

NetScanTools® Pro



Monthly Newsletter

www.netscantools.com

April 2012



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News...

From the Editor...

Again it's late in the month but April is a busy month. Spring time, taxes and other things keep our attention. A good portion of my programming efforts now are on Switch Port Mapper 2.0 but in the last couple weeks a significant amount is going into the next release of NetScanTools Pro – there is a paragraph about that below. If

you have suggestions or problems with the programs, please feel free to contact us by email (see bottom of newsletter). Thank you for supporting us. -Kirk

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool version 1.99.9.5 released on April 12, 2012

This release vastly improved how VLANs are reported from qBridge MIB enabled devices. Many switches like those from Juniper®, Netgear® and HP® use qBridge as their primary reporting MIB and in v1.99.9.2 we added the ability to display administratively assigned VLAN notation. This worked fine for most switches, but with this release additional checks are now made to ensure the notation is used everywhere when it is available. This release primarily improves the reporting of HP switches. We also confirmed this software works fine with HP 2848s switches.

This is a free update for people having an earlier 1.x release. Click on Help/Check for Update or visit <http://www.SwitchPortMapper.com/>.

List of changes:

- Improved qBridge MIB VLAN processing.
- Updated SQLite to version 3.7.11.
- Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

NetScanTools® Pro next release coming soon

Many small but important changes have been made to NetScanTools Pro v11 for the next release. For example, in the Network Interfaces – Wireless tool, the BSSID or MAC address of all available wireless access points is now shown. The signal quality is now also shown in dBm. More wireless tools will be coming in future releases.

Packet Flooder now has much better graphing response on Windows 7 – 64bit. Network Shares – SMB now identifies Windows 8 systems. These are just a few of many changes.

We are also going to have another tool become IPv6 enabled. Speaking of IPv6, the IPv6/Show IPv6 Compatible Interfaces window now shows the IPv6 Link Local, IPv6 Global and IPv4 addresses assigned to an interface. See our Facebook page for images of these changes.

Look for the release in early May.

Paypal® ordering option returning to Plimus.com reseller soon

Back in November, for reasons we are unclear about, our Plimus.com reseller no longer accepted Paypal. We will be doing the steps necessary to resume accepting Paypal through our Plimus reseller and most likely directly on our own website.

NetScanTools® Pro version 11 Demo released March 26, 2012

The NetScanTools Pro v11 demo is now ready and it's based on v11.11. Since it's a demo, there are a few minor limitations like disabled saving.

If you have a license of NetScanTools Pro and you need a new full version download, please contact support – the demo will not help you.

How to get the demo:

<http://www.netscantools.com/nstprodemorequest.html>

Installing NetScanTools® Pro or LE on Windows® 8

Both NetScanTools Pro and LE install just fine on Windows 8 – but the WinPcap driver does not install. It appears to have a check for Windows version and does not allow installing on Windows 8.

The solution is to run our installer in Compatibility Mode. Here's how:

1. from within Windows 8 (32 or 64) get to the desktop and launch Windows Explorer.
2. locate your installer file and right click on it to bring up the menu.
3. select "Troubleshoot compatibility" and wait a few seconds for it to do it's thing. Then click on "Try recommended settings". It will most likely show Windows Compatibility Mode of Windows XP (service pack 3).
4. Click on "Test the program..." the installer will start - follow the installer directions as you normally would. When you get to actually running the WinPcap installer you may see a message "This program has compatibility issues" - select "Run the program without getting help". WinPcap should now install.
5. When it's all done, click on Cancel instead of Next back on the Program Compatibility Troubleshooter window.

The problem is not NetScanTools Pro or LE. Those installers both launch the WinPcap installer. It is the WinPcap installer that needs to be updated.

Windows 8 and Our Software Compatibility

NetScanTools Pro 11.20, NetScanTools LE 1.50, NetScanTools Basic 2.20, IPv6ScopeFinder 1.00 and the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 1.99.9.4 all have been successfully installed and tested on Windows 8 Consumer Preview 32 and 64 bit. Our test platform uses Windows 8 installed in virtual machines with VirtualBox (try it out – it's pretty good). The detailed testing of each of NetScanTools Pro's tools has not been completed but it appears to operate within expectations.

NetScanTools® Pro version 11.20 released January 19, 2012

This release adds a new database tool and brings back the ability to do a port scan on a list of IPv4 address. We also updated the DHCP Discovery tool so that it now handles multiple network interfaces. There were also a number of fixes.

How to get it: Click on Help/Check for New Version, then on Login Here – requires an active maintenance plan – see the video here if you need help. <http://www.netscantools.com/videos/updating-nst-pro/updating-nst-pro.html>

New Tool

- Country to IP or ASN: Select a country from the list and find the IPv4, IPv6 or ASN records assigned or allocated to that country. This tool works from a local database that is updated with each release. It is a complementary tool to the IP to Country tool and there are now 'jump' buttons on each to switch between them.

Changes

- Port Scanner: now allows you to do a port scan on a list of IPv4 addresses.
- DHCP Server Discovery: added the ability to do DHCP Discovery on more than one network. You can now select the network interface to do the discovery on. This would apply to a laptop running both a wired and wireless connection.
- Whois: fixed DNS queries so that only requested records are displayed. Same fix also added to DNS Tools Core, Advanced and Batch, Real Time Blacklist Check.
- Packet Flooder: additional error diagnostics for when local firewall prevents the sending of UDP packets.
- Modified delay timers to reduce the chance of using too much CPU time.
- Export from Network Routing Visualizer Target Editor now works.
- Packet Generator: corrected ethernet header type field for RARP.
- SNMP Tools: improved error reporting when incorrect input it entered.
- Updated SQLite to 3.7.10.0
- Updated database files.

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool version 2.0 status

The next major release of the Switch Port Mapping tool is 2.0 and I can report that work is continuing. I am finishing up the most requested feature now. If you have feature requests, be sure to send them our way. Anticipate release before summer.

Older News and Reminders

Secure Site Login Problems and Solutions

Every time we announce a new release of NetScanTools Pro, we have a few people that are unable to login successfully to our secure site. The reasons range from simply not clicking on the Login Here link to more complex problems like browser incompatibility. We have a video (next topic) that shows the normal method for logging in.

If you follow that video and you still cannot get in, it is most likely a problem with your browser. The Check for New Version window in NetScanTools Pro is actually an embedded Internet Explorer window. Our server is IIS and for some strange reason that we have yet to identify, IE sometimes fails to talk properly with IIS. IE browser version is not really the issue.

Assuming browser incompatibility is the problem, the solution is usually pretty simple. Go to the Check for New Version window and right click on the Login Here link and copy the link location to the clipboard. Start any other browser like Firefox, Chrome or Safari and paste that link in and go there. The login credentials window will open up, you can enter your username and password. You should be able to download the file from there. Note the installed and USB versions go to different places on the server.

Video: How to login and upgrade NetScanTools® Pro

We have created a helpful video that shows you how login in to the secure site and download NetScanTools Pro updates. Please review it here:

<http://www.netscantools.com/videos/updating-nst-pro/updating-nst-pro.html>

V11: A new easy method for updating your maintenance plan expiration date

When people renew their maintenance plan we send them an email with a number you are supposed enter into the program. This number is your new expiration date. We have found that many people do not do this. We get emails and calls saying that the program is showing the old expiration date. There is a new button that will update the plan expiration date by contacting our server – press it and your expiration date will be updated (the software must be registered first). Eventually we will make this an automatic check on a periodic basis. This image below shows where you can find the button the Help/About NetScanTools Pro window.



NetScanTools® Pro 11.01

Release date: April 18, 2011

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[Registration Information]
Registered to: Kirk Thomas
Company Name: nwps
Program Version: 11.01
CDKEY/Serial Number: V11-
Registration Number:
Maintenance Plan Expiration Date: 03/08/11
Numeric Style Plan Expire Date: 1299571200
Registered Email Address: .com
WinPcap Version: 4.1.0.2001

Update Maintenance Plan Expire Date From NetScanToolsPro.com

Edit Maintenance Plan

Show License (EULA)

NetScanTools® Pro Versions Compatible with Windows 7 and Windows Vista

People have asked us which versions of NetScanTools Pro 10.x can be used on Windows 7 and Windows Vista. These are the minimum NetScanTools Pro versions that you should be using on each operating system.

- **Windows 7 - 64 Bit:** We highly recommend using NetScanTools Pro version 10.94 or newer because it incorporates WinPcap 4.1.1 or 4.1.2 which are designed for Windows 7 - 64.
- **Windows 7 - 32 Bit:** NetScanTools Pro version 10.81 or newer. For best results, always use the latest version.
- **Windows Vista/2008:** You must have NetScanTools Pro version 10.42 or newer. All known Vista issues were completely fixed by version 10.52.
- **Windows XP/2003/2000:** Any NetScanTools Pro version 10.
- **We no longer recommend using the first three versions on any operating system: 10.0, 10.1, or 10.20.**

What happens if you use an earlier version of NetScanTools Pro on Windows Vista? The difference between Windows Vista and Windows XP was much greater than between Vista and 7. You may experience crashing particularly in the Network Statistics Tool. You may experience missing results in certain modes of traceroute. These are some examples – there are others. If you use Windows 7 or Vista, please use a version equal to or newer than what we are showing above.

Using NetScanTools® Pro on Windows 7 – 64 Bit

NetScanTools Pro version 10 is a 32 bit program that runs fine in the 32 bit subsystem found in Windows 7 - 64. It will show up in task manager as "nstpro.exe *32". If you are using the USB version, we highly recommend using version 10.94 or newer if you are plugging it into Windows 7 - 64 bit. And yes, we plan on making a 64 bit native version at some point.

USB Version Users – Make a Backup of Your Software!

Please make a full backup of your USB Version after you have registered it and applied the NST Pro 10/11 Registration Code message we sent back by email. If you have a backup of the contents of the drive, we can easily assist you in restoring it to another drive in case you lose the original drive. Remember that the Patriot Xporter XT Boost drive we supply the USB version on is one of the fastest drives currently available. If you do have to restore it, we highly recommend that same drive series or a faster model. Other types of larger USB drives that cost less are often much slower.

Backup your drive by copying all files and directories to another drive either on your computer or a portable backup drive. Saving the files to CDR is even better. Please do it today!

Contact Information

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

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