

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **WiderWeb joins IWF to combat illegal online content**

WiderWeb has become a member of the Internet Watch Foundation, working with industry, Government, police and the public to help combat illegal online content. The IWF provides the UK's only authorised internet hotline, allowing the public to report their inadvertent exposure to child abuse images, incitement to racial hatred and criminally obscene content. The IWF also provides filtering data to block access to illegal content sites and operates a 'notice and take-down' service for companies hosting illegal content.

**Ed Moore, Commercial Director of WiderWeb, said:** "WiderWeb provides adaptation solutions to mobile operators and service providers, to enable access from standard mobile handsets to all web content. New product updates include the addition of content filtering to restrict access to unsuitable content and to further this work we have joined the IWF.

Restricting access to illegal content is an important issue for everyone involved in the mobile web, and we must take support and guidance in dealing with the issues raised. The IWF has done a fantastic job of reducing the amount of illegal content hosted in the UK and in restricting access to illegal content hosted around the globe. We are delighted to be able to work with the IWF to help protect and enrich the service capabilities of all our customers. "

**Peter Robbins, CEO, IWF, said:** "Technological developments such as mobile internet access pose a continuing challenge in tackling potentially illegal child abuse online content. We are pleased to welcome WiderWeb from this sector of the online industry and look forward to working together, ensuring mobile web access can offer the same protection to its users as fixed line access.

"Child abuse images online is a very serious issue and the success in the UK in combating this crime is testament to the commitment and effectiveness shown by the online industry and other important partners to confront the problem. WiderWeb becomes our 73<sup>rd</sup> member and is an important addition to the scope and diversity of our membership."

### **About Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)**

The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) was formed in 1996 following an agreement between the government, police and the internet service provider industry that a partnership approach was needed to tackle the distribution of child abuse images online.

Essentially the IWF is an independent body operating the only authorised non police 'hotline' in the UK for the public and IT professionals to report their inadvertent exposure to illegal content on the internet. The IWF also provides a universal 'notice and take-down' service to any content service provider in the UK so they can remove potentially illegal content from their servers. We work closely with law enforcement agencies at home and abroad to help them trace the publishers of such content.

As a result of these arrangements just 0.4% of potentially illegal child abuse content was apparently hosted in the UK in 2005, down from 18% in 1997.

Please note that the terms "child pornography" or "child porn" can act to legitimise images which are not pornography. Rather, they are permanent records of children being sexually abused and as such should be referred to as child abuse images.

For more information visit our website at [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk) or contact: Sarah Robertson, IWF Communications, e: [sarah@iwf.org.uk](mailto:sarah@iwf.org.uk), t: 01223 237700.

### **About WiderWeb**

Based in the UK, WiderWeb is a leading developer of mobile web access solutions, providing adaptation servers to bring the whole web to mobile users. The WiderWeb technology takes poorly structured web sites and delivers them in a highly optimised, compressed and standards based XHTML/MP format to devices. Markets being addressed include Open Web access plus Mobile Search and RSS Syndication enabling.

WiderWeb deploys solutions to service providers and leading mobile operators around the world, including Hutchison 3G and Amstrad. WiderWeb also works with a growing number of value added partners and resellers including 724 Solutions, Zeus Technology and Adamind plc .

For further information, visit [www.widerweb.co.uk](http://www.widerweb.co.uk) or contact: Ed Moore, Commercial Director, t: +44 (0)870 011 5480.