

NetScanTools® Pro



Monthly Newsletter

www.netscantools.com

September 2021

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In this newsletter:

News

- **Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.86.2 released Sept 29, 2021**
- **NetScanTools Pro Licensees Please Do This ASAP**
- **Help! I forgot my NetScanTools Pro Update Username and Password**
- **NetScanTools Pro 11.92.1 Released August 11, 2021**
- **Warning about importing text files**

News...

From the Editor...

Raining heavily today after a very dry summer. Please update your software to the latest versions soon.

-Kirk

Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool 2.86.2 released Sept 29, 2021

The 'installed' version is ready and the USB patch will be ready soon. There are two important checks that were added.

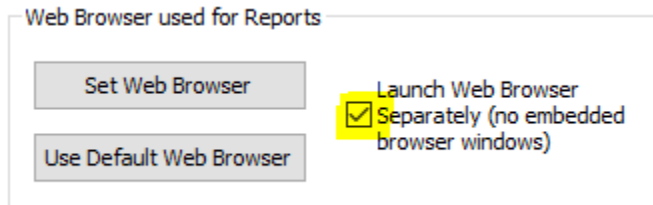
The first check is in Global Settings. A user was having trouble getting IP addresses resolved to hostnames. After looking at the logs it was noted that the user had entered two IP addresses in the 'User Defined DNS' field. That field can only accept one DNS IP address. Global Settings now has several checks of that field so that you will only be allowed to enter one IPv4 address. It also warns you that while you can put a hostname in the field, it is not recommended because that requires your computer's default DNS to resolve the hostname to an IPv4 address and if it cannot be resolved the User Defined resolver will not put hostnames in the hostname column.

The second check is in Settings for the SNMP device (switch or other). This check warns you if the '@' character is entered in the Read Community Name field. While this may not matter to most brands, the Cisco IOS based switches will not completely map. The '@' character is a reserved character in Cisco SNMP community names. Why? Because Cisco uses Community Name Indexing and the '@' symbol is appended to the Community Name followed by the VLAN number to find information on a VLAN basis. If '@' is in the Community Name field you will see many different columns populated but no MAC addresses, IP addresses, Hostnames or Interface Manufacturers for Cisco IOS switches. You would need to change '@' to a different character both in the Switch Port Mapper AND in the switch to fix this problem.

Upgrading to this version is recommended *especially* if you work with Cisco switches. Use Help menu/Check for Update.

NetScanTools Pro Licensees Please Do This ASAP

Please click on Help menu/Preferences. Please check the box to force the software to Launch Web Browser Separately as shown below



Web Browser used for Reports

Set Web Browser

Use Default Web Browser

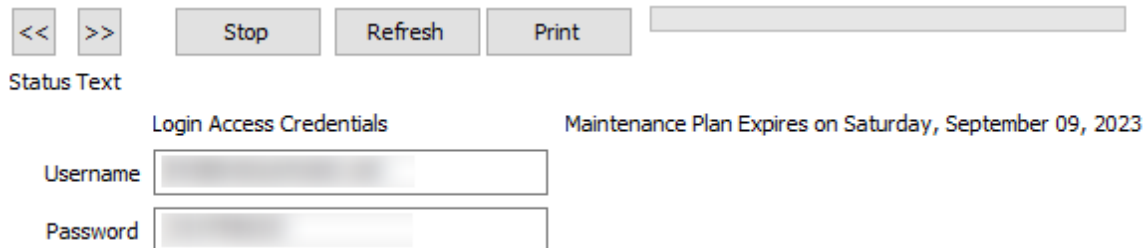
Launch Web Browser Separately (no embedded browser windows)

Why are we asking you to do this? The embedded windows in NetScanTools Pro use Internet Explorer and IE is being removed from Windows 10 soon. See also the topic "Help! I forgot my NetScanTools Pro Update Username and Password" below.

Help! I forgot my NetScanTools Pro Update Username and Password

You do not have to remember it and we cannot reset it.

Click on Help menu/Check for New Version. Then look in the software right below the buttons – if you registered AND you applied the registration email contents, your Login Access Credentials are shown in these boxes.



<< >> Stop Refresh Print

Status Text

Login Access Credentials Maintenance Plan Expires on Saturday, September 09, 2023

Username

Password

How to get a NetScanTools Pro update: 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 to the full install or the USB version patch. You may also see 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 11.92.1 Released August 11, 2021

NetScanTools Pro release 11.92.1 is ready for download if you have a current active maintenance plan. Most changes are in the DNS Tools.

These are the changes in this new version:

- More forceful warning messages about trying to import a UNICODE file format text file.
- Improved internal DNS resolver parsing to ignore extra 'additional record type OPT' data added by some Wifi routers.
- DNS Tools Core/Get Basic DNS Records: Better parsing of longer DNS TXT records. Minor changes to be sure A and AAAA records are reported correctly.
- DNS Tools Core/DiG +trace: Fixed output and made it work under both UDP and TCP DNS queries.
- DNS Tools Advanced/SPF-DKIM-DMARC: Better parsing of longer DNS TXT records now shows whole key.
- ARP Scanner, Duplicate IP Scanner, ARP Ping: Window text changed to better emphasize this tool only works on the current subnet.
- Updated SQLite to version 3.36.0
- Updated MAC address/Manufacturer database.
- Updated IP to Country database.

Warning about importing text files

Both NetScanTools Pro and the Managed Switch Port Mapping Tool can accept text files for things like target lists or ARP tables. But not just any text file – the file format must be simple ANSI or UTF-8. Why? Because other 'unicode' formats like UTF-16 store each character in two bytes instead of one byte. The file import parser expects to see one byte per character. Both apps test the import file to see if it appears to be non-ANSI/UTF-8 and you will see a warning. If you ignore the warning and process the app might crash.

For example, if you export to CSV from Excel, you may be getting UTF-16. The simple way to fix it is to open the file in Notepad, then use Save As to resave it as either ANSI or UTF-8.

Contact Information

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

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