



NetSoft Inc. Overview

ASTRO FLOW GUARD

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1.000

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The complexity of modern multi-protocol networks with hundreds or thousands of hosts, coupled with the significant cost of bandwidth demands a solution that will allow an organisation to effectively manage bandwidth and control usage. AstroFlowGuard is a downloadable software solution or an appliance that is installed on your network and enables your network administrators to keep business critical traffic moving at an appropriate pace through bandwidth bottlenecks and prevents any single type of traffic from monopolising network links. Monitoring features also provide administrators with valuable intelligence to control their application performance and maximise existing network resources so business performance is enhanced.

The solution incorporates a Firewall, Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and a Virtual Private Network server (VPN) and is therefore adequate as a robust security service in addition to its bandwidth management capabilities.

MAIN SOLUTION FEATURES

Full feature bandwidth management tool: Each network protocol (including P2P applications), IP or Subnet can be assigned to a particular 'sub-class' within the device and allocated a certain guaranteed quantity of bandwidth with a burst capability. An auto-configure mode is also available which 'discovers' protocols being used on the network and allows these to be allocated to classes accordingly.

Web based user interface: permits clients to view all network usage and bandwidth consumption information and alter policy rules. Extensive graphing and reporting features are provided showing bandwidth use per protocol and per host.

Enterprise security features: A complete stateful inspection (dynamic packet filtering) firewall is included with the product. The firewall tracks each connection traversing all interfaces of the firewall and makes sure they are valid – this ensures complete protection for your network from the outside. The firewall also incorporates an easy to use wizard to allow for quick deployment and installation.

Intrusion Detection System (IDS): AstroFlowGuard incorporates a completely customisable IDS utility with daily, weekly, monthly e-mail reports and IDS notifications.

Virtual Private Network (VPN) server: AstroFlowGuard also incorporates a VPN server to allow authorised users to access your internal network from an external source via an encrypted tunnel. This allows for easy access to office services and resources from any external network without the risk of compromising the security of your network.

BENEFITS TO THE CUSTOMER

Manage bandwidth resources effectively: A bandwidth manager can provide significant improvement in bandwidth utilisation, and in effect, can yield increased productivity with less bandwidth, i.e. get more out of your existing bandwidth without having to purchase more.

Control your customers' or staff's usage: If you are an ISP or a corporation needing to allocate and even charge for bandwidth across departments, AstroFlowGuard allows you to control your customer's usage so that you can manage your critical backbone bandwidth. The solution allows you to control traffic by IP address, port or by traffic type, which allows specific services (such as HTTP, SMTP, FTP) to be either "guaranteed bandwidth" or be "bandwidth limited" to any rate up to the full bandwidth available.

Enforce and Verify Service Level Agreements: You may have service level requirements that cannot be met randomly; in this case AstroFlowGuard allows you to allocate bandwidth to a particular class of data and guarantee that other, non-critical traffic types don't use more bandwidth than you want them to.

Security services: AstroFlowGuard incorporates some of the most powerful firewalling technology available and in addition, includes an Intrusion Detection System that can alert you to unauthorised actions on the network (hacks) and provide detailed post-event logs for analysis.

Monitor network activity and log events: The system monitors allows you to view real-time network activity via a Web interface, which provides a logical and intuitive view of your network classes and their associated priorities.

TECHNOLOGIES

Operating System:	Custom Linux Distribution
Interface:	Web-Based Interface
Interface programming language:	html / php
Web Server:	Apache / php 4.2.3
Database Server:	PostgreSQL v 7.3.3
Bandwidth Management Technology:	Hierarchical Token Bucket Filtering
Software Updates:	Online Auto-Update via various NetSoft Update servers

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

PIII 1Gig or better
512MB or more RAM
5Gig or better HDD
2 Network Cards, the following are supported
Realtek 8139 A,B or C
Intel Ether Express 100 (Recommended)
3Com 3C905X (There have been reports of incompatibility issues with 3Com NICS)

LICENSING

AstroFlowGuard is licensed on a "per server" basis.
Licences are issued with respect to the amount of bandwidth to be managed with the following options available:

- 1 Megabit
- 2 Megabit
- 5 Megabit
- 10 Megabit
- 20 Megabit

For bandwidth up to 100Mb, you will need to use an AstroFlowGuard Appliance.

Additional modules:

- Firewall
- IDS – Intrusion Detection System
- VPN – Virtual Private Network server

Contacting NetSoft Inc.

For help with the installation or operation of this product, contact NetSoft Technical Support at one of the phone numbers or Internet addresses below.



Telephone:

To receive telephone support please contact us on:

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Online Support:

We offer online support during business hours. Log on to our website www.netsoft.com and click on the Online Support box in the right hand corner.



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