WhatsUp Gold Flow Publisher
Enabling Traffic Analysis in any Network

Flow Publisher Features

Traffic Analysis

- Capture of traffic from mirrored interfaces (including VLANs) and TAPs
- Direct installation on Windows® server and VMware® platforms for direct user and application flow-based analysis
- Supports multiple network interfaces
- Packages traffic into NetFlow v1, 5 and 9 compatible records
- Provides full range of flow information
- Provides options to log flows and commands
- Provides mapping of MAC addresses to reported interfaces
- Supports fragmented and jumbo packets
- Configurable logging with 3 levels of detail
- 2 levels of raw traffic capture
  - Normal
  - Promiscuous
- Supports installation on all current Windows operating systems
- Minimal CPU and memory usage on host machine
- Single centralized console to dynamically configure and manage all installed probes
- Integrates with WhatsUp Gold Flow Monitor for reporting, analysis and threshold alerting

Traffic Analysis and Monitoring / Troubleshooting Capabilities (in conjunction with Flow Monitor)

- Automatic classification of traffic by type and protocol in real-time
- Real-time identification of traffic flow patterns through the network
- Identification of traffic sources (top talkers) and destinations
- Identification of traffic destination by group, domain, top level domain (TLD), and country
- Pinpointing of internal and external traffic sources and destinations
- Conducting traffic identification and analysis for Quality of Service (QoS) using ToS or DSCP
- Grouping of flow data based on common parameters, including IP addresses by domain, TLD or country
- Automatic identification of high traffic flows to un-monitored ports and highlighting of those ports as candidates for monitoring
- Uncovers unauthorized applications, including file and music sharing
- Detection of failed connections

Flow Publisher Features (cont.)

Unique flow monitoring for the whole network without changing your infra-structure

You know your network better than anyone else. Yet when your users complain that web pages are taking too long to load, or a critical internal application is timing out, you're often at a loss to explain why. After all, users are only focused on whether they can do their job and that, while you have to think about much more, including managing the infrastructure that delivers the network applications. So while you work hard to keep your network and servers healthy and running at optimal capacity - that's not enough for your business users or your management. It's almost as if you are conversing in different languages. And while you see the spikes in network traffic, you can't pinpoint why and how they are affecting your applications and employees' productivity.

Don't Get Blindsided. Know who or what is on your network

With flow enabled network devices you can quickly see which users, applications, protocols and traffic sources are generating traffic and consuming bandwidth. Maybe some users are doing unexpected things – like streaming large files or doing backups during normal business hours. Or maybe it's something dangerous – like a virus spreading on your network. Or a misconfigured router or switch is slowing the performance of the network. But you can only see this on a flow-enabled network. What happens if you, like the majority of companies, don't have the luxury of turning on flow monitoring across the network – simply because your devices don't support it or the cost of upgrading to new infrastructure is not in your budget? You're destined to manage your network with only partial visibility.

Flow Publisher Extends Traffic Analysis to Every Corner of your Network

With WhatsUp Gold Flow Publisher, you can get unique insight and visibility into your network traffic for every device – whether they natively support flow monitoring or not, from a low cost, software only solution. In short, Flow Publisher makes flow monitoring possible for every network segment and for literally every device, with multi-vendor support. By capturing raw traffic from the network and converting it into standard NetFlow records, Flow Publisher puts you in complete control and conversing in a language your users understand.

With Flow Publisher you can:

- Extend pinpoint or broad traffic analysis to cover non-flow enabled network devices or segments
- Quickly enable NetFlow based traffic analysis directly on Windows® servers and VMware environments
- Determine users, applications or traffic sources that are consuming bandwidth
- Avoid costly upgrades of your devices to turn on application flow visibility
- Get alerted in real-time when monitored traffic parameters breach targeted thresholds
- Ensure business applications and users get the bandwidth they need
- Access over 40+ web and mobile reports for base-lining and analysis

Direct Benefits of Flow Publisher

- Extends standardized network traffic analysis and application flow visibility across the entire network

- Cost-effective installation and low overhead operation
    - Small footprint, software-only solution with minimal CPU and memory requirements
    - Installs on any Windows based operating system and hardware

- Simple and flexible deployment model
    - Software agents can be located anywhere in the network enabling both broad and pinpoint traffic analysis
    - Flow Publisher's deployment doesn't require infrastructure upgrades or downtime

- Better insight and higher investment returns compared to other flow monitoring technologies
    - With 100% raw traffic capture and processing it provides deeper visibility and insight compared to sampled sFlow and J-Flow
    - More information, improved manageability and lower costs compared to RMON or packet analysis solutions

- Seamless integration with Flow Monitor and WhatsUp Gold
    - Access to over 40+ configurable Flow Monitor web and mobile reports
    - Configuration of thresholds and alerting on typical flow monitoring parameters via the Alert Center

Example configurations:

Example of Flow Publisher agents deployed to provide broad traffic analysis coverage at multiple points in the network

Mirroring traffic from gateway switch to Traffic Probe

See more example configurations at

http://www.whatsupgold.com/products/flow_publisher/configurations.aspx

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Reporting (in conjunction with Flow Monitor)
- Access to over 40 flow management reports via WhatsUp Gold web and mobile access
- Automated rollup of flow data with hourly, daily, weekly, monthly and yearly views
- Displays flow information in custom formats
- Sorts and displays filtered reports by protocol, application, host, domain, TLD, country, groups or type of service
- Integration of flow reports with WhatsUp Gold workspace reports
- Access to WHOIS information for sender and receiver reports
- Display traffic information by bytes, packets or flows

Configuration and Management (in conjunction with Flow Monitor)
- Configuration of thresholds on multiple flow metrics via the Alert Center
- Configuration and management of flow data retention policies
- Configuration of flow logging levels
- Configurable support for non-standard ports and proprietary protocols
- Starting and stopping of flow services
- Setting of address resolution levels
- Access to flow database and service status, providing instant views of database parameters and running flow services
- Backup and restoration of flow database
- Apply custom names to flow interfaces
- Notification of database status

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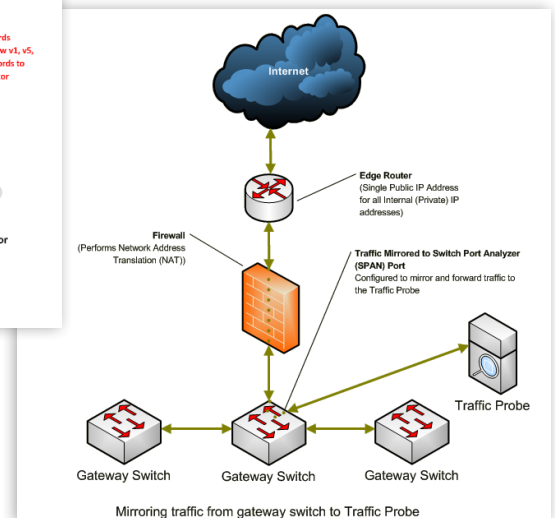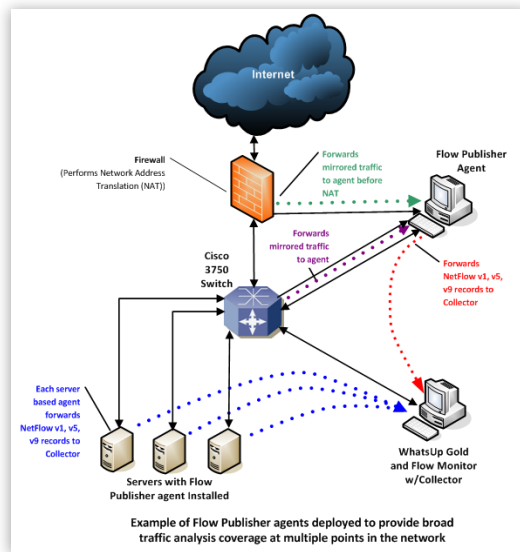
10 Maguire Road
Lexington, MA 02421
(781) 676-5700
USA

Kingsfordweg 151
1043 GR Amsterdam
The Netherlands

Ipswitch Japan 株式会社
〒106-0047
東京都港区南麻布4-11-22
南麻布T&Fビル8階