

Network Monitoring SOP (Wireshark):

Purpose:

Process to implement Wireshark to monitor network activity to identify nefarious activity or employee misuse.

Scope:

Wireshark will be utilized to monitor all network activity within the organization's infrastructure.

Responsibilities:

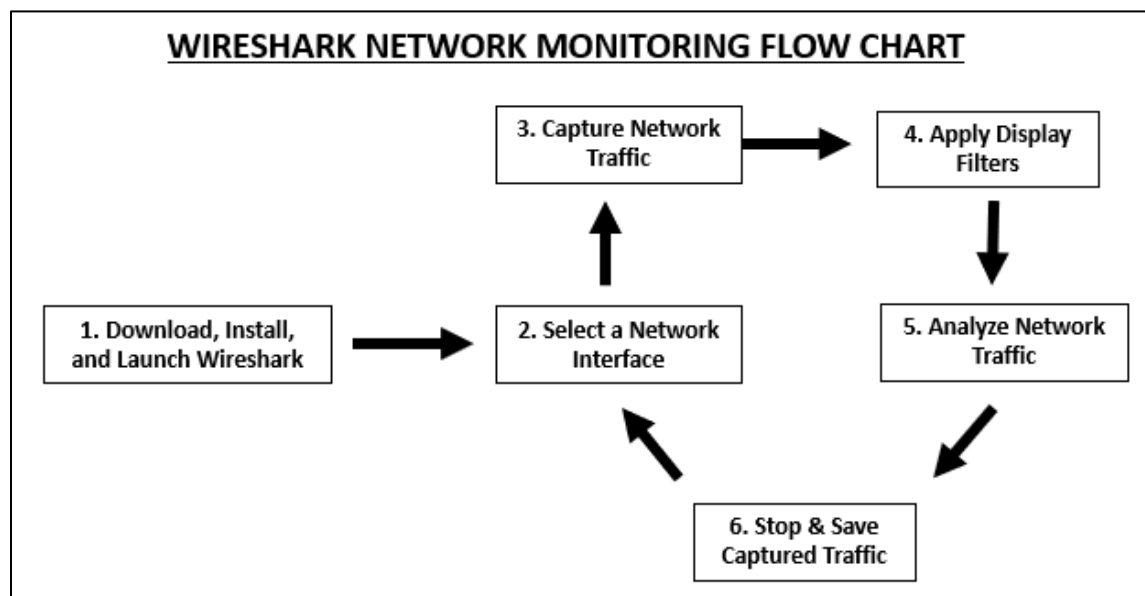
Information Technology (IT) department has sole responsibility for monitoring the organizations network. IT Department is required to conduct real-time monitoring of traffic based on an established network baseline.

Prerequisites:

[Wireshark](#) - world's most popular network protocol analyzer

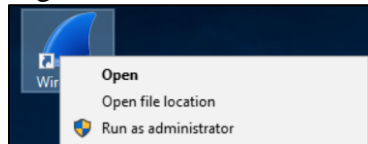
Wireshark should be run as an administrator for full functionality.

Procedure:



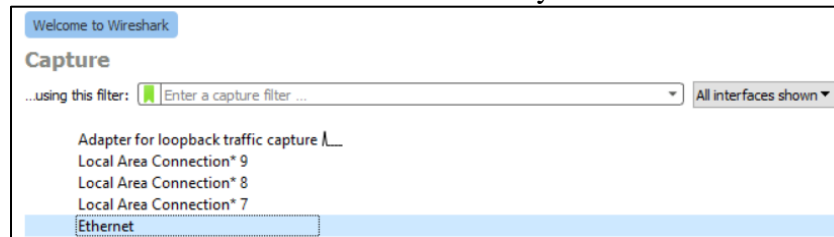
- **1. Download, Install, and Launch Wireshark**

- Download Wireshark from the official website [wireshark.org](https://www.wireshark.org) ([Wireshark](https://www.wireshark.org))
 - Ensure you select the correct install file for your Operating System (OS)
 - Select all defaults during installation wizard
- Launch Wireshark as an administrator
 - Right click on icon > Select Run as administrator



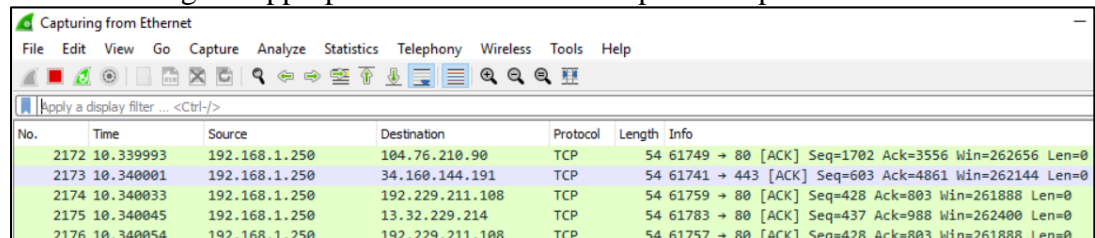
- **2. Select a Network Interface**

- After launch available network interfaces are displayed
 - Left click twice on the network interface you would like to monitor



- **3. Capture Network Traffic**

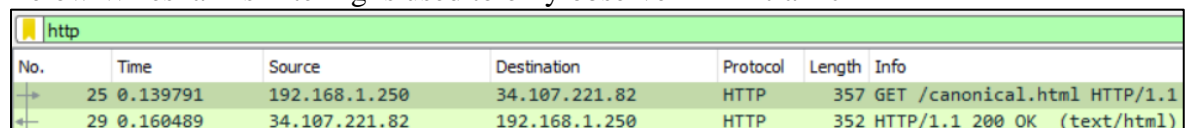
- After selecting the appropriate network interface packet capture initiates



- Capture remains active until red square STOP button is selected

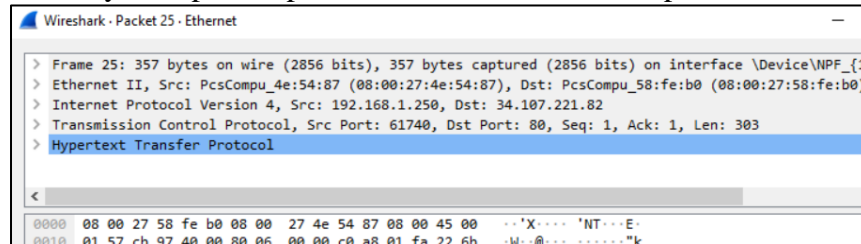
- **4. Apply Display Filters**

- Filters can be applied to look at specific traffic to include specific protocols
- Below Wireshark's filtering is used to only observe HTTP traffic

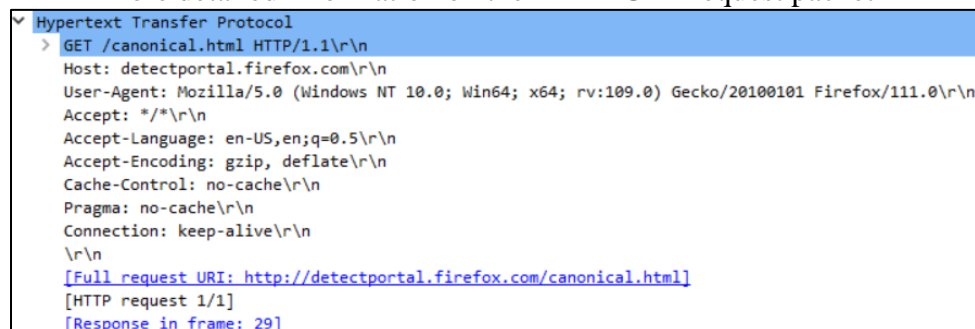


- **5. Analyze Network Traffic**

- To analyze a specific packet left click twice on the packet to select it

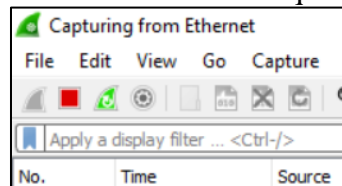


- Once selected several headings can be expanded to observe additional details
 - In the example below the HTTP heading is expanded which provides us more detailed information on the HTTP GET request packet



- **6. Stop & Save Captured Traffic**

- Left click on the red square STOP button to halt the capture



- To save capture left click File > Save As... > Name .pcap file and select Save

References:

- [So, You Want to Write an SOP?](#)
- [37 Best Standard Operating Procedure \(SOP\) Templates](#)
- [How to Use Wireshark to Capture, Filter and Inspect Packets](#)
- [What Is a Network Interface?](#)
- [Display Filters](#)
- [PCAP: Packet Capture, what it is & what you need to know](#)

Definitions:

- **Network Interface** - interconnection between a computer and a private or public network
- **Display Filters** - for general packet filtering while viewing
- **Pcap** – application programming interface (API) that captures live network packet data

Revision History:

4/4/2022 -- "Network Monitoring SOP" created by Rob Gregor