

Media Release: Netsweeper responds to media enquiries regarding international operations

WATERLOO, ONT (April 23, 2018). - Netsweeper welcomes the opportunity to clarify the conduct of its operations. We are an internationally recognized leader in internet safety and a key stakeholder in global efforts to combat criminal activity online. Our company strives to make society safer.

The overwhelming majority of Netsweeper's international clientele are governments and government institutions that seek to protect children from the dissemination of child exploitation. We are a trusted partner of several western governments in ensuring the integrity and safety of the internet as a learning resource for children.

Several assertions offered by Ronald Diebert, director of The Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto in his correspondence to us demonstrate a fundamental misapprehension about the internet spectrum. Mr. Diebert's analysis and conclusions, as well as representations he has made before Parliament, are alarming for the real absence of any sound technical understanding on how internet providers operate, how information technology companies support online operations, and how online programs function.

Netsweeper cannot prevent an end-user from manually overriding its software. This a dilemma shared by every major developer of IT solutions including globally renowned corporations that make the internet work. Our firm's technology and its applications are fully disclosed in the public realm. Even the most elementary review of our posted material shows that Netsweeper's design does not include any organic functionality to limit the online content Mr. Diebert highlights.

The ultimate effect of what Mr. Diebert and his interests propose would be the full-scale shut down of the internet in multiple jurisdictions worldwide. This would prevent vital e-commerce and other transactions critical to the livelihood of millions in the developing world.

Netsweeper has always and remains fully compliant with Canadian law and in those countries where it has ongoing concerns. We appreciate receiving analysis and questions that meet professional tests of sound technological understanding and balanced interpretation.

It is our view the information and questions provided to Netsweeper fail adequately to meet those tests.

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For further information, media may contact:

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