NetScanTools® Pro

Monthly Newsletter

www.netscantools.com

December 2011

http://twitter.com/netscantools

http://www.facebook.com/NetScanTools

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

http://netscantools.blogspot.com/

In this newsletter:

News
- **Trying an Email Service to Deliver Announcements and Newsletters**
- **End of the Year Deals**
- **Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool v1.99.9 released December 2, 2011**
- **Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.0 Status**
- **New Freeware: IPv6ScopeFinder v1.00 released October 18, 2011**
- **NetScanTools® Pro Version 11.11 released October 14, 2011**
- **Video: How to Login and Upgrade NetScanTools® Pro**

Reminders
- **V11: A new easy method for updating your maintenance plan expiration date**
- **NetScanTools® Pro Versions Compatible with Windows 7 and Windows Vista**
- **Using NetScanTools® Pro on Windows 7 - 64 bit**
- **How to Upgrade NetScanTools® Pro**
- **USB Version Users – Backup Your Software!**
- **Contact Information**

News...

From the Editor...

Just one release in December – it's kind of a difficult month to get anything done. I do anticipate finally finishing the NetScanTools Pro v11 Demo – all the supporting programs are done, I'm still working on the main program.

Have a great holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Trying an Email Service to Deliver Announcements and Newsletters

It seems that delivery of our emails to you has become more difficult this year – not just the monthly newsletters and version announcements but other things like product download link messages and renewal reminders. Even our tech support and sales replies are getting lost. We have decided to try out using Constant Contact for delivering our newsletters and new version announcements. Hopefully the emails you have requested get to your inbox without being filtered away. *Please whitelist email from @netscantools.com so that other important email from us gets to you.*

End of the Year Deals

End of the Year Deals: please visit our Twitter and Facebook pages to get the coupons. You can find the links to our Twitter and Facebook pages on page 1 of this newsletter. Speaking of those links, we just simplified the Facebook page link a couple days ago.

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool version 1.99.9 released on December 2, 2011

This release fixed a program hangup that occurred during "Getting vmMembershipSummaryMemberPorts". One line of code needed to be changed. We are now testing with even more switches than before.

Version 1.99.8 was released on December 1, 2011 and included these changes:

-Additional logic changes relating to displaying duplex information from Cisco® devices that support STACK-MIB. Changes were verified to be correct with Cisco model 2960 switch.
-Corrected timing problems introduced in v1.99.6 that caused high CPU usage particularly during IP to hostname resolution.
-Changed error messages associated with getting extended information from SMC switches.
-Added new SNMP error message handlers.
-Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

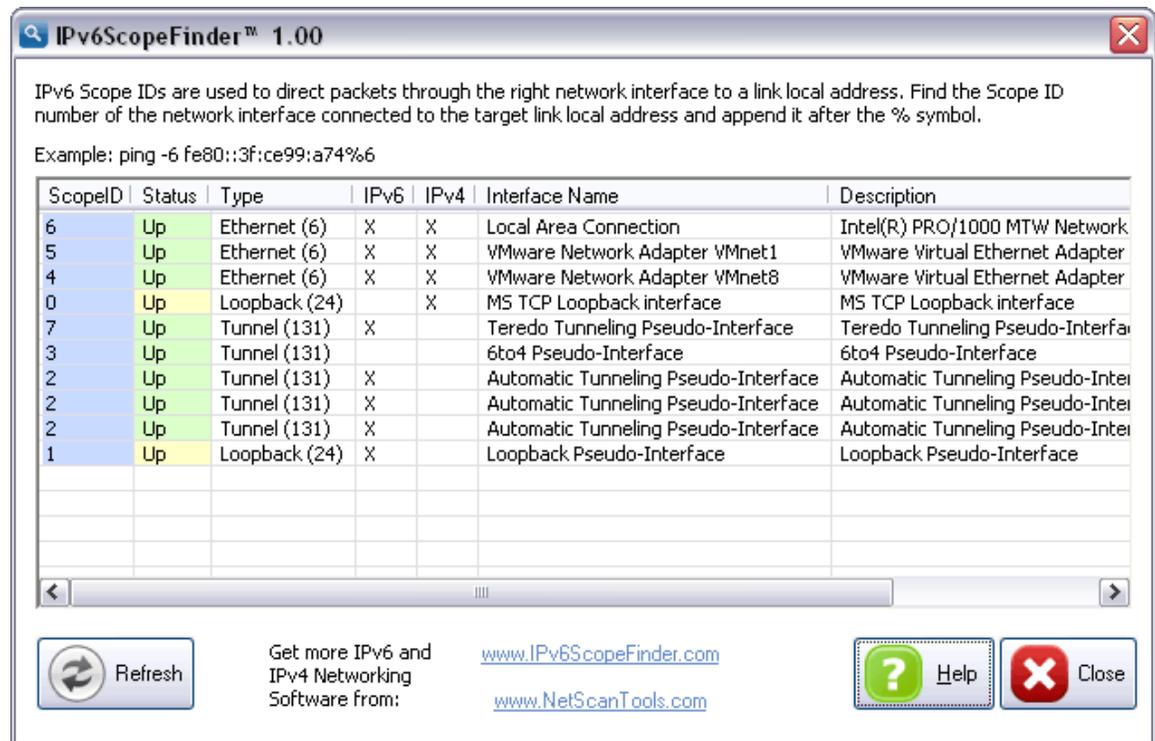## Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool version 2.0 status

The next major release of the Switch Port Mapping tool is 2.0 and I can report that during November SNMPv3 has been successfully added. Minor user interface changes have been completed – the buttons are no longer quite so large and we have removed the bright color scheme. More testing of SNMPv3 will continue with our new HP and 3com switches and then more changes will be done to the program to do the functions people have been asking for.

New Freeware: IPv6ScopeFinder 1.00 released on October 18, 2011

IPv6ScopeFinder was released on October 18, 2011. It is a freeware Windows compatible program designed to help you quickly find the Scope ID used to communicate with neighboring link local IPv6 addresses.

What is a link local address? This is an address used to communicate locally on the same network between IPv6 enabled devices. It is not routed outside your network, so it is not in a Windows computer's routing table. If you want to send packets to another link local address, you have to tell your computer which IPv6 enabled interface you want the packets to be sent from. That is where the Scope ID comes in.

In Windows, if you need to send packets to a neighboring computer link local address, you must append %n to the end of the IPv6 address (fe80::12:34%7), where '7' is the Scope ID in the example. Link local addresses are not in the IPv6 routing table, so you have to tell Windows which interface you want the packets sent out. That's where IPv6ScopeFinder is useful – it eliminates having to open up a Command Prompt and using ipconfig to find the Scope ID.

IPv6ScopeFinder shows you this important information about each network interface:
- ScopeID (IPv6 interface index)
- Status (up or down)
- Interface Type (ethernet, tunnel, etc.)
- Presence of IPv6 and IPv4 addresses

- Interface Name
- Description

This program is designed for and has been tested on Windows 7 32/64, Vista 32/64, 2008, 2003, and XP.

NetScanTools® Pro version 11.11 released October 14, 2011

This release is mostly minor changes and correction with very little of what could be considered new.

Changes
- Packet Generator: Packet Interval now accepts fractional time,
- ie. 0.6 = 600 microseconds.
- Packet Flooder: Number of packets sent and time interval added to the status line.
- Packet Flooder: Added Packet Flooder to the menu bar Accessibility/Packet Level group.
- IPv6/Show IPv6 Compatible Interfaces: Now shows the presence of IPv4 and IPv6 addresses bound to each interface.
- Maintenance Plan Expiration Date warning now works as intended.
- All menus on the menu bar are now fully expanded by default.
- The tool sourcing the 'use at your own risk' warning message now shows in the message title bar.
- Ping Scanner: The 'use at your own risk' warning message was added.
- Automated Tools: Pressing the Stop button before all tests are complete now correctly ends the testing process.
- Automated Tools: Graying out of the DNS controls now works correctly.
- Whois: ASN lookups now work correctly.
- Left Control Panel right click action menu: Adding a tool to favorites now works better, the menu item stays active even if you move your cursor outside the icon. Removed 'Shortcuts Bar' option from the menu - you would be unable to select tools without the shortcuts bar which is the left control panel.

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

Older News and Reminders

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 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.

Northwest Performance Software, Inc.
PO Box 1375
Sequim WA 98382-1375
(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.