



IWF
@25

Is Privacy Preserving Web Filtering Possible?

Dan Sexton

CTO, Internet Watch Foundation

Search 'Internet Watch Foundation'



The Challenge

The IWF works to find and remove child sexual abuse material from the internet (CSAM). A crucial part of this work has been providing data to industry to enable detection and blocking of verified CSAM by platforms and ISPs.

As internet standards have developed and use of encryption become commonplace, the methods that organisations used to perform legitimate filtering of harmful content have become less and less effective.

Can legitimate, legal web filtering co-exist with a secure and private internet? Can advances in encryption and privacy enhancing technologies be leveraged to filter harmful web content *without* compromising user privacy?

Searching for Solutions

IWF wants to engage with the community of engineers and tech industry leaders that shape Internet standards to stimulate practical solutions, standards, and/or implementations of web filtering that do not compromise user privacy.

I am looking to find out about any existing work on privacy preserving web filtering, or privacy enhancing uses of technology that could be made to work.

And to otherwise pose an engineering challenge to the IETF attendees that might develop into future proposals, standards or implementations.

