

Spam Filter Information

Overview

This documentation is designed to provide an overview of the CanIt-PRO anti-spam filter put in place by the Mathematics and Statistics departments at Michigan State University.

The CanIt-PRO system scores incoming emails based on pre-identified characteristics of spam mail. If an email scores high enough, it is not delivered to the inbox, and is stored temporarily in quarantine until released or deleted.

Through the administration menu at <https://juno.math.msu.edu>, the quarantine can be viewed, and messages that have been quarantined can be released, and senders blacklisted (always quarantine) or whitelisted (always released).

Access

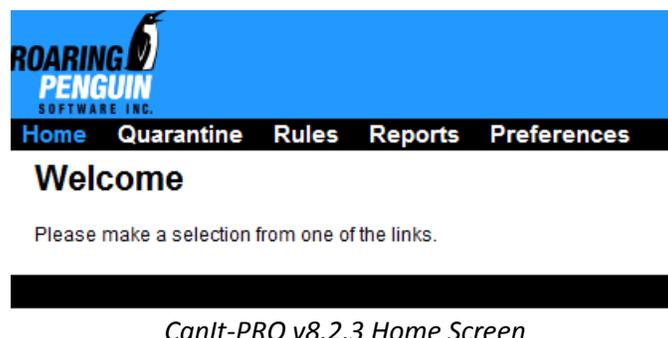
Any user that has access to a @math.msu.edu or @stt.msu.edu is automatically enrolled in the spam filtering software. Access to the quarantine is available at <https://juno.math.msu.edu> (the site's security certificate may not be accepted by your computer, but it IS a trusted site, despite warnings)

Your username is your complete email address (ex: username@math.msu.edu or username@stt.msu.edu) and your domain password.

The spam quarantine should be actively monitored for false positives, which resemble spam, but are valid messages; for instance, having only an image in an email scores it high and may cause it to be flagged as spam, as many image-only emails are advertisements. By routinely checking the spam filter, it can be trained to be more and more effective, blocking more unwanted messages and allowing more valid ones.

Operation

After login, you will reach the home screen:



The options are as follows:

Quarantine

Displays and manages quarantines messages

The main display will look something like this:

All:   

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Submit Changes | Reject All as Spam

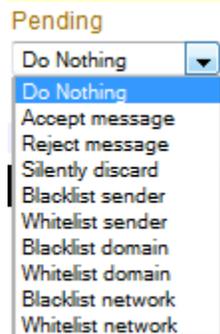
Date ▲▼	Subject ▲▼	From ▲▼▲▼	Relay ▲▼	Score ▲▼	Status and Action
▼ Mon, 2012-Nov-26 ▼					
23:59	Printer Quota Limit	help@ stt.msu.edu W	35.8.88.38 US  [35.8.88.38]	10.1 (99%)	Pending <input type="button" value="Do Nothing"/>

Submit Changes | Reject All as Spam

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This is a quarantined email from a server. Since it contained very little information (username and number of pages printed) it was quarantined, as it resembles spam.

To allow a single message through to the inbox, select the drop down menu and select Accept message. Likewise, to discard it, select Reject message:



Quarantined message options menu

If the sender is trustworthy, you can disable the spam filter for just one address, by whitelisting the sender (select Whitelist sender), and if you never want to receive any mail from the sender, you can blacklist the sender instead.

Whitelisting or blacklisting a domain will allow or deny all emails from an entire domain, for example, if you whitelisted msu.edu, any email sent from an MSU email account would make it to your inbox, regardless of spam scoring.

Whitelisting or blacklisting a network will allow or block any email coming from a particular server. This can be useful if the sender's email address is constantly changing, but the Spam coming from one particular server.

Rules

Allows for management of spam settings

- **Senders – View and edit senders that have been configured in the quarantine screen**

- **Domains** – View and edit domains that have been configured in the quarantine screen
- **Networks** – View and edit networks that have been configured in the quarantine screen
- Countries – Control messages by country of origin
- Bulk Entry – Change settings via preconfigured code
- MIME Types – Control messages by type (HTML, Text only, etc...)
- Filename Extensions – Controls message attachments based on their extension (.zip, .exe, etc...)
- Custom Rules – Fine-grained message filtering based on selected criteria
- RBL Rules – 3rd party Real-time Blackhole Lists
- SPF Rules – Settings for Sender Policy Framework (reverse IP validation)
- DKIM Rules – Settings for DomainKeys Identified Mail
- Bayes Settings – Settings for Bayesian spam filtering
- Blacklisted & Valid Recipients – Auto block or allow per email address (global setting)
- Vote – Manual override for Bayesian training

Reports

Displays reports of incoming spam

This section is fairly self-explanatory. It allows for reports to be generated about the types and volume of spam in the account.

Preferences

Allows for opt in/out and notification of spam messages

- Import / Export Rules – Allows for backing up of current rule sets
- **Opt In / Out** – Simple access to enable or disable spam filtering
- Stream Settings – All settings in one page.
- **Notifications** – The spam filter can be set to notify when and what it catches
- RSS Feed – Allows for a RSS feed of filtered messages to be read by a stream reader
- Set Default Stream – If you have more than one STT email address, this sets default
- Alternate Addresses – Specifies alternate STT email addresses to scan