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SIP-Trunk and Internet Monitor User Guide



Table of Contents

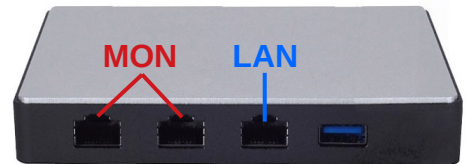
Getting Started.....	3
Hardware Setup.....	3
Implementation using Mirror Port.....	3
Implementation using Network Tap.....	4
IP Address Assignment.....	5
Software Setup.....	6
SIP Trunk Table.....	7
SIP Group / Route Table.....	9
Alert Notifications.....	11
Firmware Updates.....	12
Exploring Network Endpoint Analytics.....	13
Active Endpoint.....	13
Daily View.....	14
Monthly View.....	15
Search Endpoint.....	16
SIP Group / Route Analytics.....	17
Generating Reports.....	19
Automatic Daily Reports.....	21
Export data to Microsoft Excel.....	22
Troubleshooting with Deep Packet Inspection.....	23

Getting Started

This guide documents Prilink SIP-Trunk & Internet Monitor software version 2.3.5. For further assistance please contact Prilink support at 905-940-8844 or support@prilink.com.

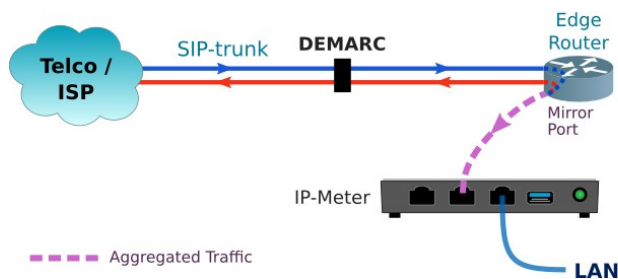
Hardware Setup

A Prilink **IP-Meter** collects and analyzes IP traffic data by monitoring 10/100/1000 Ethernet circuits through its monitor ports. A Mirror port or Ethernet TAP can be used to send a copy of network traffic from the DEMARC point to the IP-Meter monitor ports.

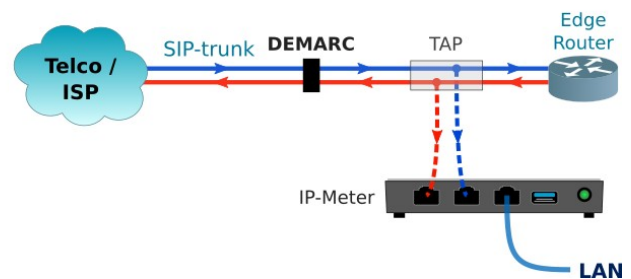


4.88" (124 mm) × 0.8" (21mm) × 4.7" (120mm)

Implementation using Mirror Port



Implementation using Network TAP



Implementation using Mirror Port

Before connecting power to the IP-Meter, first connect the LAN and monitor ports as follows:

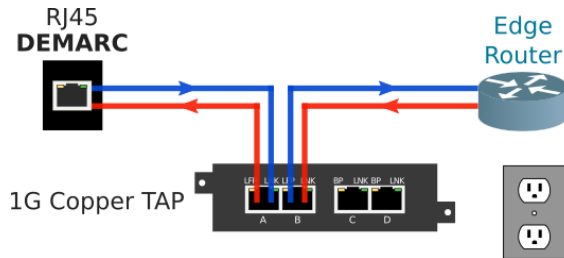
1. Connect the LAN port on the Meter to your network (the LAN port is labelled "LAN1").
2. Configure port mirroring on your Switch/Server/Router.
3. Connect the monitor port on the Meter to the configured mirror port of your Switch/Server/Router (the monitor port is labelled "LAN2").
4. Finally, connect power to the Meter.

Once powered on, wait approximately 2 minutes for the LED plug to begin blinking (the LED plug is the green RJ45 plug connected to the "Console" port).

Implementation using Network Tap

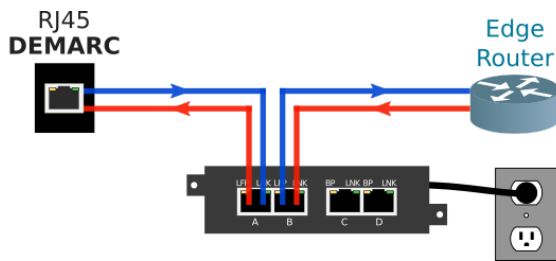


Step 1.



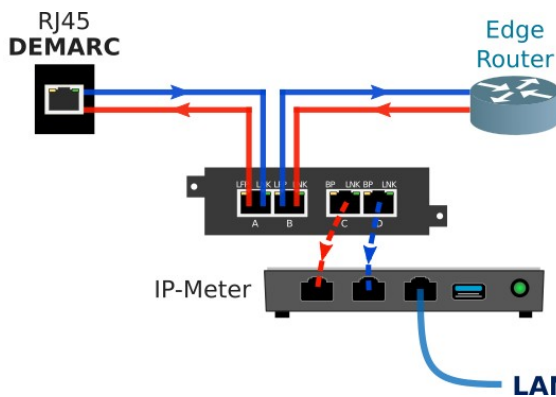
Connect Network TAP between **DEMARC** and Edge Router, without power connected to the TAP.

Step 2.



Connect power to Network TAP.

Step 3.



Connect monitor ports on IP-Meter to Network TAP.

Connect LAN port on IP-Meter to LAN.

Connect power to IP-Meter.

Once the IP-Meter is powered on, wait approximately 2 minutes for the LED plug to begin blinking (the LED plug is the green RJ45 plug connected to the “Console” port).

IP Address Assignment

To configure the IP address settings on the IP Meter, establish a serial connection between the meter and your Windows PC as follows:

1. Locate the **Console Port** next to the DC jack. Remove the LED plug from the console port and connect the console port to your PC using console/serial cable.

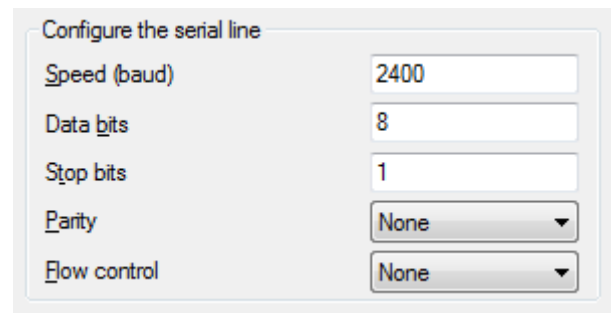


2. Download the PuTTY terminal emulator:

<http://the.earth.li/~sgtatham/putty/latest/x86/putty.exe>

3. Run **putty.exe** and configure the PuTTY menu as follows:

- a) Under **Connection type**, select *Serial*.
- b) In the **Serial line** field, enter the COM# you are using to connect your PC to the meter.
- c) In the **Speed** field, type *2400*.
- d) In the **Category** option tree on the left, choose *Connection -> Serial* and configure the serial line as shown on the right.
- e) Click **Open**.



A blank screen should appear and the meter serial number should begin to output.

4. Hit Enter to query the current IP address settings. The output will indicate whether the meter is using DHCP or a static IP address (**status** = 'dhcp' or 'static'). E.g.,

```
status: static a=192.168.0.30/24 g=192.168.0.1
```

5. To configure DHCP:

Type 'dhcp' and hit enter, then type 'y' and hit enter to confirm changes. The meter will reboot and attempt to acquire an IP address through DHCP.

5. To configure Static IP:

Type the following and hit enter, substituting desired values for *a* (address) and *g* (gateway):

```
static a=192.168.0.2/24 g=192.168.0.1
```

(Note that *a* is written in CIDR notation: <IP address> / <# of bits for routing prefix>. To determine the number of bits for routing prefix based on a given netmask, see [table](#) below.)

Type 'y' and hit enter to confirm changes. The meter will reboot with a static IP address.

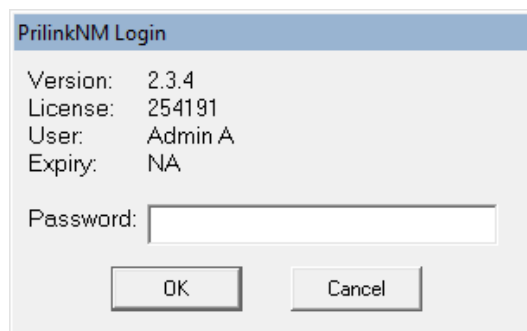
Table: Number of bits for routing prefix for a given netmask

Netmask	Prefix Bits	Netmask	Prefix Bits	Netmask	Prefix Bits	Netmask	Prefix Bits
128.0.0.0	1	255.128.0.0	9	255.255.128.0	17	255.255.255.128	25
192.0.0.0	2	255.192.0.0	10	255.255.192.0	18	255.255.255.192	26
224.0.0.0	3	255.224.0.0	11	255.255.224.0	19	255.255.255.224	27
240.0.0.0	4	255.240.0.0	12	255.255.240.0	20	255.255.255.240	28
248.0.0.0	5	255.248.0.0	13	255.255.248.0	21	255.255.255.248	29
252.0.0.0	6	255.252.0.0	14	255.255.252.0	22	255.255.255.252	30
254.0.0.0	7	255.254.0.0	15	255.255.254.0	23	255.255.255.254	31
255.0.0.0	8	255.255.0.0	16	255.255.255.0	24	255.255.255.255	32

- Finally, disconnect the console/serial cable from the meter and replace the LED plug in the console port.

Software Setup

PrilinkNM application software can be installed on any Windows based PC or server by executing the **prilinknm-2.3.5-setup.exe** installer. Once installed, start the PrilinkNM application:



You will be prompted for a password to begin. Enter the password that was supplied to you when you purchased the software.

If you have forgotten your password or do not have access to the installer, please contact Prilink support at 1-866-261-0649 or support@prilink.com.

Keyboard navigation

The application can be navigated almost exclusively using the keyboard.

Arrow Keys or PageUp / PageDown	Highlight screen items or menu options one at a time (Arrow Keys) or one page at a time (PageUp / PageDown).
Enter	Access menu for selected screen item or choose menu option.
Esc	Go back to previous screen, close menu or exit application.

IP-Meter Connection Status

After successful login, the application will automatically attempt to connect to all IP-meters. When connected, the *local time* and *run time* fields will be populated and increasing.

DEMARC Analytics www.prlink.com license: 254191 version: 2.3.4 user: Admin A 00:00:05

IP Meter	local time	run time	speed (bit/sec)	bandwidth (byte)	sip ans	sip not ans
0 8194-1 Contact Centre 192.168.0.6-3015 v5.30.52.54	2017-07-20 22:15:00	12Day 23hr	22:15-22:15 in 403 K out 360 K	2.93 M 19.2 M	131 47	4 2
1 8193-1 Admin 108.160.240.178-3015 v5.31.52.54	2017-07-20 16:15:00	11Day 23hr	16:15-16:15 in 45.0 K out 783 K	59.4 M 84.2 M	193 94	4 9
2 8202-1 Branch A 192.168.0.32-3015 v5.31.52.54	2017-07-20 15:15:01	5Day 10:18:44	15:15-15:15 in 612 K out 680 K	35.6 M 63.5 M	33 57	10 4
3 8192-2 Branch B 192.168.0.50-3007 v5.31.52.54	2017-07-20 15:15:01	5Day 20:05:51	15:15-15:15 in 41.0 K out 703 K	72.8 M 86.0 M	59 22	0 9
4						
5						
6						

8192-2 Branch B	2017-07-20 15:15:01
192.168.0.50-3007 v5.31.52.54	

If *local time* / *run time* fields are blank, the application is unable to connect to the IP-Meter. Check below the IP-Meter name to see which IP address/port the application is trying to reach the meter at (e.g. for IP-Meter 8192-2 above, it is 192.168.0.50 port 3007). If the address shown is not the same address that was assigned to the meter during installation, contact [Prilink support](#) for software update.

SIP Trunk Table

In order to compile SIP trunk analytics, an IP-Meter must know where to look for SIP signalling. The main purpose of the **SIP Trunk Table** is to tell the IP-Meter which IP addresses and port numbers are used for SIP signalling. The table is also used to assign names to SIP trunks, and to identify which IP addresses are Telco-side, so that the direction of SIP calls can be recorded correctly.

To view or edit the SIP Trunk Table, highlight an IP-Meter on the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *SIP Trunk*:

auto-detect ON OFF ● last update 30/04/2018 12:35:34 PM

sipTrk	Name	Threshold	SIP Server, Telco/Internal	IP Trunk A/B
0	sipT1	1 no_email	198.51.100.141 port 1024 int	trk 69 A disable
1	sipT1	1 no_email	203.0.113.63 port 5060 telco	trk 69 B enable
2				
3				
4				
5				

SIP trunks can be detected automatically by the IP-Meter or defined manually.

Auto-Detect

When SIP trunk auto-detection is turned on, the IP-Meter will scan all packets for SIP signalling. When a SIP packet is detected, the meter will check if the packet matches any current entries in the SIP Trunk Table. If there is no match, it will create new entries based on the SIP packet, and auto-detection will be turned off.



Auto-detection can be turned on again by hitting Enter and choosing menu option *Detect On*. Once all SIP Trunks have been detected, auto-detection should remain off to conserve IP-Meter resources.

Manual Edit

To edit an existing entry in the SIP Trunk Table, or to create a new entry, highlight a row, hit Enter and choose menu option *Edit*:

A screenshot of a configuration dialog box for a SIP trunk. The dialog has a dark background with white text and input fields. It contains the following fields and options: 'SIP Trunk (0-7)' with a value of '0'; 'Name' with the value 'sipT1'; 'Threshold (1 - 32,767)' with a value of '1' and an unchecked 'Email' checkbox; 'IP Address' with four input boxes containing '203', '0', '113', and '63'; 'Port 0 - 65535' with the value '5060'; a checked 'TelcoIP' checkbox and an unchecked 'disable' checkbox; 'IP Trunk (0-511)' with the value '69' and two radio buttons labeled 'A' and 'B', with 'B' selected. At the bottom are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

SIP Trunk: Number from 0–7 identifying this SIP trunk (up to 8 SIP trunks can be defined). Multiple entries can be combined by using the same SIP Trunk number (for example, if you want to group SIP traffic from multiple IP addresses)

Name: Any meaningful name for this SIP trunk.

Threshold: Number of active channels that must be reached in order to generate an alert (see [Alerts](#)).

IP address: IP address used for SIP signalling.

Port: TCP/UDP port number used by the above IP address for SIP signalling.

TelcoIP: Is the above IP address on the Telco side? This is used to categorize calls as inbound vs outbound.

disable: Check this field to ignore this entry.

IP Trunk: See [IP Trunk Table](#) below.

IP Trunk Table

An *IP trunk* is a pair of MAC addresses that have exchanged network traffic. The IP-Meter automatically detects and compiles network analytics on each unique IP trunk. To view all IP trunks detected (the **IP Trunk Table**), highlight an IP-Meter from the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *IP Trunk*.

CAN EST Demo 2 (8192_2)

IP trunk	MAC address	MAC address
0	(A) 00-53-02-FB-54-0B int	(B) 00-53-E0-5E-41-BF ext
1	(A) 00-53-05-02-1E-22 int	(B) 00-53-02-FB-54-0B ext
2	(A) 00-53-02-FB-54-0B int	(B) 00-53-27-9F-EE-DC ext
3	(A) 00-53-FF-FF-FF-FF int	(B) 00-53-17-24-E3-8F ext

IP trunks are numbered starting from 0. When an IP trunk is first detected, the IP-Meter will arbitrarily label the MAC addresses “A” and “B”, based on the source and destination of the first packet received. For example, in IP trunk #2 above, the “A” side is 00-53-02-FB-54-0B and the “B” side is 00-53-27-9F-EE-DC.

When defining a SIP trunk in the [SIP Trunk Table](#), in addition to specifying the IP address and port number used for SIP signalling, you must also specify the IP trunk used and the side of the IP trunk (A or B) where the specified IP address will be found.

SIP Group / Route Table

Once SIP trunks have been defined, the IP-Meter will automatically detect all internal and external SIP endpoints (phone numbers) and will compile network analytics on each individual phone number. A *SIP group* is a combination of phone numbers that you wish to monitor as a unit, such as a route, ACD queue, or other important business application.

The **SIP Group Table** allows up to 128 SIP groups to be defined. To view or edit the SIP Group Table, highlight an IP-Meter on the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *SIP Group*:

last update 21/08/2018 10:37:51 AM

Group #	Name	Threshold	Phone #
0	0 Front Desk	15 no_email	9558269048 int_num last_digit
1	0 Front Desk	15 no_email	9552116783 int_num last_digit
2	0 Front Desk	15 no_email	9553006965 int_num last_digit
3	1 Service	14 no_email	9557639022 int_num last_digit
4	1 Service	14 no_email	9552114473 int_num last_digit
5	1 Service	14 no_email	9552123480 int_num last_digit
6	2 Sales	14 no_email	9556778605 int_num last_digit
7	2 Sales	14 no_email	9553601818 int_num last_digit
8	2 Sales	14 no_email	9558950474 int_num last_digit
9	3 ACD 3	9 no_email	9552113788 int_num last_digit

Each SIP Group is defined by one or more entries in the SIP Group Table. For example, Group #0 above (“Front Desk”) is defined by three entries, combining three internal phone numbers.

To edit an existing entry, or to create a new entry, highlight a row, hit Enter and choose menu option *Edit*:

Group #: Number from 0–127 identifying this SIP group (up to 128 groups can be defined). Multiple entries can be combined by using the same Group #.

Name: Any meaningful name for this SIP group.

Threshold: Number of active channels that must be reached in order to generate an alert (see [Alerts](#)).

Phone Number: Phone number to match. The % character can be used as a wildcard to match any digit. If the **last digit** field is checked, then any phone number whose last digits are equal to the above number will be included in the group. Otherwise, an exact match is required to be included.

External #: Is this an external phone number?

SIP Group Example: Help Desk

Suppose our Help Desk includes 12 internal phone numbers:

123-456-7800	123-456-7803	123-456-7806	123-456-7809
123-456-7801	123-456-7804	123-456-7807	123-456-7900
123-456-7802	123-456-7805	123-456-7808	123-456-7901

Suppose further that for outbound calls, the phone numbers appear prefixed by 1 (eg. 1-123-456-7800). By checking **last digit** in each group entry, we can ensure that both outbound and inbound calls are matched. The complete group definition would require only 3 entries:

Group #	Name	Threshold	Phone #
0	24 Helpdesk	50 no_email	12345678% int_num last_digit
1	24 Helpdesk	50 no_email	1234567900 int_num last_digit
2	24 Helpdesk	50 no_email	1234567901 int_num last_digit

Alert Notifications

In both the [SIP Trunk Table](#) and [SIP Group Table](#), each SIP trunk or group can be assigned a channel *threshold*. If the number of active calls belonging to the trunk / group ever reaches the assigned threshold, then an alert is generated. The SIP trunk / group definition dialog includes an **email** checkbox that should be checked if you wish to receive notifications by email for threshold alerts. A maximum of 3 alerts per 15 minutes will be generated for each SIP trunk or group.

In order for Email notification to function, the PrilinkNM application must be able to connect to an outgoing SMTP mail server. To configure mail server settings, hit Enter from the main screen and choose menu option *Email*:

Email Recipients: administrator@test.com

SMTP Server: smtp.test.com Authentication: None LOGIN PLAIN

Username: prilink1@test.com Password: *****

Email Sender: prilink1@test.com

Buttons: Test, Log, Save, Close

00.	2019-03-21 16:16:20	OK, 250 2.1.0 <prilink1@test.com> sender ok, 250 2.0.0 746thKumjKcnS746whkxEt Message accepted for delivery, SMTP connection closed,
01.		
02.		
03.		
04.		
05.		
06.		
07.		

Use the *Test* button to send a test message, and consult the *Log* to see the response from your mail server. Hit *Save* to store mail server settings permanently, or hit *Close* to return to previous settings.

Firmware Updates

The firmware version running on an IP-Meter can be viewed at any time from the main screen:

```
IP Meter                                local time                                run time
0      8194-1 Contact Centre              2017-07-20 22:15:00                       12Day 23hr
      192.168.0.6-301$ v5.30.52.54
```

The version string is composed of “Server” version followed by “Site” version. For example, v5.30.52.24 indicates Server version 5.30 and Site version 52.24.

Firmware updates are completed using the PrilinkNM application as follows:

1. Extract firmware files into C:\ip directory.
2. Highlight IP-Meter on the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Server Reboot/Shutdown/Update*. Then choose sub-option *Firmware Update*.
3. Wait approximately 2 minutes while the IP-Meter reboots. Once the application reconnects to the IP-Meter, confirm that Server version has updated (first half of version string).
4. Highlight IP-Meter on the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Site Reboot/Shutdown/Update*. Then choose sub-option *Firmware Update*.
5. Wait approximately 2 minutes while the IP-Meter reboots. Once the application reconnects to the IP-Meter, confirm that Site version has updated (second half of version string).

Firmware update is complete.

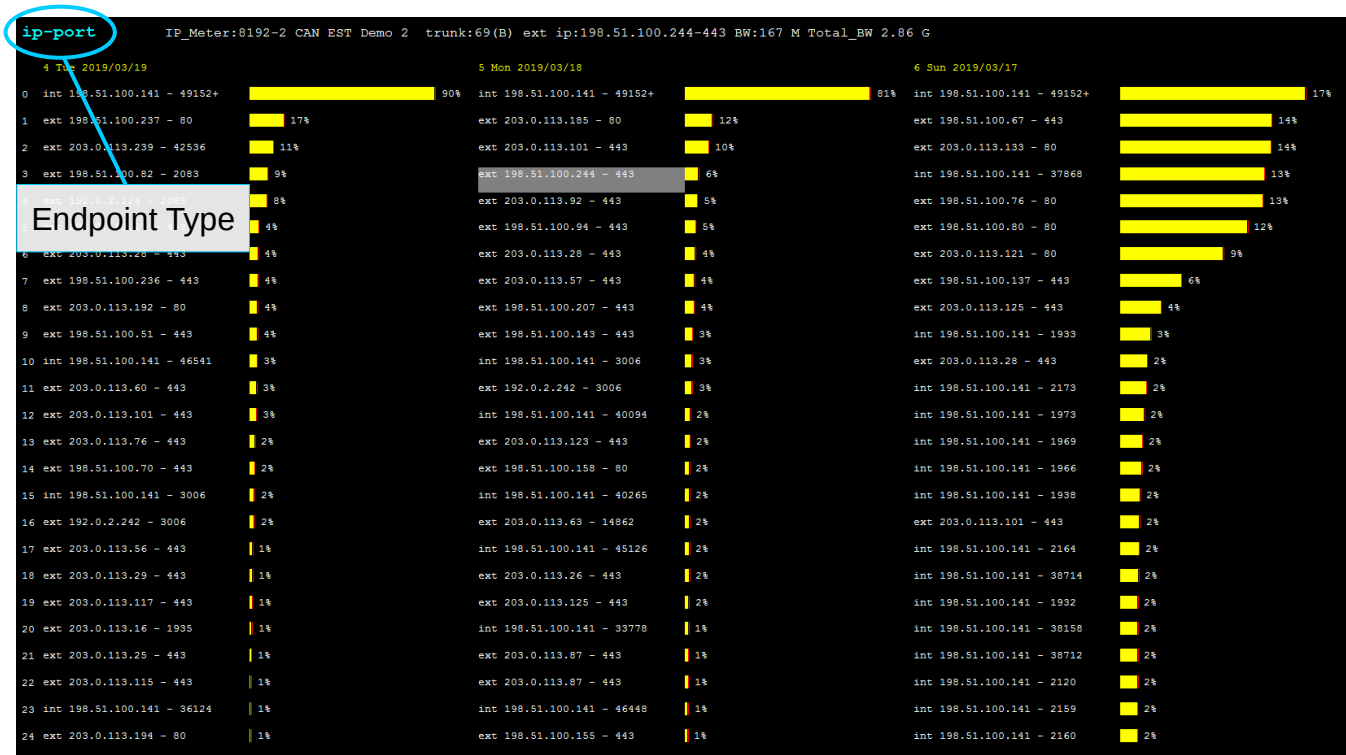
Exploring Network Endpoint Analytics

The IP-Meter automatically scans several types of network endpoints at the Link, Internet, Transport and Application layers, and compiles network analytics for each endpoint. There are 6 endpoint types:

SIP Number	SIP Phone Number
SIP Trunk	SIP Trunk as defined in the SIP Trunk Table
IP – Port	Combination of IP address and transport layer port number
IP	IP address
EtherType	EtherType number indicating protocol (IPv4, IPv6, ARP, etc...)
IP Trunk	Pair of MAC Addresses that have exchanged network traffic (see IP Trunk Table)

Active Endpoint

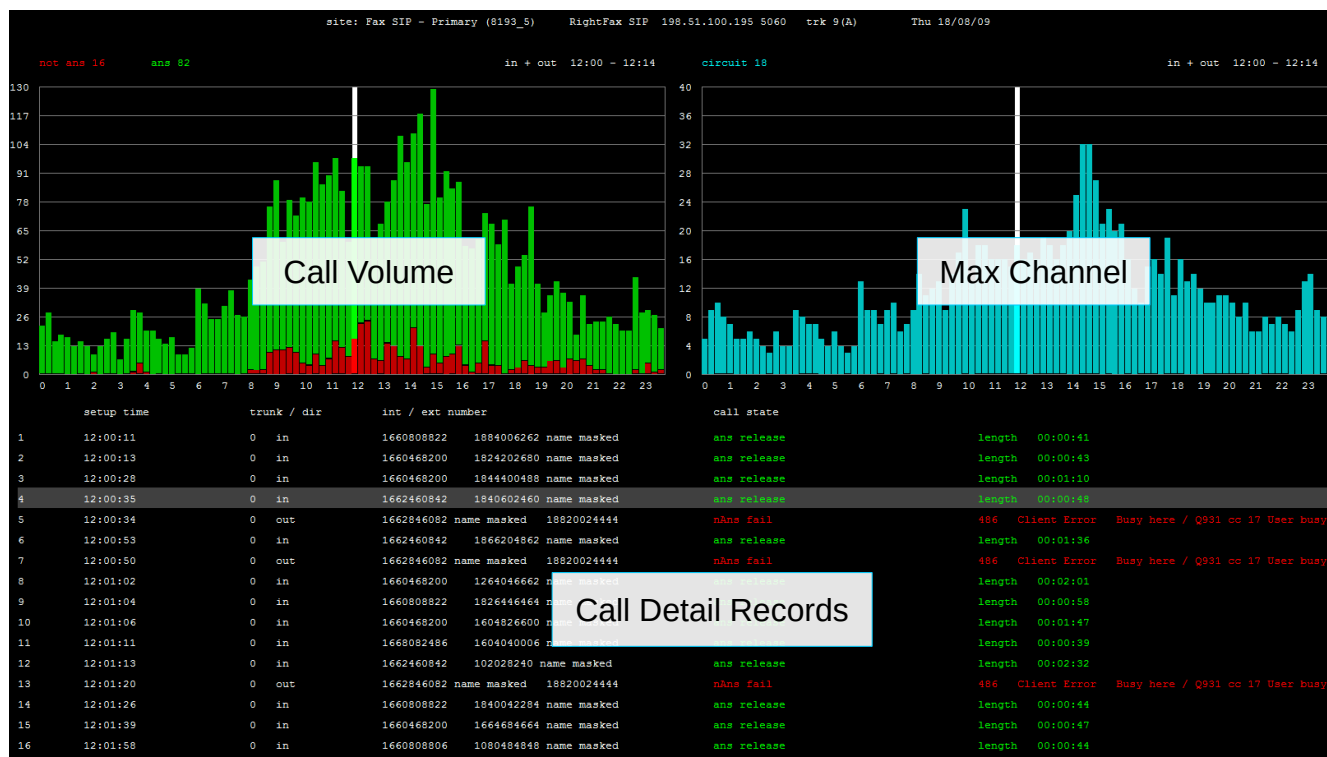
The IP-Meter continuously monitors and sorts the most active endpoints of each type. To browse the top endpoints over the last 500 days, highlight an IP-Meter from the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Active Endpoint*:



Each column lists the top 50 most active endpoints for a single day, starting from the current day, up to the last 500 days. Use the Left / Right arrow keys to move forward / backward in time, or hit Enter and choose menu option *Select Date*. Use the Up / Down arrow keys (or PageUp / PageDown) to access the full 50 endpoints or to move to a different endpoint type. The current day list is updated every 15 minutes.

Daily View

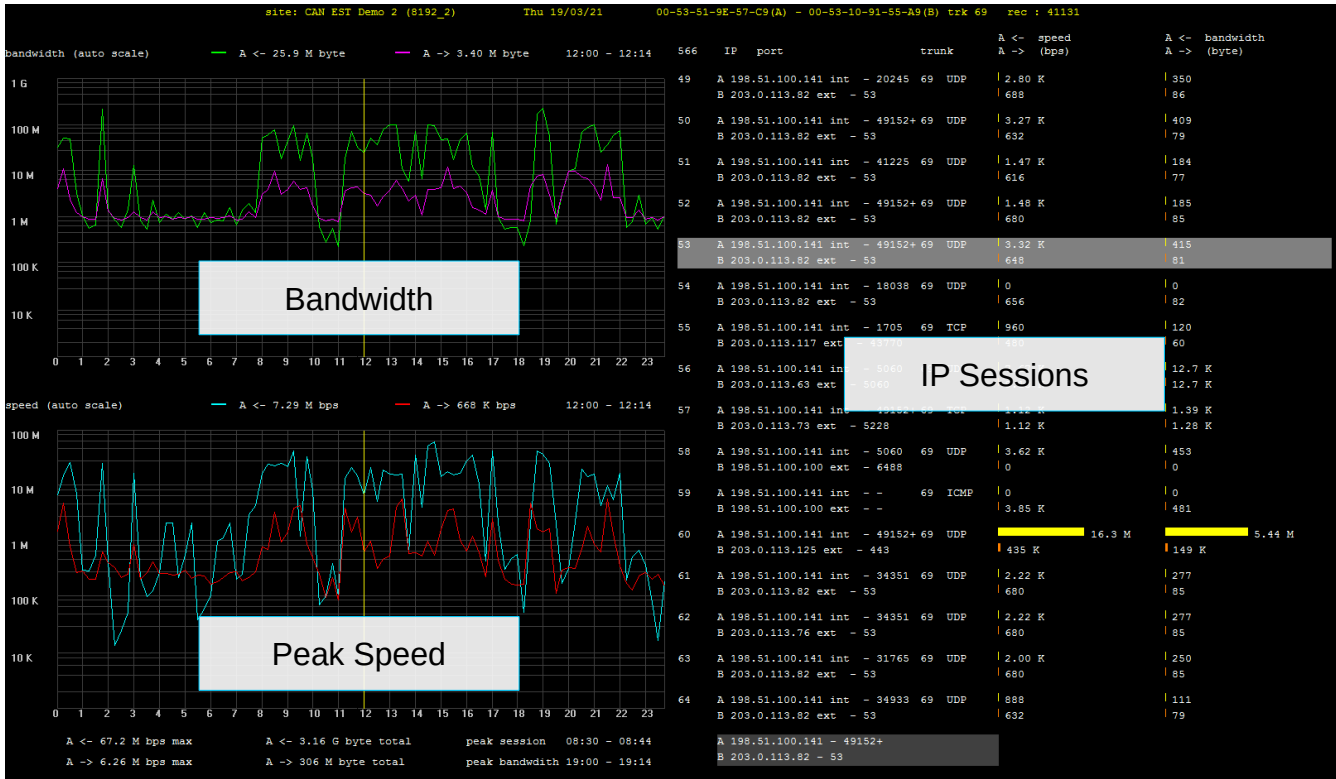
To drill down on a single endpoint and view detailed analytics over a 24 hour period, highlight an endpoint in the Active Endpoint screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Day*:



The format of the daily view depends on endpoint type. The example above is for SIP trunk endpoints. For all endpoint types, use the Left / Right arrow keys to highlight a different 15-minute interval of the day, hit Enter to access a menu of further options, and hit Esc to return to the Active Endpoint screen.

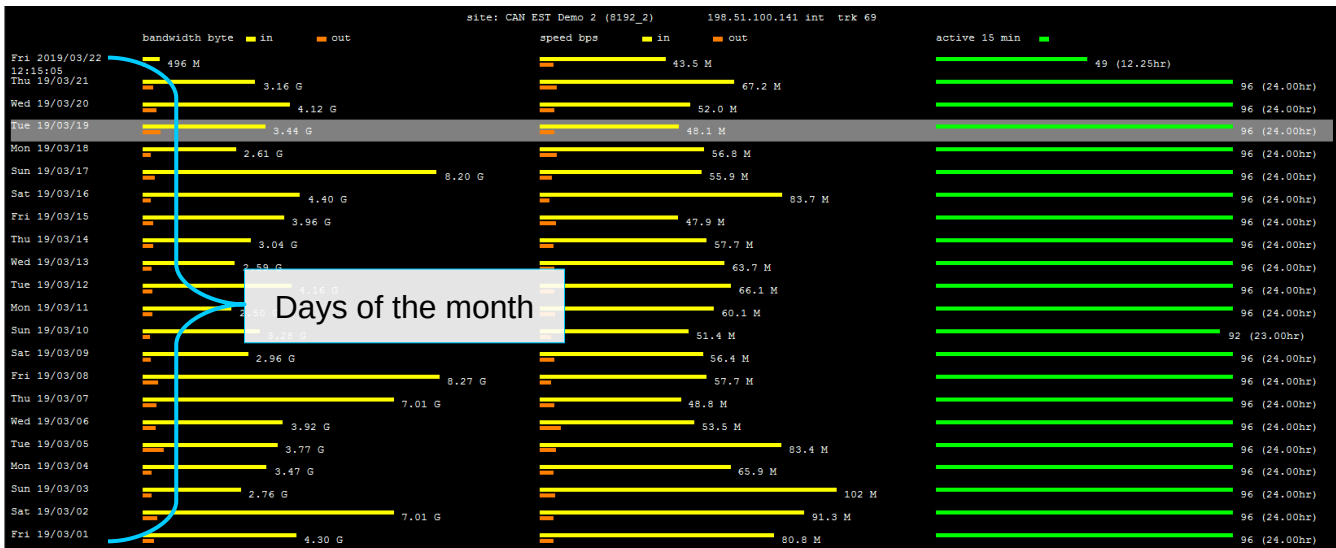
All endpoint types have a menu option *Select Date* to move to a new day without returning to the Active Endpoint screen.

The example below illustrates the format of the daily view for IP endpoints (IP – Port, IP, and IP Trunk). EtherType endpoints do not have a daily view.



Monthly View

To view analytics for a network endpoint over a month period, highlight an endpoint in the Active Endpoint screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Month*:



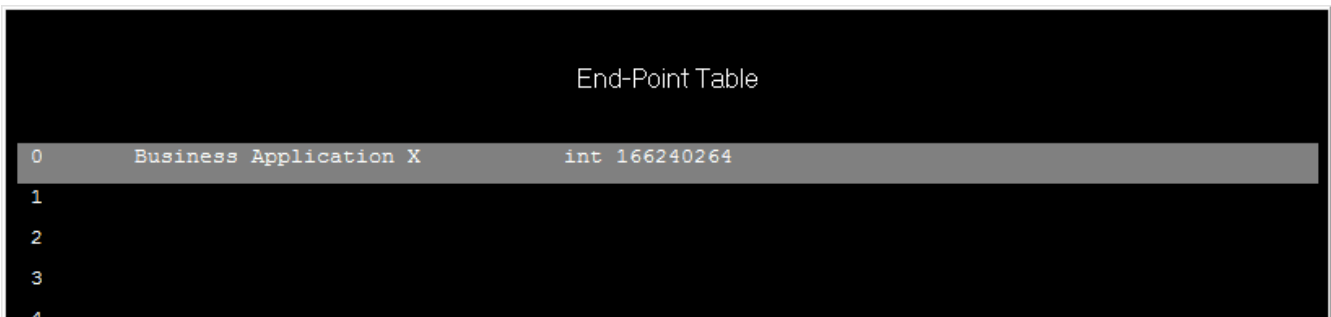
The columns appearing in Monthly View depend on endpoint type. The example above is for IP endpoints. For all endpoint types, use the Up / Down arrow keys to highlight a different day of the month, hit Enter to access a menu of further options, and hit Esc to return to the Active Endpoint screen.

All endpoint types have a menu option *Day* to enter Daily View for the highlighted day, and a menu option *Select Month* to move to any month in the last 16 months.

Search Endpoint

Search Endpoint allows you to quickly access analytics for an endpoint without scanning through the Active Endpoint screen. Furthermore, some endpoints may not appear in the Active Endpoint screen because they do not have enough traffic to fall in the top 50 on any day. Such endpoints are only accessible through the Search Endpoint feature.

Highlight an IP-Meter from the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Search Endpoint*:



The screenshot shows a terminal-style interface titled "End-Point Table". It contains a table with the following data:

	Application	Endpoint
0	Business Application X	int 166240264
1		
2		
3		
4		

The **Endpoint Table** is a place to store endpoints for quick access and to assign meaningful names. To add an endpoint, highlight the first empty row, hit Enter and choose a type (IP, IP – Port, IP – IP, or SIP Number). In the above example, a single SIP Number endpoint has been added called “Business Application X”.

To access analytics for an endpoint, highlight the endpoint in the Endpoint Table, hit Enter and choose menu option *Traffic*.

Add to Endpoint Table from Active Endpoint Screen

In addition to manually editing the Endpoint table, you can add endpoints directly from the Active Endpoint screen:

Type	Number	Status	Percentage
int	166240264	100%	100%
ext	12660882424	25%	25%
ext	1884448800	25%	25%
ext	12886280482	13%	13%
ext	18400826040	13%	13%
ext	1404482066	13%	13%
ext	14884448800	13%	13%

1. Highlight an endpoint, hit Enter and choose menu option *Add to Endpoint Table*.

Name

Business Application X

OK Cancel

2. Enter a meaningful name for the endpoint.

Type	Number	Status	Percentage
int	Business Application X	100%	100%
ext	12660882424	25%	25%
ext	1884448800	25%	25%
ext	12886280482	13%	13%
ext	18400826040	13%	13%
ext	1404482066	13%	13%
ext	14884448800	13%	13%

3. Endpoint name is updated in the Active Endpoint screen, and any other screen where the endpoint is referenced.

SIP Group / Route Analytics

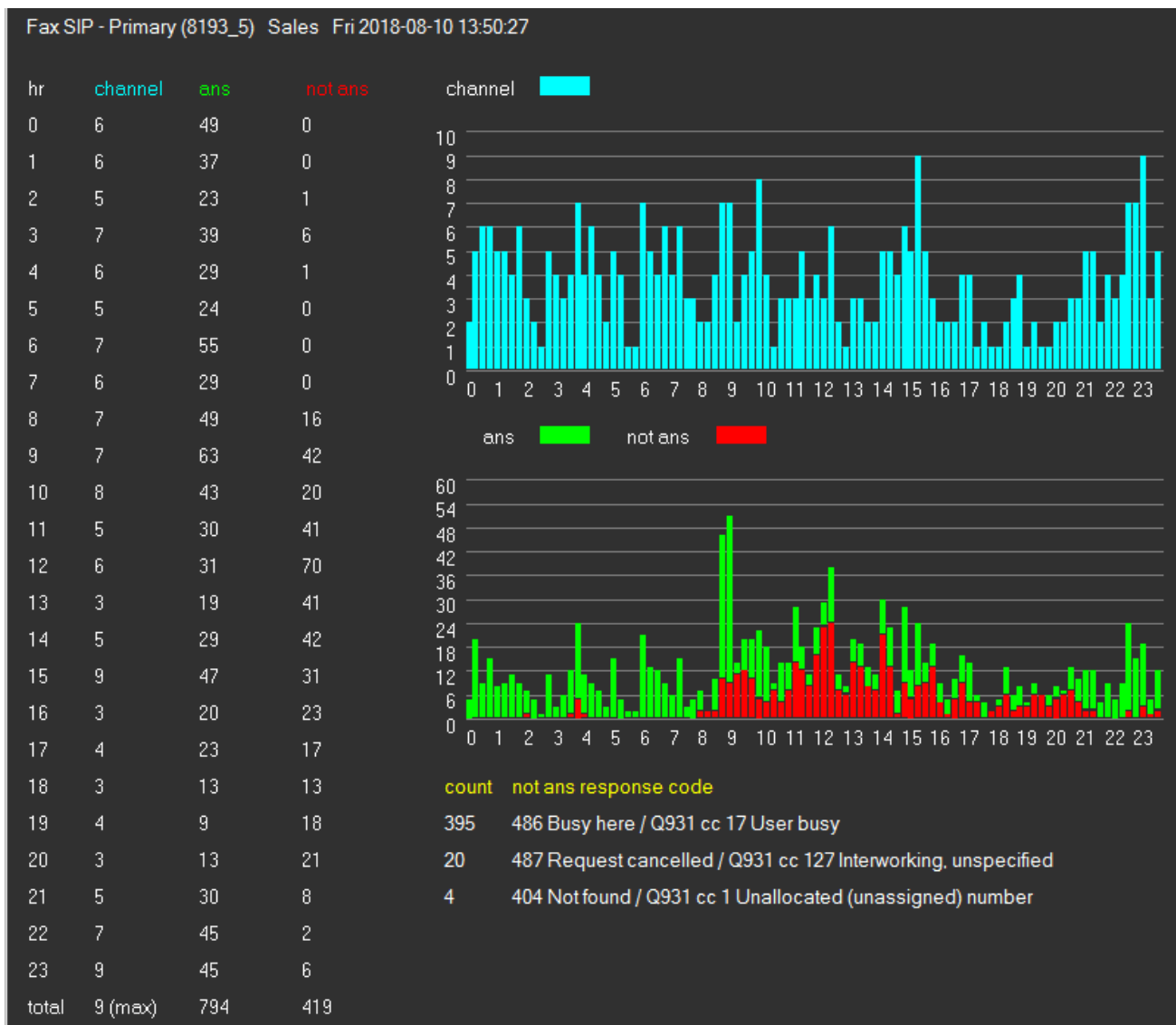
The IP-Meter will automatically compile analytics for each SIP Number endpoint. In addition, the user can define *SIP groups* to track combinations of phone numbers, such as a routes, ACD queues, or other important business applications (see [SIP Group Table](#) for details).

To view analytics for a SIP Group, highlight then IP-Meter on the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *SIP Group*. Then highlight the SIP group you wish to analyze, hit Enter and choose menu option *Analytics*. The [Monthly View](#) and [Daily View](#) for SIP Groups share the same format as SIP trunks.

SIP Group / Route Daily Summary

The Daily View for SIP groups has one additional feature that allows you to view multiple days or multiple groups simultaneously.

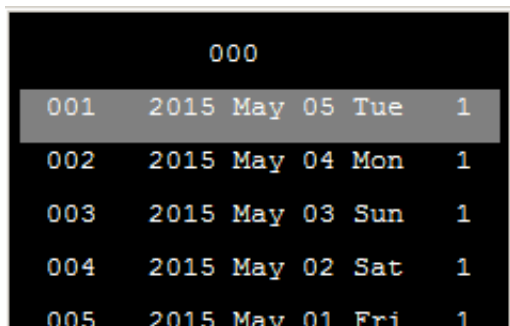
While in Daily View, hit Enter and choose menu option *Summary*. This will pop out a new window which will remain visible if you exit Daily View to select another group or another day.



Multiple SIP group summary windows can be open and arranged on your screen, effectively creating a custom dashboard. Summaries that show the current date will update every 15 minutes. To close a summary, select the window and hit *Esc* key.

Generating Reports

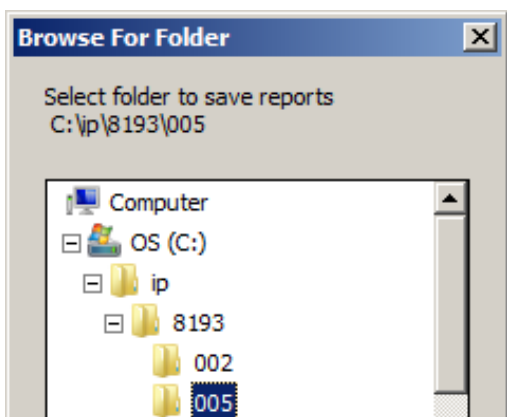
All data for each site can be exported in CSV format, and summary reports can be generated in PDF format. Highlight an IP-Meter from the main screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Report*:



Select which date to export.

A 1 appears beside each date that has data available.

A 0 indicates that no data is available for that date.



Browse for a folder to save report files.

Once you hit OK and the report process completes, Windows explorer will open to display the files in the folder that you selected.

Up to 7 report files created. Each file name is prefixed by date and IP-Meter number. The format of the date prefix is YYMMDD.

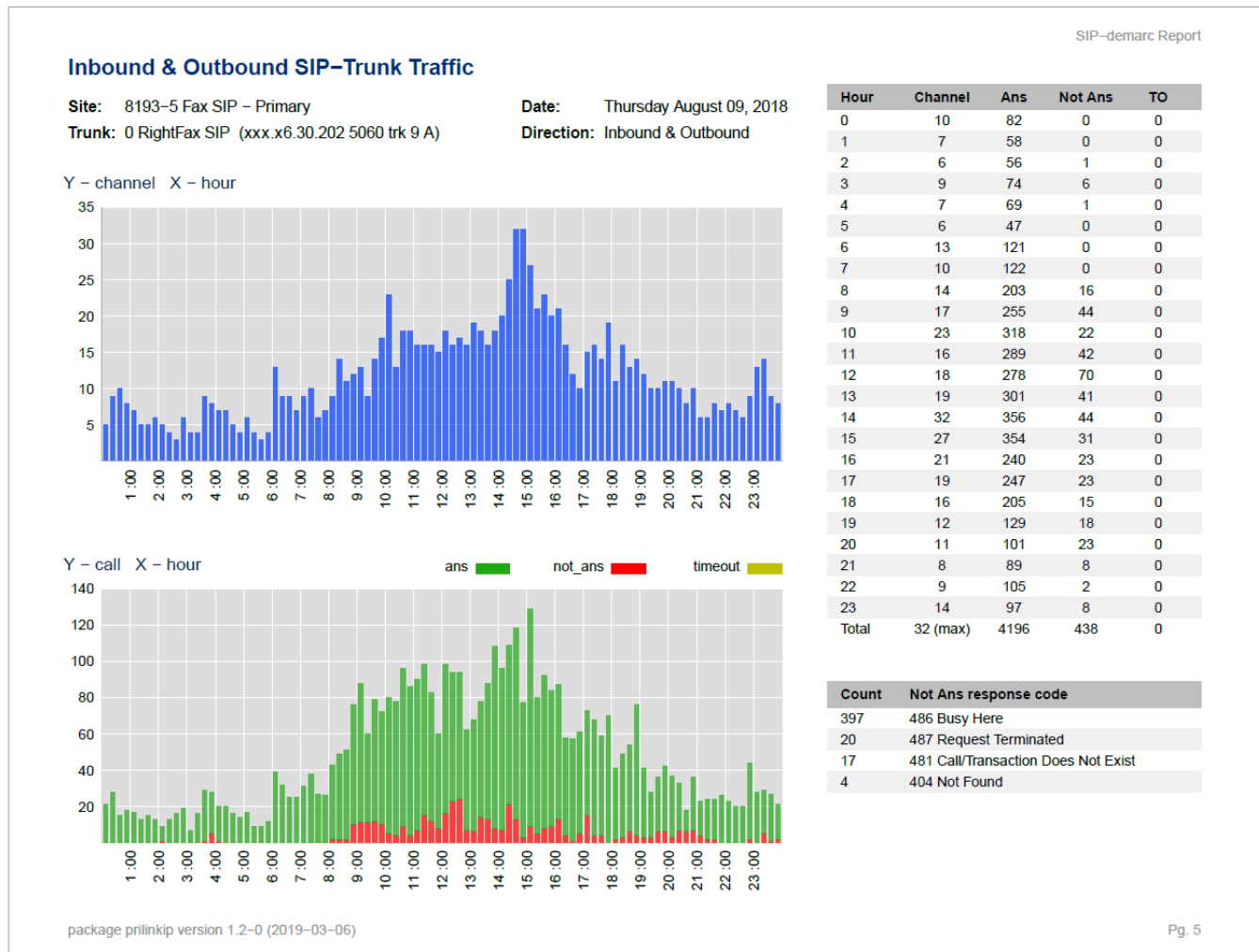
e.g. “170225-8190-3 sip-report.pdf” for February 25th 2017, IP-Meter number 8190-3.

The files created are summarized below:

sip-cdr.csv	Call Detail Records for each sip call, including MOS information.
sip-trunk-records.csv	15-minute traffic statistics for each SIP trunk .
sip-group-records.csv	15-minute traffic statistics for each SIP group / route .
ip-cdr.csv	Connection Detail Records for each IP session.
ip-trunk-records.csv	15-minute traffic statistics for each IP Trunk .
sip-report.pdf	SIP summary PDF report.
ip-report.pdf	IP summary PDF report.

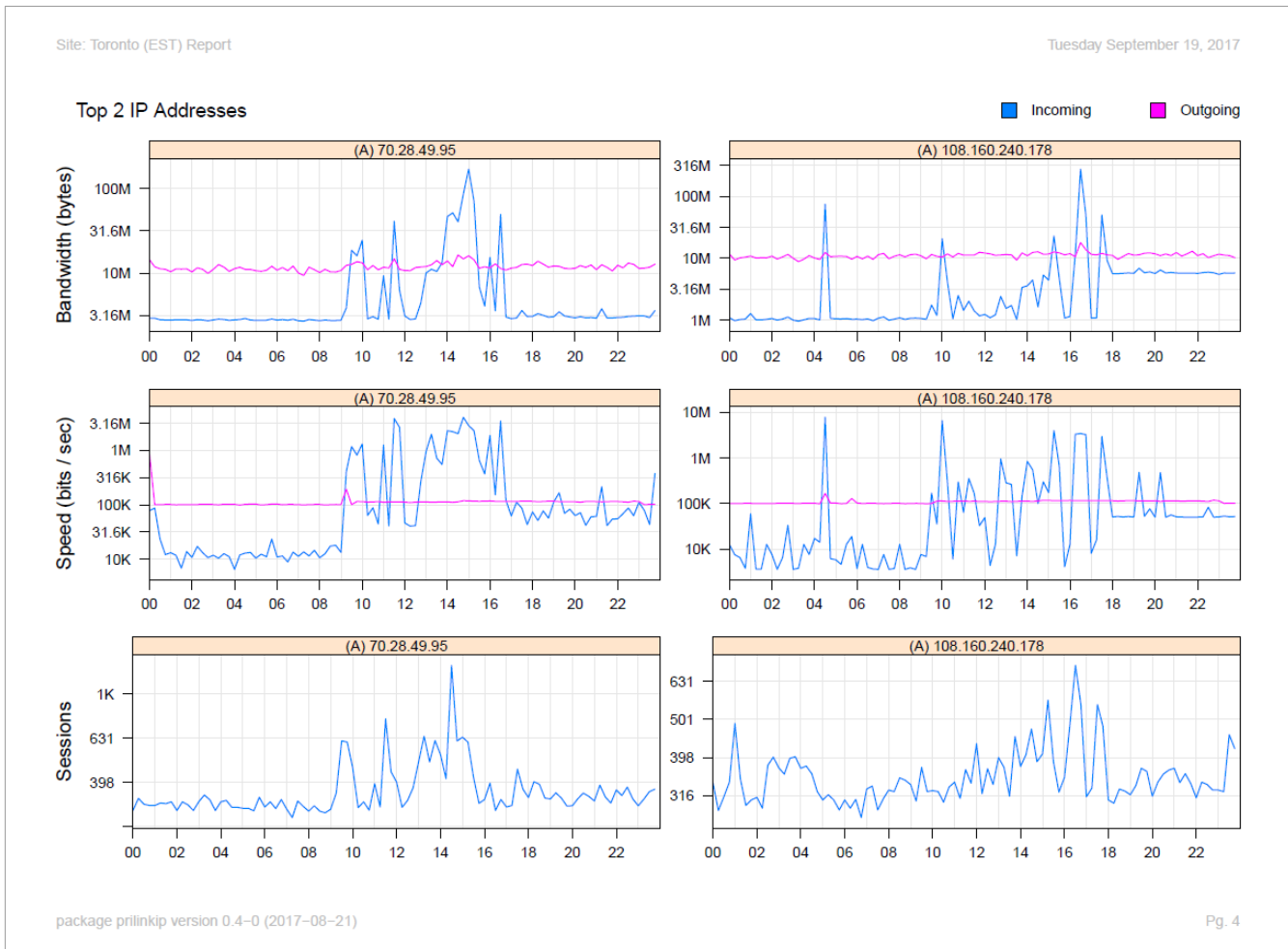
The SIP summary PDF report includes inbound / outbound summary, SIP trunk traffic summary and SIP group traffic summary.

Below is a sample page showing 15-minute call volume and call blockage summary for SIP trunk #0:



The IP summary PDF report tabulates the top 30 IP endpoints (IP – Port, IP, & IP trunk), and includes charts for the top 2 endpoints in each category.

Below is a sample page showing 15-min bandwidth and speed for the top 2 IP address endpoints:



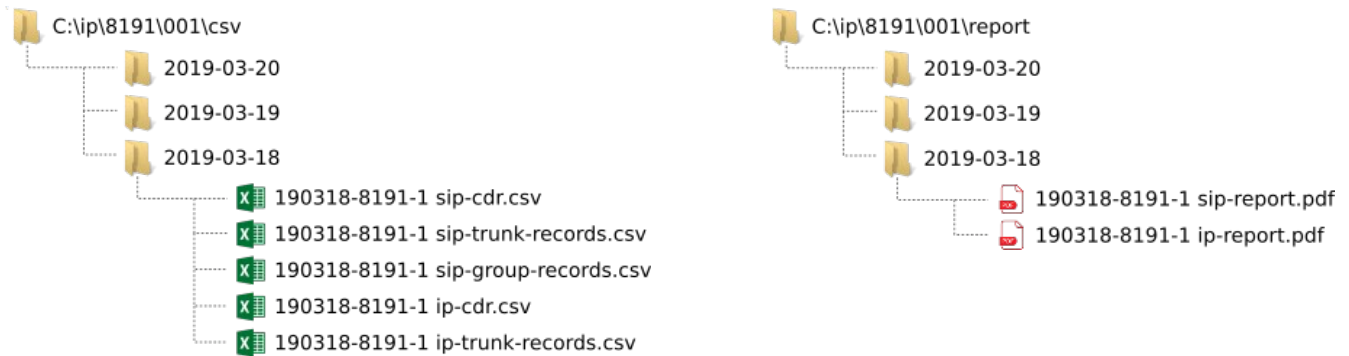
Automatic Daily Reports

If the PrilinkNM application is running and connected to an IP-Meter, it will automatically generate all 7 report files at the end of each day, as well as every 15 minutes for the current day. The files are deposited in the IP-Meter site directory.

Site Directory

Data for each IP-Meter is stored locally on your PC / Server in the directory `C:\ip\xxxx\00y`, where `xxxx-y` is the IP-Meter site number. E.g., the site directory for IP-Meter 8191-1 is `C:\ip\8191\001`. A complete backup of site data can be achieved simply by backup up this directory.

Within the site directory, daily report files are deposited in the `csv` and `report` sub-directories as shown below:

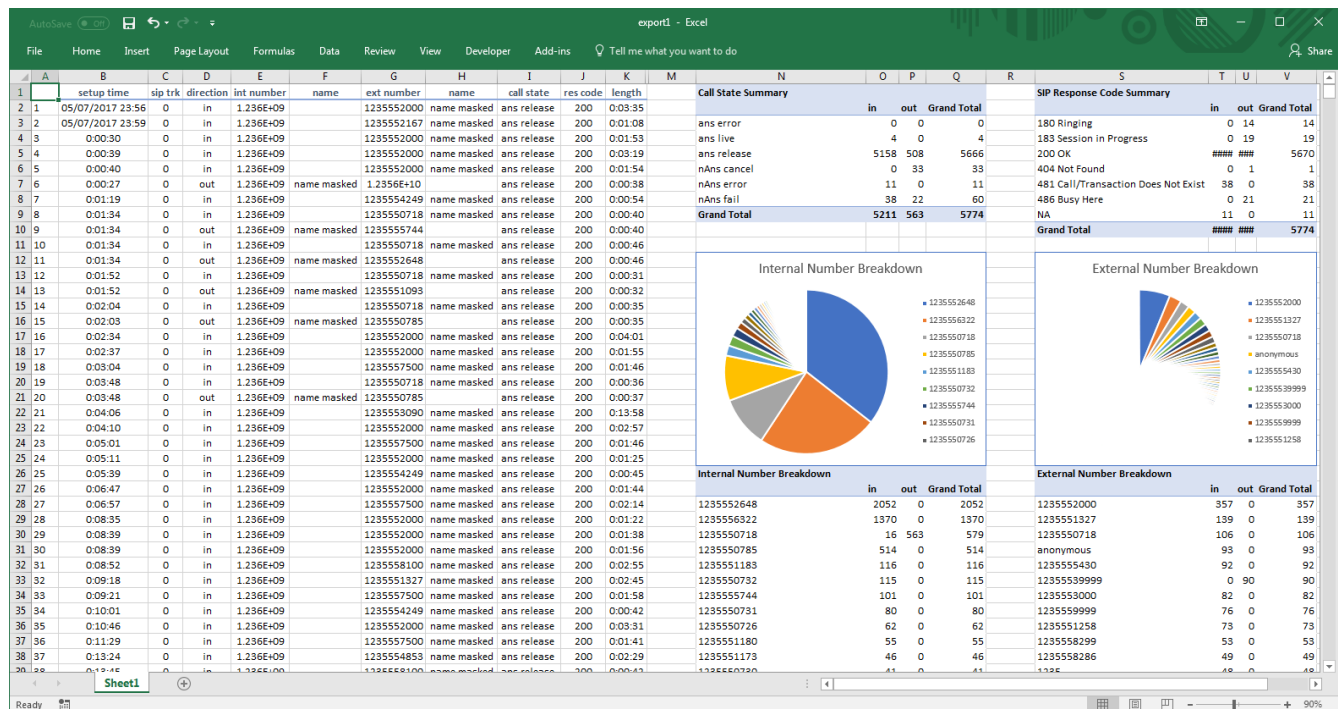


Export data to Microsoft Excel

Many screens in the PrilinkNM application include the menu option *Export*. This option exports screen data into a CSV file, which is then normally opened using the default application for CSV files on your system.

However, before opening the CSV file, the application first searches for an MS Excel template under `C:\ip\export.xltm`, and attempts to run this template if it exists. If you wish to make use of this template, simply download `export.xltm` from <http://prilink.com/downloads/> and save the file under your `C:\ip` directory. The use of macros must be permitted for the template to function.

Below is an example from created from SIP trunk [Daily View](#) by choosing menu option *Export CDR*.

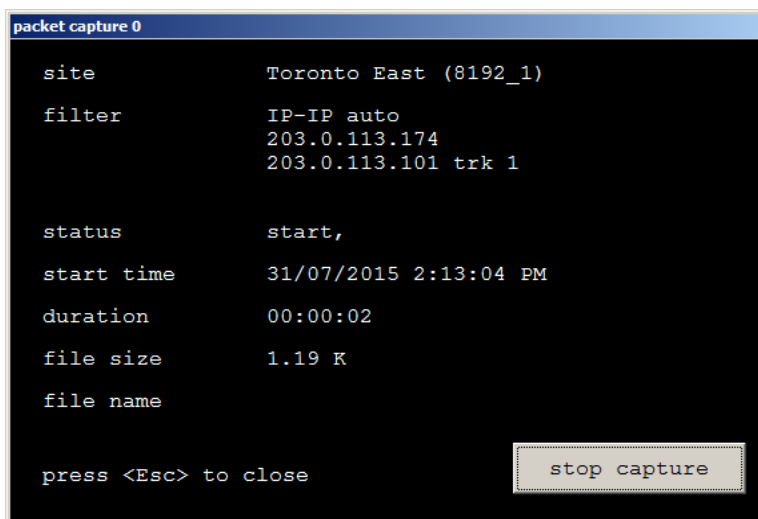


Troubleshooting with Deep Packet Inspection

Analyzing raw network packets is sometimes necessary to troubleshoot problems and gain insight into application operation. All of the network endpoints that are automatically scanned by Prilink can be used as filters for packet capture, alleviating the need to use complex filter syntax. Capture files are saved to the user's PC in Wireshark-compatible format for further investigation.

There are three ways to initiate packet capture for a particular network endpoint:

- Highlight an endpoint in the [Active Endpoint](#) screen, hit Enter and choose menu option *Capture Packet*.
- Highlight an endpoint in the [Endpoint Table](#), hit Enter and choose menu option *Capture Packet*.
- Highlight a SIP trunk in the [SIP Trunk Table](#), hit Enter and choose menu option *Capture SIP trunk message* or *Capture SIP number message*. The latter option filters SIP traffic by a specific phone number, useful for testing purposes. Both option capture both SIP signalling and RTP streams for further analysis.



A Packet Capture window will open.

The *Filter* field indicates the network endpoint used to filter packets.

The *Duration* and *File size* fields are incremented as the capture progresses and more packets are added to the capture file. Capture will continue until a maximum file size is reached or until the user clicks the *Stop Capture* button.

Once complete, the *Status* field will reach “end” and the *File name* field will update to indicate the full path where the capture file is stored. Two files are created in the process:

{site number}_{YYMMDD}_{HHMMSS}.pcap	Raw capture file.
{site number}_{YYMMDD}_{HHMMSS}.txt	Text file containing all metadata from the Packet Capture window (filter, start time, duration, etc).

It is possible to initiate packet capture on multiple sites simultaneously; a separate Packet Capture

window will open for each site.

Open Capture File in Wireshark

Once a packet capture is completed, the *stop capture* button will be renamed to *Open File*. Clicking the *Open File* button will attempt to use the default application for opening .pcap files on your system. If you have installed the Wireshark application, the installation process will normally associate .pcap files with Wireshark, so that clicking *Open File* will trigger Wireshark.

