# AGE VERIFICATION + DEVICE-BASED SOLUTION

FACT SHEET | APRIL 2024

## WE ALL WANT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN ONLINE. WE ALL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS.

**Aylo does not accept, nor tolerate minors on our sites** under any circumstances. We fully support the goal of ensuring minors do not access adult material and believe that device-based age verification can make the internet a safer space for everyone, when it is done right.

Building a barrier between minors and adult websites is a challenge that requires a global solution. We support laws that protect children from age-inappropriate material online and preserve the privacy of adults without introducing unintended consequences.

#### COMMITMENT

We support processes and solutions that ensure minors do not access adult material and have repeatedly stated our concern with mandatory platform-level verification. It must effectively protect children while ensuring user safety and privacy.

We have research and expertise that we openly provide to lawmakers to help inform their choices. The Aylo team continues to engage with governments and industry to find a tech solution to ensure children do not access online adult entertainment sites.

#### **IN PRACTICE – 100% COMPLIANT**

**Aylo platforms comply with regulations.** But the jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction patchwork has resulted in the introduction of different standards and requirements, applied inconsistently.

For instance in Louisiana we are working with government-approved digital wallet (**LA Wallet**). Whereas in Texas, we joined other plaintiffs taking the legal route because we believe the Texas legislation is unconstitutional and went even further by requiring compelled speech. And finally, if we believe government regulations put user safety in jeopardy, are implemented inequitably, or do not effectively protect children from age-inappropriate material online, the safest decision for the public is to block our platforms, as we did in Utah, Virginia, Texas, Montana, Mississippi, Arkansas and North Carolina. To be clear, by **blocking access, we are complying.** 

## EFFECTIVE, SECURE, EQUITABLE

Any effective solution to stop minors accessing adult material must be easy to use, secure and enforced equitably across all platforms offering adult content.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

In order to effectively prevent minors from accessing age-inappropriate material online, we are proposing to governments a simple, effective solution with none of the inherent dangers of current and proposed legislation: **device-based verification.** 

# **DEVICE-BASED AGE VERIFICATION SOLUTION**

### We remain firm that device-based verification is the solution\*.

We believe that the real solution for protecting minors and adults alike is to verify users' ages at the point of access—the users' devices—and to deny or permit access to age-restricted materials and websites based on that verification. This approach requires working with operating system companies and, with their buy-in, stands to minimize the transmission of personal information while protecting minors from age-restricted content across the entire internet.

This means users would only get verified once, through their operating system, not on each age-restricted site. This dramatically reduces both privacy and data theft risks and creates a very simple process for regulators to enforce.

Protect Children from Accessing Age Restricted Sites		Make it so that age restricted sites (from gambling to sexually explicit content) are inaccessible until age is verified (through government issued ID) indicating that they are of age to access these sites.
Protects Adult-User Privacy and Safeguards Personal Information	Control the severe risks inherent with having millions of sites introducing and holding their own age verification systems and require consumers to repeatedly present their ID or undergo biometric processing.	
Enforced Equitably Across all Platforms	Ensure easy regulatory monitoring and enforcement because of the small number of operating systems and device manufacturers within the ecosystem.	

We believe the technology required exists today. Regulators and industry can work together to solve this challenge with device-based age verification. Operating system companies could, with a software update to their devices, give every adult user the ability to identify as an adult - once and only once - and store this information securely on their devices

**Clobal:** To access the internet, with very few exceptions, the general population uses a device powered with an operating system made by one of three companies – Apple (iOS), Google (Android), and Microsoft (Windows).

**Existing:** Operating system companies already have the available technology and, in some cases, already know the age of a user, so user impact would be low.

**Integrated:** Devices have integrated security to access them (passwords and biometrics), the same is true for shared devices with accounts or profiles. This is the best and most appropriate place to integrate controls on age restricted material.

**Effective:** This solution would instantly and effectively protect children from age-inappropriate content, and could be rolled out worldwide overnight.

\*Device-Based Age Verification refers to any approach to age verification where the personal information that is used to verify the user's age is either shared in-person at an authorized retailer, inputted locally into the user's device, or stored on a network controlled by the device manufacturer or the supplier of the device's operating system. Whether through pre-installed content blocking and filtering software, the disabling of web-browsing permissions, or other means, the user will then be prevented from accessing age-restricted content over the internet unless they are age-verified. Such an approach requires the cooperation of manufacturers and operating-system providers.

We look forward to further consulting with stakeholders as we continue to build on Aylo's industry-leading commitment to quality adult entertainment made by and for consenting adults on platforms that set the standard for trust and safety.

For more information, please visit <u>www.aylo.com</u> and consult the **Pornhub Transparency Report**.

