

NetScanTools® Pro



Monthly Newsletter

www.netscantools.com

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News...

From the Editor...

Busy month – look for NetScanTools 11.5 in May. The first four topics are all new, so please read them carefully – especially the announcement about the USB version of the Switch Port Mapper.

-Kirk

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool v2.08/2.07 released in April

The Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool v2 has been updated because of user input about Switch Lists. These are important releases, but the most exciting thing is the *new portable USB Flash Drive Version* introduced with the release of 2.07. See the next topic for the full announcement.

2.08 April 29, 2013

- Switch Lists: fixed problem introduced in 2.07 executing switch list mappings.
- Installed Version: added method for entering unlock code to Help menu.

2.07 April 22, 2013 (USB Version finally released too!)

- Switch Lists: fixed problem where if more than 9 switches were in the list, the ordering of the switches in the list was not correct.
- Switch Lists: Switch List editor now saves much faster.
- New right click results options: Copy a whole row or the whole results grid to the clipboard.
- Updated SQLite to version 3.7.16.2
- Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.

Get the trial version of the installed software by going to <http://www.SwitchPortMapper.com> or visiting NetScanTools.com and clicking on Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool.

Announcing the USB Version of the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool

After much work, the fully portable USB Version of the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool was released with 2.07 on April 22. By 'fully portable' we mean that the software resides entirely on a USB Flash Drive. Everything is saved to the flash drive and the software runs from the drive. You do not need to install it on the host system.

How it works: Simply plug the flash drive into a USB port on the host, then navigate with Windows Explorer to the drive and launch spmap.exe. We have 'batch' files on the drive to make that easier. Unlike NetScanTools Pro, there is no need to 'run as administrator', so you can run it with user privileges.

When you are done, 'eject' or stop the USB flash drive and remove it. Your files stay on the flash drive.

It runs on Windows 8, 7, Vista and XP as well as the Windows Server Operating Systems. All you need is access to an open USB port and permission to use the port.

Purchase Options

- We can provide a new license preinstalled on a high speed 16 GB USB 3.0/2.0 compatible drive for \$229 (compare with the Installed Version unlock code price of \$199). Shipping is extra.
- Or you can install a new license on your own USB Flash Drive for \$209. We provide the files to place on the drive and interaction with Tech Support is required to activate it.
- If you already have NetScanTools Pro USB Version, you can get the file set for a discounted \$109. Interaction with Tech Support is required to activate it. We allow one discount per license of NetScanTools Pro.
- We are also offering 'Sidegrade' which means you already have the installed version of the Managed Switch Port Mapper 2.x now and you also want it on on USB – you will end up with both licenses active. We can send it preinstalled on a USB Flash Drive or you can use your own flash drive.
- Of course upgrades from Managed Switch Port Mapper 1.x to 2.x now can go to either the Installed Version or the USB Version. Pricing varies.

The USB Version is available now.

NetScanTools® Pro Maintenance Plan and the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool

I would like to address some confusion about the NetScanTools Pro Maintenance Plan. Some customers who have a license for both products are asking if the NetScanTools Pro Maintenance Plan covers the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool upgrade from 1.x to 2.x. The customer may have even bought them together with Bundled pricing. We have many customers who only have a license for the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool and many who only have a NetScanTools Pro license.

The answer is no, the plan does not cover the upgrade because they are separate products.

We have priced the upgrade at a very low price (1/4 the new license price) and we do not anticipate releasing 3.0 for some time. In fact, it took 7 years to go from Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool v1 to v2. If you have v2 now, all the new versions of 2.x are no charge until we reach v3.

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.

NetScanTools® Pro version 11.42 released March 14, 2013

Release 11.42 addresses some longstanding but unrecognized issues with the Packet Generator. Specifically, there was previously no way to set all of the packet parameters after the IP header to a known state prior to building a packet. There are now new commands to do that. It also became apparent that we needed a way to 'debug' scripts – the new checkbox to output scripting status to a new debugging window was also added. These commands are fully documented in the help file (press F1 to view the help file).

Another fix prevents crashing of the Network Connection Endpoints Tool on operating systems that do not have active IPv6 installed. This primarily affects old Windows XP and Server 2003. Newer operating systems have IPv6 installed by default.

The final reason for this minor release was the release of WinPcap 4.1.3 by Riverbed. V4.1.3 fully supports Windows 8.

How to get v11.42: Click on Help/Check for New Version, then on Login Here – this requires an active maintenance plan and your access credentials are shown on the check for new version window in the program.

WHAT'S NEW IN THIS RELEASE

Version 11.42 March 14, 2013

Changes:

- Network Connection Endpoints: corrected problem that caused a crash if you used this tool on an operating system that did not have IPv6

networking installed. Usually affected Windows XP or 2003, later operating systems have IPv6 installed by default.

- Packet Generator: several important changes to scripting. Added packet reset commands to set the packet to an initial state prior to setting bits or fields in the packet - added !TCP_RESET_PACKET, !UDP_RESET_PACKET, !ICMP_RESET_PACKET, !ARP_RESET_PACKET, !CDP_RESET_PACKET. Errors such as failure to load a packet data file are now shown in the new Notifications/Errors window. A checkbox has been added to allow you to debug scripts by monitoring the processing of each command in the same new window.
- Significant documentation updates in Packet Generator Scripting. Revised example scripts.
- Updated WinPcap to 4.1.3 which officially supports Windows 8.
- Updated database files.

Contact Information

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

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