Transmission (BitTorrent client)

Transmission is a <u>BitTorrent client</u> which features a variety of user interfaces on top of a <u>cross-platform</u> backend. Transmission is <u>free software</u> licensed under the terms of the <u>GNU General Public License</u>, with parts under the MIT License. [6]

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Features

Transmission allows users to quickly download files from multiple peers on the Internet and to upload their own files. [7] By adding torrent files via the user interface, users can create a queue of files to be downloaded and uploaded. Within the file selection menus, users can customise their downloads at the level of individual files. Transmission also seeds, that is, it will automatically share downloaded content. [8]

Transmission allows the assigning of priorities to torrents and to files within torrents, thus potentially influencing which files download first. It supports the Magnet URI scheme and encrypted connections. It allows torrent-file creation and peer exchange compatible with Vuze and utorrent. It includes a built-in web server so that users can control Transmission remotely via the web. It also supports automatic port-mapping using UPnP/NAT-PMP, peer caching, blocklists for bad peers, bandwidth limits dependent on time-of-day, globally or per-torrent, and has partial support for IPv6. It allows the use of multiple trackers simultaneously, Local Peer Discovery,

Transmission



<u>Micro Transport Protocol</u> (μ TP), [14] and <u>UDP tracker</u>. [15] It does not support directly subscribing to <u>RSS</u> feeds containing torrent files for automatic download, but third-party add-ons can supply this functionality. [10]:229

License	<u>GPLv2+</u> , <u>MIT^[5]</u>
Website	transmissionbt.com (http
	s://transmissionbt.com)

macOS-specific features include \underline{Dock} and \underline{Growl} notifications, automatic updates using $\underline{Sparkle}$ and Universal Binary (up until version 2.22).

Development

Transmission 1.60 and later removed support for Mac OS X v10.4. Currently, Transmission 1.54 is the last version that runs on Mac OS X 10.4. Although it is possible to compile later versions from source, either by downloading from the project's web site [16] or using a package manager like [16] or MacPorts, it is unsupported and any bugs specific to 10.4 will not be fixed. Starting with Transmission 2.30 and Apple Mac with an [10] CPU is needed; [10] DowerPC-based systems are no longer supported natively.

The Transmission back-end (libTransmission) also serves as the basis of the Transmission <u>daemon</u>. The daemon supports a web <u>front-end</u> called Clutch. Older versions have been ported to form the basis of the update system for the video game <u>Metal Gear Online</u> on <u>PlayStation 3</u>, as well as the backend for ImageShack's BitTorrent service.



Transmission's torrent activity and settings window.

Distribution and ports

A portable version is available on PortableApps.com.[19]

Ports

Transmission is a set of lightweight BitTorrent clients (in GUI, CLI and daemon form). All its incarnations feature a very simple, intuitive interface on top on an efficient, cross-platform back-end.

There are several transmission clients for different operating systems including <u>Unix-like</u>, <u>macOS</u> and <u>BeOS/ZETA</u>. Each operating system front-end is built using native <u>widget toolkits</u>. For example, transmission-gtk uses the <u>GTK</u> interface, transmission-qt the <u>Qt</u> interface, and transmission-cli a <u>Command-line</u> interface. Transmission-remote-cli is an <u>ncurses</u> interface for the transmission-daemon. Python-transmissionrpc is a Python module implementing the JSON-RPC client protocol for Transmission



Transmission v2.92 on macOS

An unofficial port of Transmission using a <u>command-line interface</u> (CLI) on <u>iOS</u> was accomplished on 3 March 2008. In November 2010, iTransmission, another unofficial port, was released for jailbroken iPhones sporting a <u>GUI</u> that is capable of downloading directly to the device over WiFi or 3G. Transmission remote was released for <u>Android</u>, with the name of *Transdroid* but does not currently support downloading directly to devices. [22]

On Windows, Transmission-Qt can be built with MinGW, [23] the daemon and console tools can be built with Cygwin, [24] also there are two third-party GUIs: transmission-remote-dotnet and Transmission Remote GUI, [26] as well as unofficial full builds of Transmission's Qt Client., [27][28] There is also an unofficial full build of Transmission daemon which can be run as a Windows service. [29] This same unofficial full build of Transmission daemon running as a Windows service can be used for direct streaming of the downloading file(s). [30]

A port for all platforms enhanced with streaming of the downloading file(s) is located on GitHub. [31]

It is also ported to the $\underline{\text{Maemo}}$ OS of the $\underline{\text{Nokia}}$ $\underline{\text{N810}}$ internet tablet and $\underline{\text{N900}}$ smartphone as well as to the $\underline{\text{MeeGo/Harmattan}}$ OS of the $\underline{\text{Nokia}}$ $\underline{\text{N9}}$ and $\underline{\text{N950}}$ smartphones, on which it does download the torrents to the device.

Website breach

In March 2016, <u>Palo Alto Networks</u> reported that Transmission's official website was compromised and tainted <u>.dmg</u> files were uploaded to the site, using an <u>Apple Developer</u> signature to bypass the OS X gatekeeper feature. [32][33][34]

The tainted packages installed a <u>ransomware</u> application (a variant of <u>Linux.Encoder.1</u>, but recompiled for Mac, known as <u>KeRanger</u>) that encrypts the user's files and attempts to force users to pay 1 <u>Bitcoin</u> (worth roughly US\$404 at the time of the attack) in order to get the decryption pack. The Transmission website advised Mac users to immediately upgrade to a new version that removes the malware-infected file. Apple revoked the developer certificate that was used to sign the tainted package, and added the package's signature to the <u>XProtect</u> anti-malware system.

Reception

Transmission is the default BitTorrent client of many $\underline{\text{Unix}}$ and $\underline{\text{Linux distributions}}$, $\underline{\text{[35]}}$ including $\underline{\text{Joli OS}}$, $\underline{\text{Solaris}}$, $\underline{\text{Solaris}}$, $\underline{\text{Ubuntu}}$, $\underline{\text{[37]}}$ $\underline{\text{Mandriva}}$, $\underline{\text{Mint}}$, $\underline{\text{[39]}}$ $\underline{\text{Fedora}}$, $\underline{\text{Fedora}}$, $\underline{\text{[41]}}$ $\underline{\text{CrunchBang}}$, $\underline{\text{[42]}}$ $\underline{\text{Zenwalk}}$, $\underline{\text{Indiagorate of Suspension}}$ and the GNOME flavor of openSUSE. $\underline{\text{[44]}}$

Fon ships its routers with Transmission pre-installed. [45]

CNET editor Paul Huges praised Transmission for its "simplicity, lightweight, as well as being feature-packed" and as of April 2017 the software ranked third in P2P downloads for Mac on CNET. [46][47]

See also

- Comparison of BitTorrent clients
- File sharing

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External links

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