

## BEFORE AND BEHIND THE SCREEN

# CHILDPROOF

The Internet can be used for an infinite number of good things. But it can also be abused and have disastrous consequences. **Making the Web a better place for children and youth is highly important to us.**

**THE INTERNET IS BASICALLY** an incredible platform. With its communication possibilities, it is creating a better life for most people. At the same time, we must not ignore the fact that the Web can also be a source of problems. One major issue is the distribution of material depicting sexual abuse of children. To protect abused children, initiatives are being taken to stop the spread of this material and to make the Internet a better place.

"We have taken a position on child sexual exploitive material. Joining the efforts to stop the spread of this material, we hope to reduce demand for it. It is unacceptable that this type of material exists at all. It is also unacceptable that there are forces who make huge profits on the distribution of material showing sexual abuse of children," says Patrik Hiselius, Senior Advisor at TeliaSonera.

**BY COOPERATING** with the Swedish police and Internet Watch Foundation, Telia receives lists of pages containing child sexual abuse material. Telia then blocks customers from accessing this material. Otherwise, one wrong click might be the only thing needed to display child abuse images on a customer's screen. With Telia's blocking, a person who consciously or unconsciously attempts to access such a page will instead be directed to a stop page.

"The blocking of Web-based content is actually a very sensitive issue for us. Our employees and customers believe strongly in having an Internet free of any interventions. Enabling communications is in our DNA. Blocking it isn't. We are basically for a free Internet," says Patrik Hiselius.

**INITIATIVES AGAINST** the spread of child sexual abuse material is therefore something unique for Telia and it is the only content that Telia actively takes sides against and joins efforts to block. Blocking content is quite contrary to Telia's business concept, which is to empower people to communicate as they like, when they like.

"There might be a lot of undesirable material on the Internet, but as a private company, we cannot, and should not, decide what the Internet should have online. The exception is exploitive material showing child sexual abuse. We are against this, but we cannot decide which content to block -- this is the responsibility of the police authority or the Internet Watch Foundation," says Patrik Hiselius.

Patrik Hiselius, Senior Advisor at TeliaSonera

**"We are joining efforts to reduce** the spread of child sexual abuse material."

Telia's efforts to stop the spread of child sexual abuse material - **how it works**

**1**

A special unit of the National Criminal Police in Sweden detects and tracks child sexual abuse material. The material is compiled in a blocking list that is regularly updated.

**2**

When the National Criminal Police has updated the list with new content, the information is forwarded to Telia and other Internet providers. The list contains information on pages containing content that the Police classifies as child sexual abuse images.

**3**

Telia receives the list and blocks customers from accessing the pages. Anyone attempting to access the pages in question will be directed to a 'stop page' with information explaining that the page contains

inappropriate material. With this setup, the user avoids being exposed to the content and its distribution is stopped. Demand for new and more child sexual abuse images will also be restrained.