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Content-Specific Hypertext Transfer Protocol

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Abstract

   This document describes HTTPX, a protocol for providing access to
   materials that may be objectionable or that have age or locale-based
   restrictions, while providing a simple method to filter such content
   where required.

   HTTPX uses the protocol HTTP 1.1 ([RFC 2068]), with the single
   exception of designating a separate range of TCP and UDP port
   numbers that are allocated to a specific content type.

1. Rationale and Scope

   The problem of unintentional distribution of adult-oriented
   materials to minors via the internet has become an increasing
   problem. URL filtering schemes have proven either ineffective or

too restrictive. Age verification schemes have proven cumbersome

and expensive. In addition, these methods place full responsibility
for restricting access on the end user and places no responsibility
on the distributor, where most such restrictions, such as access to
alcohol, cigarettes and explicit magazines, have historically been
placed.

Currently available protocols provide no reasonable means for the
distributor to pro-actively apply effective protocol-based controls
on content. HTTPX is intended to provide a simple, effective means
to filter content by using a standard protocol, HTTP 1.1
([RFC 2068]), over a specially designated port number.

This simple change will allow the creation of a separate, adult
network. Such entities as schools, libraries and businesses that
have a requirement for filtering content, will be able to do so with
minimal expense, using existing routers, proxy servers or firewalls
by disabling those ports. Browser software can be modified to
require a password lock to receive data on those ports.
Distributors of adult content could still provide opening screens
And advertisements on the existing port 80, and with minimal
expense, provide the adult content on the newly designated ports.
Governments and Internet Service Providers might provide some
incentive for adult content distributors to move their content to
the designated ports via service agreements or minor legislation.
Moving content to the new ports, might even reduce liability for the
distributors.

2. HTTPX Protocol

The HTTPX protocol uses the HTTP 1.1 ([RFC 2068]) protocol
unchanged, with the exception of designating special TCP and UDP
port numbers.

2.1 Proposed TCP and UDP Port Numbers
Proposed additions to RFC 1700;

```
www-httpx  880/tcp  World Wide Web HTTPX for Graphic Sexual content
www-httpx  880/udp  World Wide Web HTTPX for Graphic Sexual content
www-httpx  881/tcp  World Wide Web HTTPX for Full Nudity
www-httpx  881/udp  World Wide Web HTTPX for Full Nudity
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3. References

[RFC2068] Fielding, R., Gettys, J., Mogul, J., Frystyk, H., and T.
Berners-Lee, "Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1", RFC 2068,

January 1997.

    [RFC1700] J. Reynolds and J. Postel, "ASSIGNED NUMBERS", RFC 1700,
    October 1994

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