Local RBL Service

Introduction

A DNS-based Blackhole List (DNSBL) or Real-time Blackhole List (RBL) is a list of IP addresses which are most often used to publish the addresses of computers or networks linked to spamming; most mail server software can be configured to reject or flag messages which have been sent from a site listed on one or more such lists.

This works pretty well for known and already categorized spammers, but what happens if a new spam campaign starts flooding your gateway as is not yet categorized?

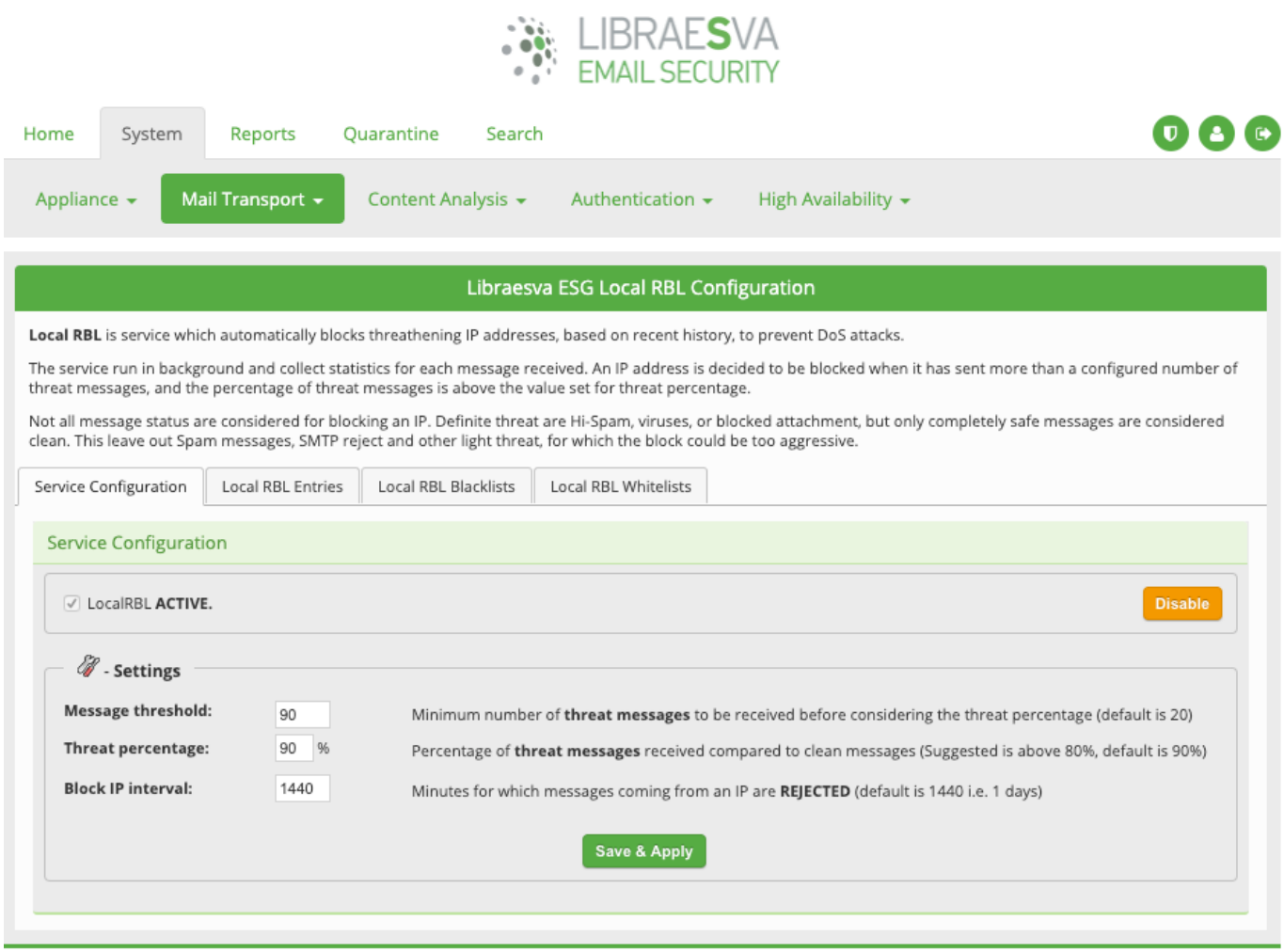
Well in most cases the multi-layer antispam engine will block messages, but this analysis is resource intensive, and in case of a massive attack could take your server down.

Libraesva ESG offers **Local RBL Service** to protect you in these situations.

Local RBL Service is an application that runs in the background. It maintains an hourly history going back 23 hours about each IP address that sends mail through ESG.
An IP address is decided to be blocked when it has sent more than a configured number of definite spam messages in the previous 23 hours and have not sent any definite ham messages. The IP address is then put into a table of blocked IP addresses together with information when the record should expire (default after 120 hours).

Service Configuration

The service is not enabled by default, and to use it you must activate it by setting a tick next to Local RBL Service Active and selecting your daily spam threshold as follows:



×**NOTE:** We recommend to start with a threshold value of 4, to avoid false positives.

Service Management

The Local RBL Service can be fully configured and managed. The administrator can check actually blocked senders, create whitelist or blacklist for the service.

You have three tabs on the main screen:

- Local RBL entries
- Local RBL blackList
- Local RBL whitelist

The **Local RBL Entries** Tab shows a list of currently blocked senders. You can see source IP, date listed and date of expire. Once expired the entry will be automatically removed and the system will start receiving email again from the sender ip. Next to each entry there are two

icons, shortcuts to whitelist or blacklist permanently the selected sender IP address.

The **Local RBL Blacklist** Tab shows blacklisted IP addresses. That means Libraesva ESG will not accept connection from these IP addresses.

The **Local RBL Whitelist** Tab shows whitelisted IP addresses, namely servers that will never be blocked by this service.