OPNET Technologies, Inc.

Managing network and application performance

At a Glance

Partner:
OPNET Technologies, Inc.

Industry:
Network configuration management and capacity planning
Application performance management and modeling and simulation

Location:
Bethesda, Maryland
Worldwide headquarters

URL:
www.opnet.com

Opportunity:
Extend investment in OptiView solutions by feeding measured data into OPNET solutions.

Solution:
Product integration

Results:
Analysis of network and application performance in virtual environment facilitating capacity planning and application deployment assessment.

Fluke Networks products:
OptiView WAN Analyzers and OptiView Console

OPNET Products:
IT Guru and ACE Flow Analysis Module

Integration Partner
OPNET Technologies, Inc.

OPNET Technologies, Inc., is a leading provider of network and application management software. OPNET's solutions provide application deployment planning, systems capacity planning, network configuration auditing, network capacity and resiliency planning. For more information about OPNET and its products, visit **www.opnet.com**.

Partnership summary

The integrated solution from Fluke Networks and OPNET Technologies is facilitated by data exchange between the companies' respective analysis and measurement solutions. Using data gathered by OptiView products, users can validate network and application performance in IT Guru's virtual environment. This gives you the ability to determine capacity requirements and performance levels prior to deploying into production. This partnership creates value-added capabilities for:

- Characterizing multi-tier performance.
- Network capacity planning.
- Predictive analysis of the enterprise network end-to-end.

OPNET solutions overview

OPNET's IT Guru models the behavior of an entire network, including its routers, switches, protocols, servers and individual applications. With OPNET's Flow Analysis module, IT managers, network planners and operations staff can more effectively validate changes before they are implemented and plan for future scenarios including growth and failure.

OPNET's Application Characterization Environment (ACE) enables you to capture, filter and synchronize application traces from multiple network segments; automatically merge any number of application traces and interpret them in a combined view; visualize end-to-end application transaction dynamics graphically, from both network-layer and application-layer perspectives, and diagnose problems automatically with AppDoctor; and validate your approach to achieving required performance levels with OPNET's prediction technology.

Integration points

Fluke Networks has two integration points with OPNET technologies with Trace data and Flow data.

Trace data: Fluke Networks has created a utility called WinCapXForm.exe that will allow a user to convert an OptiView OC3/OC12, T1/E1or DS3/E3 WAN Analyzer trace file in .cap format to .enc for direct import into OPNET ACE or any other third-party application. The top 25 conversations are recorded for each analyzer.

Flow data: Flow data from OptiView Console can be exported to OPNET's IT Guru. With flow data from Fluke Networks, coupled with configuration data within OPNET, you can conduct extensive predictive analyses to aid in network capacity planning, and network resiliency assessments, both of which help to identify bottlenecks in the network and expose areas of the network that are vulnerable to failures.

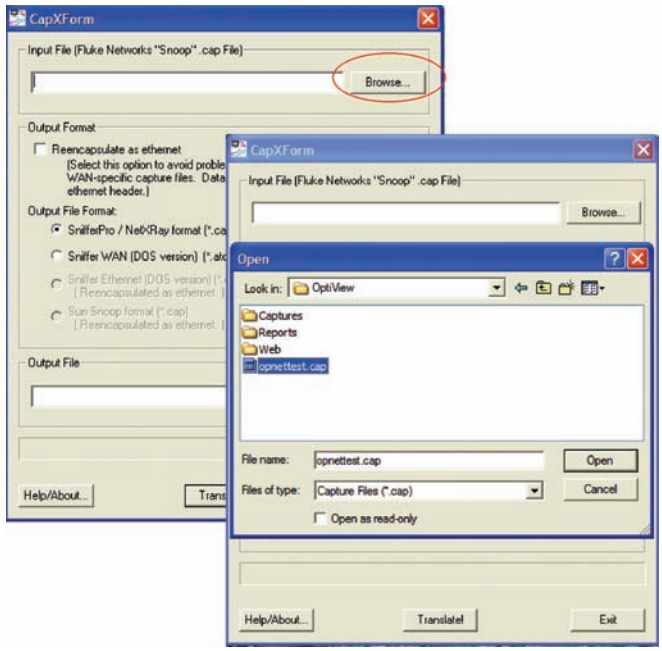
The flow data that can be captured and exported to IT Guru comes from the OptiView WAN Analyzers.

Benefits

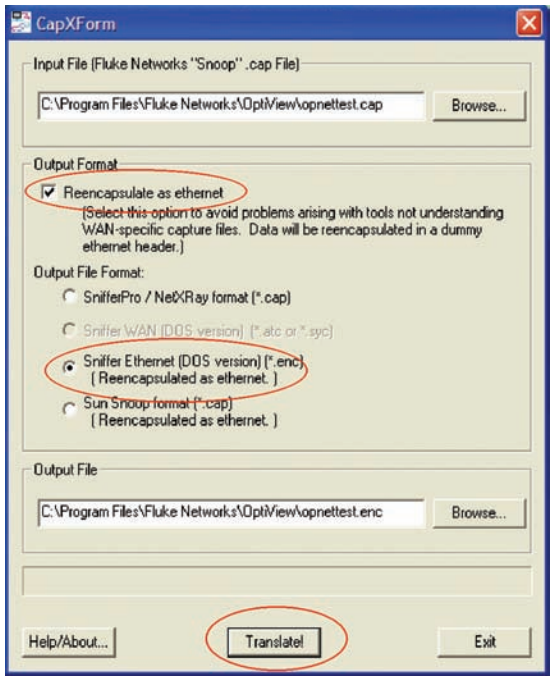
- The investment made in OptiView WAN Analyzer is extended by being able to use the analyzer as a troubleshooting and monitoring solution for WAN links in addition to being a data source for OPNET IT Guru and ACE.
- In addition to performing real-time analysis to pinpoint an incident on the WAN link, users can perform multi tier application analysis with ACE to identify the root cause of poorly performing applications.
- With OptiView Console interoperability, users can now analyze a network in IT Guru's virtual environment, allowing the user to determine capacity requirements and performance levels (i.e. response times) prior to deploying into a live production environment.

Execution of the WinCapXForm.exe utility

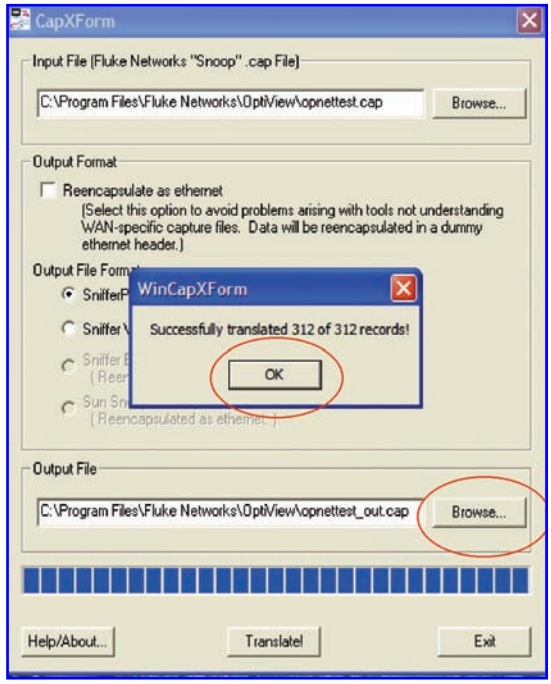
- Step 1: Perform a capture from the OptiView WAN Analyzer and save the file.
- Step 2: Start executable by double clicking on utility icon.
- Step 3: Hit the **Browse** button in the top section under "Input File" and go to the file location where the capture file in .cap format is stored and select the file.



- Step 4: Once the .cap file you want to convert is selected, click on the "Reencapsulate as Ethernet" box and select the "Sniffer Ethernet (*.enc)" button. Once these options are selected click the **Translate!** button.

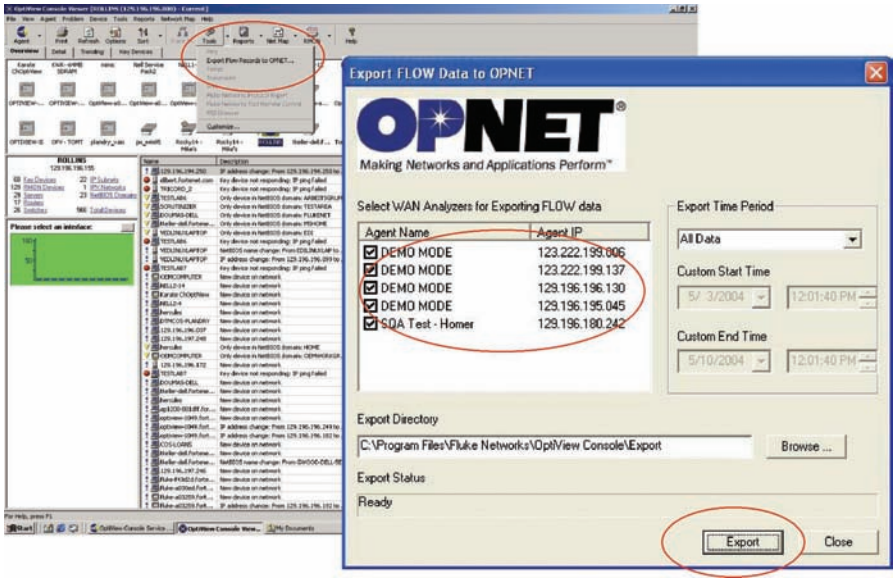


- Step 5: Click on **OK** once it is successfully translated.



Execution of flow data export utility

To initiate a flow export from OptiView Console, select the **Tools** menu to get the drop down menu option. When "Export Flow Data to OPNET" is selected, you will get the OPNET popup windows shown below. The OptiView WAN Analyzer you want to pull data from will be listed under "Agent Name." Select the desired agent, the export time period, give the file a name and directory location and hit **Export**.



Within the OPNET user interface, from the "Traffic" menu, under the "Import Traffic Flows" sub-menu, select "From Fluke Networks OptiView." Find your flow export file. Your data can now be applied within OPNET's solutions.