NetScanTools® Pro
Monthly Newsletter
www.netscantools.com

December 2013

http://twitter.com/netscantools

http://www.facebook.com/NetScanTools

http://www.youtube.com/user/netscantools

http://netscantools.blogspot.com/

In this newsletter:

News
- **Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.21 released December 20, 2013**
- **NetScanTools® Pro Version 11.53 released November 1, 2013**
- **Strange NetScanTools Pro USB Version WinPcap Issue and Fix**
- **You have the NetScanTools Pro® Maintenance Plan, but you are still many versions behind — why?**

News...

From the Editor...

From all of us here at Northwest Performance Software, Inc, have a Happy New Year!

-Kirk

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.21 Released Dec 20, 2013

This release has a very important fix to the way ports with several mac addresses are saved to the history database. If you use the history database, it is critical that you get this release installed right away. The software also does a better job at retrieving hardware information from Netgear switches.

- Corrected problem saving multirow cells (ports with 2 or more attached mac addresses) to the history database. This affects MAC Address, IP Address, Hostname and Interface Manufacturer columns.
- Changes to SQLite interface to better handle the rare occurrence of SQLITE_BUSY messages.
- Improved retrieval of serial number, model number and software versions from Netgear switches.
- Added analysis of used/unused Gigabit Ethernet (type 117) ports on a switch.
- Added new table to history database saving the dot1dBasePortIfIndex for future use.
- Added checkboxes to control the visibility of the auth and priv passwords in the SNMPv3 settings window.
- Added warning to SNMPv3 settings window regarding AuthPriv mode when the database is unprotected.
- Improved SNMPManager utility to better check versions of libeay32.dll.
- Updated SQLite to version 3.8.2
- Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

Get the new release at SwitchPortMapper.com.

NetScanTools® Pro version 11.53 released November 1, 2013

This release is a very important release in that it corrects problems sending packets via WinPcap through Wifi interfaces and secondary network interfaces.

WiFi: Users have told us that *some?/many?/too many?* WiFi interfaces could not be opened for sending and receiving packets with WinPcap (all of our test interfaces worked fine). For example, in Ping you could not use the WinPcap ping modes with the selected WiFi interface – you got a message saying it 'could not open interface for packet sending. Please exit and restart NetScanTools Pro'. This was because the interface could not be opened in the default Promiscuous Mode. This has been fixed and any relatec error messages have been significantly improved to tell you and us what the problem actually is.

Multiple Network Interfaces: Ping or Traceroute might be showing you two interfaces, one wired and one wireless, but we recently found you could only send and receive packets from the first interface in the list. That problem has been fixed.

Here are the details of the changes in v11.53.

NOTE: The following WinPcap related changes affect ARP Ping, ARP Scan, Duplicate IP Address Scanner, OS Fingerprinting, Packet Capture Playback, Packet Generator, Ping, Port Scanner, Promiscuous Mode Scanner, Traceroute, Connection Monitor, Packet Capture, Passive Discovery, SNMP Dictionary Attack and SNMP Scanner.

- Changed the way WinPcap supported interfaces are opened so that adapters that do not support promiscuous mode will be opened. This primarily affects WiFi adapters.

- Fixed a problem where if the computer has more than one WinPcap capable interface, packets exiting the secondary interface were not being assigned the correct MAC address of the default gateway for the secondary interface network.
- Significantly expanded error message reporting that appears if opening a WinPcap interface fails.
- Removed support for versions of WinPcap older than 3.1.

Other Changes:
- DHCP Server Discovery: added DHCP Server MAC Address column.
- DNS Tools - Core/Edit Hosts File, TimeSync: fixed administrator privileges detection so the 'privileges required' message will only appear if you do not have enough privileges. Also affects some portions of Network Connection Endpoints.
- Packet Generator/Packet Capture Playback: added support for opening and playing .pcap files in addition to .cap files.
- Ping Enhanced: fixed problem where TCP Ping was not sending a number of packets beyond the number shown in the Settings/TTL field. Default TTL (Max Hops) now set to 255.
- Updated SQLite to 3.8.1
- Updated database files.

Strange NetScanTools Pro USB Version WinPcap Issue and Fix

Recently we had a user with an unusual problem. He was using NetScanTools Pro USB v11.53 and kept getting strange messages whenever he tried to use a WinPcap enabled tool. The message was this: "Error: Unable to locate a supported network interface. WinPcap may not be operating. Please run the command 'net start npf' (no quotes) at the command prompt. Then exit and restart this program. *Error message from WinPcap: PacketGetAdapterNames: Incorrect function. (1)*"

It did not matter whether the software was started with 'Run as administrator' or not. The user did have the latest WinPcap 4.1.3 installed on the Windows 7 32 system, but so do we and it worked find here.

For several years we have been using a version of WinPcap known as WinPcap Pro or OEM. This special version did not require installation but rather installed and activated the WinPcap temporarily then deleted it. However, to do so it required Administrator privileges and gave us the requirement for NetScanTools Pro USB version to be started with right click 'Run as administrator'.

Last year (2012) the makers of WinPcap discontinued WinPcap Pro and this year they released v4.1.3 which is compatible with Windows 8.x (the 4.1.2 installer was not compatible). Since the last version of WinPcap Pro that we have is 4.1.2, we decided beginning with version 11.52 to check the host operating system for the presence of installed version WinPcap. If it is v4.1.2 or greater, we use the installed version found on the host. Therefore, if you know the host OS has WinPcap installed, you can start without using 'Run as administrator'.

The problem was narrowed down to this: the WinPcap DLLs (v4.1.2) on the USB flash drive were still active and so was the installed WinPcap (v4.1.3) – they were interfering with each other due to versioning issues.

The solution is to make sure the nstpro/wpcap.dll and nstpro/packet.dll are renamed (on the USB flash drive) to wpcap.dllx and packet.dllx AND that there are no other copies of those DLLs in the /nstpro directory on the USB. That forces our program to load the installed version DLLs from the system32 directory.

You have the NetScanTools® Pro Maintenance Plan, but you are still many versions behind – why?

We see this all the time when people register. We see it when they renew their maintenance plan - we check the logs and see that they have never logged in and downloaded updates. For whatever the reason, the question remains, why are they installing 11.01 (for example) when we are at 11.42?

There are many good reasons to install the latest version: First of all is bug fixes, secondly there are new tools introduced with each .1, .2, .3, .4 etc. edition and thirdly, there are database updates.

OK – A Quick Review on upgrading to a new version. First thing you need is an active NetScanTools Pro maintenance plan. Start NetScanTools Pro and click on Help/Check for New Version. An embedded browser window opens up on the right side of the program. Click on the download link, a popup window appears. Enter your login credentials (shown to you in the program right above the embedded window) and download the zip file. Exit NetScanTools Pro and run the contents of the zip file which is actually a full install. Restart it and verify the latest version.

Contact Information

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

Northwest Performance Software, Inc.
PO Box 1375
Sequim WA 98382
(360) 683-9888
www.netscantools.com
sales [at] netscantools [dot] com

'NetScanTools Pro', 'NetScanTools Standard', 'NetScanTools Basic',
'NetScanTools LE', 'ipPulse', 'Northwest Performance Software' and
'NetScanTools.com', are trademarks of Northwest Performance Software, Inc.
'NetScanTools' is a registered trademark of Northwest Performance Software,
Inc.