Sniffer Pro LAN
Network Analyzer

Seven-Layer Analysis Quickly Pinpoints Problems and Recommends Solutions

In today's Internet age, the network is the lifeblood of your business. Keeping the network operating at peak performance directly affects your company's bottom line. Whether you're managing high-speed switched networks, guaranteeing quick response for critical applications, integrating voice and video with data traffic, or supporting e-commerce, Sniffer Pro LAN—one part of the Sniffer Total Network Visibility Suite—delivers industry-leading tools to get maximum performance, reliability and uptime from your network.

Network Associates Sniffer Pro LAN network analyzer is the fault and performance management solution that enables network professionals to maintain, troubleshoot, fine-tune, and expand multi-topology, multi-protocol networks. By incorporating Expert analysis capabilities and advanced protocol decodes, Sniffer Pro LAN is able to determine, pinpoint, and analyze performance problems, automatically recommending a course of corrective action to resolve network performance issues fast.

How It Works
Sniffer Pro LAN's job is simple: keep the LAN running at peak performance levels. The analyzer captures frames, simultaneously building a database of network objects from the observed traffic to detect network anomalies. An anomaly is categorized as a "symptom"—a non-critical event such as a single file retransmission, or a "diagnosis"—a critical fault requiring prompt attention. After isolating, analyzing and categorizing the problem, Sniffer Pro LAN alerts you, explains the problem, and recommends corrective action—all automatically and in real time.

Solving Problems with Sniffer Pro LAN
By providing in-depth seven-layer analysis on all covered segments, Sniffer Pro LAN helps you minimize some of the most common network performance challenges.

• Eases Deployment of New Applications/Technologies: Analyzes the impact of new applications or technologies on the network prior to deployment, to avoid potential performance degradation.

• Minimizes Downtime and Slowtime: Faster problem detection, the largest and smartest collection of decodes available, and true Expert analysis helps you quickly determine the source and solution of problems—to avoid costly outages.

• Improves Response Time: Proactively assesses and analyzes network anomalies to help you investigate application response time problems and move immediately to corrective actions before network performance is impacted.

Additional Features

Client/Server Databases
Sniffer Pro LAN comes standard with Oracle8 and Sybase/Microsoft SQL Server Database decodes for total visibility into the performance relationship between the database application and the network.

Capture and Display Filters
Sniffer Pro LAN allows you to use simple and comprehensive filters to capture and display only the types of frames you require. Filters include:
  • Protocol
  • Pattern match
  • DLC address
  • IP address
  • IPX address

Traffic Generation
Sniffer Pro LAN has a built-in traffic generator for testing new applications or devices, enabling you to repeatedly load the network with the same frame or use custom-edited capture buffer content for stress testing.

Who's watching your network
Expert Analysis
Superior Expert Analysis capabilities are built into Sniffer Pro LAN giving you management automation, problem-solving information, and greater depth of visibility.

- **Automatic analysis and alarms**: Sniffer Pro LAN automates fault and performance management functions by automatically detecting and pinpointing problems, forwarding alarms with event details, and offering solutions—all in real time.

- **Automatic problem solving**: Bottlenecks, protocol violations, even problems like duplicate addresses and misconfigured routers are identified automatically—before they have a chance to impact network performance.

- **Automatic visibility**: Sniffer Pro LAN “sees” into all seven layers of the network model so problems are easily pinpointed and analyzed regardless of where or when they occur.

Network Monitoring
Monitoring is an ideal way to keep tabs on the network, detect anomalies, and record overall network performance. Sniffer Pro LAN collects current and historical segment statistics which can be displayed in real time for an instant snapshot of network activity, stored for later display, or transferred to a database, spreadsheet, or management reporting program. The system also includes pre-defined, management-quality reports in easy-to-read formats.

**Network Statistics Monitored**
- Utilization %
- Frames monitored
- Bytes
- Frame size distribution
- Number of stations

**Error Statistics**
- Number of run errors
- Number of CRC/alignment errors
- Number of collisions
- Total frame errors
- Oversized frames

**Protocol Statistics**
- Network utilization % by protocol
- Number of frames by protocol
- Number of bytes by protocol

**Frame Size Statistics**
- % of frames by frame size
- Number of frames by frame size

**Station Statistics** (for each active station)
- Traffic (received and transmitted)
- Combined (received and transmitted)
- Utilization % (average and current)
- Average network utilization %

**Network Alarms**
- Rate of error threshold
- Network idle time threshold
- Network utilization % threshold
- Rate of broadcast frames threshold
- Oversize frame alarm

**Topologies Supported**
- Ethernet: 10 Mbps, 100 Mbps, Full Duplex
- Token Ring: 4 Mbps, 16 Mbps
- FDDI (Fiber Distributed Data Interface) 100 Mbps

Protocol Interpretation
Sniffer Pro LAN provides the most extensive collection of decodes available anywhere. More than 400 protocols at all network layers are interpreted for you, not in cryptic “spec-speak”, but with the contents of each frame explained in plain English. Unlike other protocol guides, these decodes recognize “protocol creep,” providing you with the latest information—even when it has evolved beyond technical specifications.

Traffic History
Traffic history is tracked for the entire network at user-defined intervals ranging from every 1 second to every 24 hours and can be automatically logged to a disk.

Alarms
Alarms can be set network-wide as well as individually for each station. Alarm actions can be any combination of log to printer, log to disk, or audible.