

# Smoothwall Perl Programming Test - 2019

## Scenario

The challenge is to create a Perl script which reads an Apache access log file and generates some useful or interesting statistics from it. You may decide which fields or pieces of information are most useful, although at a **minimum** the output should contain:

- Date/Time
- URL;
- Username (if it's present);
- Frequency/count of URL(s)/domains found

You are encouraged to come up with other useful statistics of your own, in addition to the above.

## Tools

You can use any programming style, IDE or modules you want. The only stipulations are that the script is written in Perl and any third-party modules are available from CPAN.

## Time

This is not a timed test, but we would encourage you to spend no more than a few hours on this exercise.

## Output

The output from the script can be any format you like. It could be in the form of HTML or to a terminal, or a text file, etc. Creativity is encouraged!

## Submission

Please email an archive to the following people at least **two days** before your scheduled face-to-face interview:

- Thomas Adam: [thomas.adam@smoothwall.com](mailto:thomas.adam@smoothwall.com)
- Richard Newsham: [richard.newsham@smoothwall.com](mailto:richard.newsham@smoothwall.com)

The archive should contain the following:

- Perl script(s) you have created;
- Modules you have created as part of the exercise (but **excluding** modules on CPAN)
- A README file which details any CPAN modules required for installation prior to running the script(s), plus any specific usage instructions for your script(s)
- A sample Apache log file that can be used as input to your script(s)

**Good luck!**