FNGi *focus*

INSTRUMENTAL IN DEVELOPING AND SUPPORTING INTERNET NETWORKS ACROSS THE U.S SINCE 1993
CALL CENTER/TECH SUPPORT ● IT SERVICES ● DHCPATRIOT

DHCPatriot Version 5

Easily integrated into existing networks, the DHCPatriot provides powerful features with relatively few changes required to your existing equipment. The Patriot provides visualization into not only address utilization on the network, but also a complete record of address assignment to customers both in the past and in real time.

More people than ever are using the Internet on a daily basis. This brings a level of responsibility to ISPs that did not previously exist. From locating abusers to answering subpoenas and maintaining CALEA compliance, it's imperative to maintain and track the user's identity, IP address and session information. The DHCPatriot is designed to be a secure, cost effective and easy to use flexible platform for management of broadband subscribers, as well as general purpose DHCP.

FNGi has spent 2010 making major changes, and re-writing many areas of the DHCPatriot software for version 5. The Web Administration Interface has been changed to make configuration and reporting easier to access and use. The back-end software has been re-engineered to be far more efficient and more resilient in the face of run-away clients. The Web Administration Interface on the DHCPatriot system has been mostly re-written. The menus have been re-worked, reports have been streamlined for easier use and the configuration process, particularly for Authenticated DHCP, as well as general setup tasks, has been made easier.

The backend software of the DHCPatriot system has been re-thought as well. It has moved to an event based system versus poll based. The end effect of this is that resources are consumed only during use, and the rapidity of response is much improved.

"We at FNGi are excited about the upcoming release of version 5 of the DHCPatriot™ software," FNGi VP of Product Development, Darren Ankney remarked. "Built on a rock solid updated Linux® platform, the system will continue to be very stable and resilient."

For more information visit https://www.dhcpatriot.com and view our product slideshow.

Are you Ready for IPv6?

The IP addresses that we have come to know are about to run out. IP version 4 (IPv4) has around 4 billion addresses, thought to be plenty when originally deployed in 1981. With the rapid expansion of the internet starting in the 1990s, the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) started to research design a suitable replacement for what was then simply known as the "Internet Protocol" (IP). They (quite accurately) predicted that we would run out of IPv4 addresses sometime between 2010 and 2017. The result was IP version 6 (IPv6), which was completed, tested and available for production starting in 1999. IPv6 has 340,282,366,920,938,463,463,374,607,431,768,211,456 addresses.

The global pool of available IPv4 addresses has been depleted. The last remaining blocks were allocated to the 5 regional internet registries in February 2011. These regional Internet registries will still have some available IPv4 addresses to allocate to ISPs, but they will likely all be gone by the end of the 2011. IPv6 is an absolute requirement if ISPs wish to continue expanding and offering new services.

IPv6 is managed in a very similar fashion as IPv4, but requires hardware and software support. All current popular operating systems support IPv6 already, as do most ISP core networking gear made within the last several years. The challenging part is making sure that customer delivery gear like DSLAMs and Cable Modem systems fully support IPv6, as well as ensuring that customer equipment like modems or firewalls properly support the new standard.

First Network Group can help you assess your readiness, and plan for deploying IPv6. We will assist in getting an IPv6 address allocation for you, and help you design and configure the needed hardware and software to get IPv6 connectivity to your customers.

Please contact Randy Carpenter at 1-800-578-6381, Option 2 for more information.

http://www.network1.net

Viruses, malware, spyware and other programs are being spread around the internet at alarming rates. These programs are less likely to impede your system's performance and more likely to lay dormant or silently gather information from your computer usage.

To keep your Windows-based computer protected, First Network Group recommends the use of Microsoft Security Essentials and Malwarebytes.

Microsoft Security Essentials offers a real-time scanning engine and can be setup to do full scans on schedule. It is available for download at http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials/.

Malwarebytes offers a free version that works just as well as the paid version, but it doesn't do anything automatically. It's a nice supplement to keeping your system clean and we recommend you manually run a scan with it at least once a month. It is available for download at http://www.malwarebytes.org/.

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First Network Group, Inc. is located in historic downtown Wapakoneta, Ohio. FNGi has been instrumental in developing and supporting Internet Networks across the U.S. since 1993. The FNGi team can assist you with all phases of your internet Network from initial planning through long-term support.

24/7 Support for the Digital Communications Lifestyle

The explosive-growth and amazing potential of the internet and all that it offers has pushed consumers to reach for new devices to leverage this power. This is a never-ending and exciting challenge for us in the IT/Technical Support field.

We've progressed from days of SLIP connections and PPP scripting, to instant always on connections via the small phones in our pocket. Each step of the way, the technical support staff here at First Network Group have done our best to integrate and support these systems.

Our 24/7 support can now cover the complete digital communication lifestyle. From your customer's computer access, to their IPTV set-top box, to their cell phone

It goes without saying that a lot of things are different now. During my 14 years in this industry, I have seen the way open and free communication can touch people's lives, grow companies and break down borders of states and ideals.

To keep pace with demand, the networks have changed. The protocols have been adjusted. Technological boundaries, many thought insurmountable, have been passed twice over.

and beyond, you can count on us every step of the way. We have not only built a team of dedicated individuals, but a system that allows us to integrate knew technology faster than ever before.

Our average ramp up time has dropped to the point where most new operating systems and software support begin before the software is stamped gold, and sent into mass production. We have created and maintained relationships and staff that anticipate and adapt to incoming technologies, so we can offer support at day one.

Contact Cory Lykins at 1-800-578-6381, Option 6 for more information.

Goldfield Named Reseller of the Year

First Network Group, Inc. recently named Goldfield Telecom of Goldfield, Iowa Reseller of the Year.

"Our goal at First Network Group is to help our customers be the best Internet Service Providers that they can be, and we believe Goldfield shares in this goal," remarked Darren Ankney, VP of Product Development. "Their commitment to after sale care is first-class and in line with the FNGi philosophy of servicing the customer to the best of our ability before, during and after purchase."

Troy Seaba, Executive VP Goldfield Telecom states, "The FNGi Patriot provides an ideal solution for our integrated IP Networks. The reliability and ease of use of the Patriot when coupled with FNGi's support, provides significant value and greatly simplifies DHCP implementation for our customers."

Congratulations Goldfield! We look forward to another great year!

First Network Group is now a Juniper Networks Partner

JUNIPER NETWORKS

Juniper Networks manufactures a variety of networking gear from carrier-class core routers to enterprise routers, Ethernet switches and security devices. These products are based on a single operating system platform to greatly simplify management and maximize compatibility, performance, scalability and support. Juniper is trusted by many tier-1 providers for their core network routing needs. Juniper devices outperform the competition at a lower price point and have significantly lower costs for maintenance contracts than other vendors. First Network Group can help you select the proper Juniper configurations for your needs, and assist in comparing the options to other vendors' models. **Contact Randy Carpenter at 1-800-578-6381, Option 2 for details and pricing.**