

EtherPeek 3.5.2 Release Notes

1. If you are launching EtherPeek from a G3 Desktop, G3 PowerBook Series, or iMac, and wish to use the built-in port for capturing packets, choose the "Motherboard..." option. If you are using any other PCI based desktop PowerMacintosh or PowerMacintosh compatible and want to use the built-in interface to capture packets, select "Slot 0:...". If you are having difficulties, please see the Read Me for more information.
2. EtherPeek 3.5 and later ships with a file named "EtherPeek OT Module". This module works with PCI based PowerMacintosh computers to significantly enhance capture performance. If you run the installer, a copy of this Module will be placed in your extensions folder and, when EtherPeek is run on a machine that supports it, EtherPeek will attempt to use this module. If the module is not present, EtherPeek will still be able to capture, but there will be no performance boost. For a list of interfaces with which the EtherPeek OT Module is compatible, please see the Read Me.
3. EtherPeek 3.5 and later resolve physical as well as logical addresses for IP and AppleTalk devices. During the name resolution process, entries that map names to Ethernet addresses will also be added to the Name Table. Disabling the checkbox "Assign Names to Hardware Addresses" in the "Name Lookup Options" dialog will disable the association of names to hardware addresses.
4. A new Summary Statistics window has been added to display network baseline information.

SUMMARY STATISTICS				
Percentage of Packets	RESET VALUES		TAKE SNAPSHOT	
Start Date	7/14/98	7/14/98	7/14/98	7/14/98
Start Time	4:14:55 PM	4:14:55 PM	4:14:55 PM	4:14:55 PM
Duration	0:04:23	0:04:16	0:03:42	0:02:23
Total/pkt	100.000%	100.000%	100.000%	100.000%
Collected/pkt	100.000%	100.000%	100.000%	100.000%
Multicast Packets/pkt	3.236%	3.222%	3.258%	3.143%
Broadcast Packets/pkt	1.443%	1.435%	1.426%	1.347%
Total Errors/pkt	-	-	-	-
CRC Errors/pkt	-	-	-	-
Frame Errors/pkt	-	-	-	-
Runt Packets/pkt	-	-	-	-
64 Byte Packets/pkt	47.687%	47.870%	47.491%	46.833%
64-127 Byte Packets/pkt	31.470%	31.435%	31.689%	32.211%
128-255 Byte Packets/pkt	5.362%	5.334%	5.455%	5.419%
256-511 Byte Packets/pkt	2.895%	2.978%	2.863%	2.950%
512-1023 Byte Packets/pkt	11.178%	10.930%	10.910%	10.887%
1024-1517 Byte Packets/pkt	1.023%	1.056%	1.208%	1.299%
1518 Byte packets/pkt	0.385%	0.397%	0.385%	0.401%
Oversize Packets/pkt	-	-	-	-
ATalk Multicast/pkt	1.793%	1.787%	1.822%	1.764%
AARP Request/pkt	0.848%	0.848%	0.885%	0.850%
AARP Response/pkt	0.848%	0.848%	0.885%	0.850%
Total Items: 27 Snapshots: 3				

Summary Statistics allow you to monitor key network statistics in real-time and save these statistics for later comparison. Use this feature to baseline "normal" network activity, save the data, then compare these saved statistics with those observed during periods of erratic network behavior to help pinpoint the cause of the problem.

Summary statistics are also extremely valuable in comparing the performance of two different ethernet segments or two different networks. For example, a field support engineer could compare the real-time statistics on a client's network with a saved "healthy" router snapshot and easily diagnose or eliminate the source of inconsistent or poor router performance.

To view Summary Statistics, select "Summary" from the Statistics menu and click on the "Take Snapshot" button. Data relating to your real-time network traffic will be displayed in a column identified with a date and start time.

5. Protocol Information has been greatly expanded and definitions are available for most protocols and sub-protocols identified through ProtoSpecs in the Protocol Statistics and Main Windows as well as in the Protocol section of the Filter Settings mechanism. EtherPeek provides a definition of what a protocol abbreviation stands for and a concise description of what a protocol is used for. This on-line help mechanism will assist you in determining the purpose of previously unseen packets on the network as well as help to increase your knowledge of LAN/WAN protocols. To view the definition for any particular protocol or sub-protocol from the Main Window or Protocol Statistics Window, click on your selection and then choose the "Protocol Info..." command from the Special menu.
6. EtherPeek 3.5.2 includes new and updated Plug-ins. For a list of all Plug-ins, see the Read Me
7. For a list of bug fixes and new features, please see the Read Me.
8. EtherPeek 3.X supports the ability to periodically save statistics as HTML files, enabling you to view network information with a web browser. Use the "HTML Output..." command in the Statistics menu to access a dialog in which you can enable this feature and select a template folder and an output folder. EtherPeek will process all text files in the template folder you select, replace special keywords with packet statistics values, and write the resulting files to the output folder.

This method allows you to have almost complete control over the HTML that is produced. For example, you can customize the format and appearance of the tables that are produced, include your own text, graphics, and links, and keep separate files for each statistics table, or combine them into a single HTML document. Every piece of information in the source, destination, node activity, protocol, and filter statistics windows can be accessed.

A set of template files that you can use without modification, or as a starting point for customizing your own statistics tables, is included in the HTML Folder that accompanies EtherPeek.

