

# Australia Zoo Ditches Filtering Appliances and Switches to OpenDNS, Saves Thousands Annually

*Australia Zoo Chooses OpenDNS for Web Content Filtering*



## Company Snapshot

**Location:**  
Queensland, Australia

**Number of users:**  
500

**Using OpenDNS for:**  
Web content filtering, security, faster and more reliable DNS.

## The Problem

### Pricy and Unmanageable Web Content Filtering Appliances

Australia Zoo employs a staff of more than 500 full-time employees. It spans more than 600 acres and houses more than 1,000 native and exotic animals. As online threats have mounted in recent years and the need for Web content filtering has grown, the Zoo found the cost of maintaining its existing Web content filtering appliances to be unmanageable. Zoo IT staffers sought a solution that would ease the job of managing filtering while reducing costs and improving network performance.

## The Solution

### Lower Bills, No More Appliances and the Added Benefit of Faster Internet

After testing OpenDNS on individual machines, the team decided to roll it out network-wide. Australia Zoo has two name servers within its network that all workstations and servers use for internal and external lookups. Network administrator Ben John has set all to forward external requests to OpenDNS. He also set each of the Zoo's remote/VPN users to use OpenDNS so they don't have to worry about changing settings when traveling.

Johns noticed the impact of switching to OpenDNS right away. Bandwidth usage dropped dramatically, instantly, as sites that consume disproportionate bandwidth were no longer accessible. OpenDNS Web content filtering meant the Zoo could discontinue use of its pricy filtering appliance and software and the ease of managing all Zoo networks in one Web-based account saved lots of valuable time. Johns recommends OpenDNS to other cost-conscious organizations seeking a solution that blocks Web content and requires no hardware to purchase and nothing to download and install.

## What They're Saying

"The service has been exemplary and infallible, the technical support is prompt and courteous and the features are abundant. I like the simplicity of having a single Web-based account that allows me to manage Web content filtering for multiple locations. No more expensive appliances. While that was enough for me to begin using OpenDNS, it's the extras that have made it a valuable service for a cost-conscious organization like Australia Zoo."

– **Ben Johns**  
Network Administrator

## More About Australia Zoo

Celebrating 40 years of service, Australia Zoo is one of the world's largest and most noted zoos, spanning more than 60 acres and housing more than 1,000 native and exotic animals. In addition to employing more than 500 Internet-using staffers, the Zoo caters to hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. For more information, please visit <http://www.australiazoo.com.au>.



OpenDNS is the world's leading provider of Internet navigation and security services that make networks safer, faster, smarter and more reliable. Through DNS resolution, cloud-based Web content filtering and security services, OpenDNS empowers millions of households, schools and businesses to control how users navigate the Internet on their network, while dramatically increasing the network's overall performance and reliability.

For more information please visit: [www.opendns.com](http://www.opendns.com)