NetScanTools® Pro
Monthly Newsletter
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News...

From the Editor...

I have had several things I have had to track down in the Switch Port Mapper. Once next week's release is ready I will be working on NetScanTools Pro.

-Kirk

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.85.3 Released Feb 19, 2021

This release of the switch port mapper has a small fix for a right click menu XML export issue.

A user reported a problem importing an XML file into Excel. By reviewing the XML spreadsheet import error log, it was determined that the 'name' field in the XML file was empty. This was due to no population of sysName field in the switch. If no sysName is found, the IP address of the switch will be placed in the name field.

There were no other changes to the software.

Changes in 2.85.3:

-Fixed XML export so that the 'Name' tag is never empty. If it is empty, Excel cannot open it.

-Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.85.2 Released Jan 27, 2021

This release of the switch port mapper has fixes for a Ping Sweep issue.

The Ping Sweep problem was due to a 10.x.x.x network returning the same gateway MAC address for every address pinged even though the addresses were local. So the effect of that was to overload the monitoring algorithm. The monitoring algorithm has been modified to disregard that problem.

Another change was to the text file import of Ping Sweep ranges. After you have completed the import, it now refreshes the list of IP ranges.

Support Mode debugging was improved. One of the commonly used functions was not recording enough data to show where it was being called from and that was corrected. Pressing the Stop button is now added to the support mode event log file.

ARP Caching on your computer: If you use Ping Sweep and you have Query Local ARP Table enabled, you really should be aware of how many entries your local ARP cache can contain. The default is 256. You can find out the size of your ARP cache on your Windows computer by using this command at a command prompt:

```
netsh interface ipv4 show global
```

Look in the results that the Neighbor Cache Limit entry. It will probably show 256. You can change it to 4096 by using the Administrator mode command:

```
netsh interface ipv4 set global neighborcachelimit = 4096
```

For more information, please visit Address Resolution Protocol caching behavior - Windows Server | Microsoft Docs

To upgrade an 'installed' version, download the trial and install over the top. The trial can be found at https://www.switchportmapper.com/download.htm

The USB version patch will be ready early in the week of Feb 1.

Changes in 2.85.2:

-Fixed problems with Ping Sweep algorithm getting overloaded by ARP responses when doing large range Pings.

-Emphasized the importance of running this command if you use Ping Sweep and Local Computer ARP table: netsh interface ipv4 set global neighborcachelimit = 4096

-Added refresh of Ping Sweep Editor grid after importing from a text file.

-Improved Support Mode Event Debug logging for one function.

-Added logging to Stop button press to Support Mode Event Debugging Log.

-Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

-Updated SQLite to version 3.34.1

-Updated dates to 2021.

Switch Port Mapper 2.85.4 coming first week of March

What? Yes, it's true.

After the release of 2.85.3, a user said it was hanging up when saving the XML files. This was tracked down to the saving of XML files to UNC path drives. Even though the share permissions we fine, there was a problem when the saving procedure completed effectively hanging up the Switch Port Mapper. This was tracked down to a missing flag in the 'CreateFile' function call. By adding in the flag, the problem went away. Actually an SMB issue internally.

So this will be another small but important release – especially if you need to save to UNC path shares. Look for it the first week of March.

How to Get NetScanTools Pro Updates

NetScanTools Pro: click on the help menu, then on Check for New Version. In the main right side area (or your web browser will launch) you will see an embedded web page with either a discussion of the current version and download links or a web page saying your maintenance plan has expired. If you have not registered, you will see a web page explaining that you need to register. You must register and have an active maintenance plan to download NetScanTools Pro updates.

NetScanTools Pro Maintenance Plan Pricing Changes

The price of the plan is now lower - $35 per year. Only one year plans are available. We no longer offer multiyear plans.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to email.

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