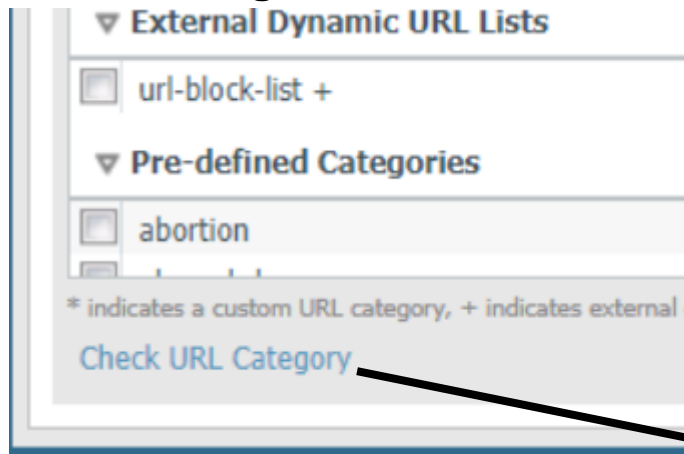
Confirm Email

Comments

The following characters are not supported: ";|`&\"

# Recategorization Requests: Via Webpage

Objects > Security Profiles >  
URL Filtering > Add



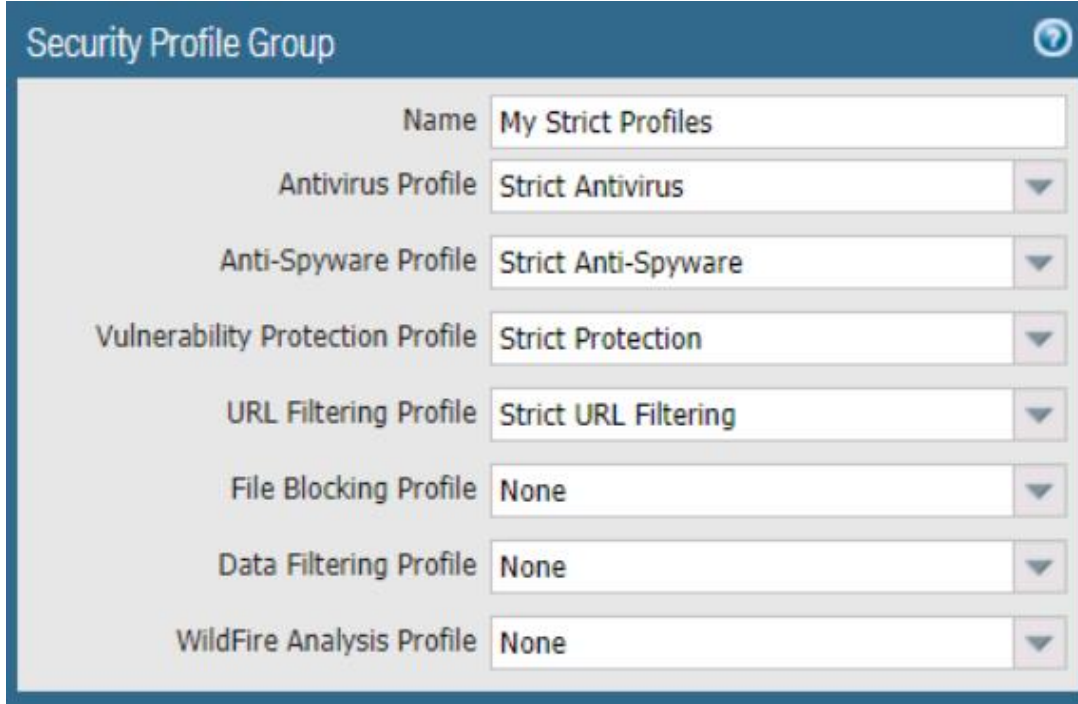


URL Filtering Security Profiles

**Attaching URL Filtering Profiles**

# Security Profile Groups

## Objects > Security Profile Groups > Add



The screenshot shows the 'Security Profile Group' configuration window. It has a title bar with the text 'Security Profile Group' and a help icon. The main area contains several configuration fields, each with a label and a dropdown menu:

Label	Value
Name	My Strict Profiles
Antivirus Profile	Strict Antivirus
Anti-Spyware Profile	Strict Anti-Spyware
Vulnerability Protection Profile	Strict Protection
URL Filtering Profile	Strict URL Filtering
File Blocking Profile	None
Data Filtering Profile	None
WildFire Analysis Profile	None

- Add Security Profiles that commonly are used together
- Simplifies security rule administration



# Assigning Security Profiles to Security Rules

## Policies > Security > Add

The screenshot shows the 'Security Policy Rule' configuration interface. The 'Profile Setting' section is highlighted with a black box. An arrow points from the 'Profile Type' dropdown (set to 'Profiles') to the 'Profile Type' dropdown in a modal window (set to 'Group'). The modal window also shows 'Group Profile' set to 'My Strict Profiles'.

**Security Policy Rule**

General | Source | User | Destination | Application | Service/URL Category | Actions | Usage

**Action Setting**

Action: Allow  
☐ Send ICMP Unreachable

**Log Setting**

☐ Log at Session Start  
☒ Log at Session End

**Profile Setting**

Profile Type: Profiles

Antivirus: Strict Antivirus

Vulnerability Protection: Strict Protection

Anti-Spyware: Strict Anti-Spyware

URL Filtering: Strict URL Filtering

File Blocking: None

Data Filtering: None

WildFire Analysis: None

- Assign individual Security Profiles to a Security policy rule, or
- Assign a Security Profile Group to a Security policy rule

# Module Summary



Now that you have completed this module, you should be able to:

- Describe how the firewall uses the PAN-DB database to filter user access to websites
- Configure a custom URL Filtering Profile to minimize the number of blocked websites between trusted zones
- Configure safe search and logging options
- Configure access to only enterprise versions of SaaS applications

# Questions?



## URL Filtering Lab (Pages 129-142 in the Lab Guide)

- Load a firewall lab configuration
- Configure a custom URL category
- Configure an EDL
- Create and test a URL Filtering Profile

PROTECTION. DELIVERED.

