In-Depth Analysis for Gigabit

For enterprise management, 1/10 GE networks mean high-speed communication, on-demand systems, and improved business functions. For enterprise IT professionals, these networks require diligent maintenance, analysis, monitoring, troubleshooting, and real-time network management. To help fulfill the promise of gigabit technologies, network professionals require a comprehensive, distributed analysis system.

The Observer® Performance Management Platform provides multiple, scalable options for enterprise organizations demanding a complete approach to network management. All appliances are 64-bit Windows systems and include the exclusive Observer Gen2™ capture technology designed to maximize analysis performance on critical links.
Observer Analysis Advantages

- Full-duplex, wire-speed 1/10 GE capture and statistics
- 64-bit for faster processing and larger capture buffers
- Internally designed capture cards optimize analysis
- Processing at the Observer Probe speeds analysis and minimizes bandwidth usage

Key Features

Statistics
Observer Analyzer offers over 30 real-time statistics for analysis, including network summary, bandwidth utilization, (DCE and DTE displays), top talkers, VLAN metrics, IP pairs, protocol distribution, and network activity.

Link Utilization
Analyzer provides granular analysis on gigabit links so communication can be viewed on a conversation-by-conversation basis or in aggregation. Monitor up to eight ports for any simultaneous combination of SPAN sessions, full-duplex connections, and trunked gigabit links.

Application Analysis
Monitor the application layer in real time and post capture through Analyzer’s Application Analysis. Track application session flows and failed transactions, gather statistics on errors, monitor response times, and perform network forensic.

Deploy an Observer Probe appliance on local or remote mission-critical links for real-time, wire-speed Expert analysis.

Every member of the product family is designed with Observers’ unique Distributed Network Analysis (O-DNA™) architecture. This award-winning analysis technology delivers investment flexibility, prompt problem resolution, proactive network management, complete application analysis, and integrated visibility.
Distributed Expert Analysis
Regardless of location, the Analyzer ensures rapid diagnosis and resolution of network problems for over 600 Expert conditions. The Expert Analysis functionality of the Observer platform offers real-time and post-capture Expert event identification, modeling, and analysis. View network conditions in a single, concise display. All analysis is done remotely at the Probe delivering only screen updates to the Analyzer console, minimizing impact to the network.

VoIP Expert
Monitor VoIP connections and improve VoIP performance across the organization with VoIP Expert. See VoIP traffic statistics and track call quality with over 20 metrics. Analyzer offers complete decode of VoIP protocols including SIP, H.323, MGCP, and SCCP. Save or play voice conversations or streaming video. Track jitter or lost packets (in each direction) and total VoIP utilization.

Connection Dynamics
Analyzer provides a graphical view of network conversations down to the application layer. Conversations are displayed packet-by-packet with Expert Analysis, allowing for instant identification of latency. Drill down on a conversation for granular analysis and to pinpoint problems immediately.

VLAN Statistics
Determine if VLANs are overloaded and verify VLAN setups on gigabit and 10 Gb links. Analyzer displays real-time VLAN statistics in aggregation or by individual load per station.

Filtering
Analyzer offers an extensive range of filtering capabilities for both real-time and post-capture analysis. For data mining tasks, Analyzer pre-filters capture buffers, resulting in quicker analysis. This feature is vital for sifting through large volumes of data (gigabit and/or long-term captures). Analyzer can also execute filters concurrently and share filter libraries among users.

Trending and Reporting
Analyzer allows users to collect, store, view, and analyze gigabit traffic over days, weeks, months, and even years. Use this data to perform historical analysis and determine if capacity upgrades are needed. Analyzer includes a large library of ready-made reports for instant snapshots of network health as well as the ability to create custom reports. Reports can be sent via e-mail or published over the web.
Choose from a Variety of Monitoring Options

Common functionality available across the entire analysis line:
- 64-bit systems for maximum analysis performance and scalability
- Utilizes internally engineered Gen2 technology for guaranteed, wire-speed captures
- Localizes data processing at the Probe to minimize network overhead
- Provides continuous monitoring with included Observer nTAPs™
- Captures large amounts without packet loss with up to a 24 GB buffer
- Ensure timestamp accuracy within 150 ns

Observer Gigastor

For historical and forensics analysis, the Observer GigaStor™ technology is the ideal choice. Capture hours, days, or weeks worth of traffic directly to disk for historical analysis. Speed problem resolution by completely eliminating the time-consuming task of having to recreate issues.

Choose a 2 TB, 4 TB, 8 TB, or 16 TB configuration
- A unique timeline interface makes it easy to isolate and troubleshoot past events
- Stored data can be reconstructed (web pages, e-mail, IM, VoIP) to support forensic analysis

Probe Appliances

Offers wire-speed, full-duplex analysis in an easy-to-install rack-mount unit.
- Configures as a local console for on-site analysis
- Reports to any Analyzer Expert Edition or Analyzer Suite console on the network
- Gigabit Probe appliances have the added ability of monitoring trunked links independently or in aggregation

Probe appliance for gigabit or 10 Gb networks

GigaStor for gigabit or 10 Gb networks
Portable Analysis Systems

The Observer Gigabit Portable and GigaStor Portable are field-service units that contain all the hardware and software necessary to troubleshoot and manage the most advanced gigabit and 10 Gb networks. Designed for convenience in travel and shipping, the all-in-one units are ideal for field service engineers tasked with solving elusive network abnormalities at particular points across the organization.

Portable analyzers include a copy of Analyzer Suite. The system does not require any additional hardware or software.

GigaStor Expandable Offers More Storage Options
• Scale up to 96 TB
• Obtain better write speeds with added drives
• Perfect for growing enterprises

All-In-One Systems
• Analyzer Suite console software
• Gen2 1/10 GE capture card
• 10/100/1000 GE management port
• All required cabling
• nTAP
• Built-in display, keyboard, trackpad, and DVD-RW drive
• Durable, hard case appropriate for airline travel
• Also shares data with any Analyzer Expert Edition or Analyzer Suite console on the network
Top Five Hardware Advantages for Maximum Analysis Performance

1) Provides Capture And Analysis Flexibility with Gen2 Technology
All 1/10 GE Probes include Observer’s internally designed gigabit capture cards to ensure accurate, high-performance gigabit capture on fully saturated gigabit and 10 Gb links.
- Allows for driver updates to be implemented in the field with a simple downloadable firmware patch
- The Probe relies on one card (one clock) for timestamping and as a result data is marked to the nanosecond ensuring accurate tags across multiple links

Exclusive features for full-duplex 1 GE capture:
- Monitor up to eight ports for any simultaneous combination of SPAN sessions, full-duplex connections, and trunked links
- Switch between monitoring copper or optical connections with the card’s SFP technology

Exclusive features for full-duplex 10 GE capture:
- Provides sustained capture
- Functions such as filtering and statistics are performed directly on the card
- Provides real-time expert analysis

2) 64-bit Systems Ensure Maximum Analyzer Performance
Observer’s 64-bit systems offer faster processing and larger capture buffers.
- With 64-bit, the capture buffer permits up to 24 GB, the largest in the industry
- By integrating with Analyzer’s 64-bit application core, appliances can crunch Expert data, perform comprehensive analysis, and deliver statistics faster for rapid problem resolution

3) Manages All Data Processing and Expert Analysis Locally at the Probe
All products have the capability to collect, store, and process data on the Probe itself.
- Only screen updates are sent back to the Analyzer console
- Speeds up tasks like Expert analysis
- Minimizes unnecessary network traffic
- Decreases troubleshooting time

4) Comprehensive Analysis
Products report to any Analyzer Expert Edition or Analyzer Suite console located on the network.
- Over 30 real-time statistics for monitoring application response times, VoIP traffic, viruses, hack attacks, and more
- Triggers and alarms can be configured to instantly alert an administrator of problem activity
- Perform long-term tending and baselining
- Multiple Analyzer users can log on simultaneously to collaborate or perform individual tasks

5) Includes nTAPs for Guaranteed Data Delivery
Only an nTAP can copy data from full-duplex links at line rate for monitoring devices.
- Insert and remove the Probe without network disruption
- Acquire and independent view of data flow
- Eliminate dependence on a SPAN or mirror port
- Ensure full-duplex, wire-speed passive analysis