

# STEELCENTRAL NETSHARK

## CONTINUOUS, HIGH-SPEED PACKET CAPTURE, INDEXING, AND STORAGE

### BUSINESS CHALLENGE

When business-critical applications fail the impact can be serious. You need to be one step ahead with real-time, actionable information to identify and diagnose problems before your business is impacted. Unfortunately, many monitoring tools take slices of data that can omit the most meaningful data set. Or if the data is captured, it can take a large file transfer in order to conduct analysis, exacerbating network performance problems. You need a better way to ensure that packet-level information is always available for troubleshooting and for granular, real-time and back-in-time analysis.

### THE RIVERBED SOLUTION

Riverbed® SteelCentral™ NetShark appliance quickly captures, indexes, and stores all data packets without the need for file transfers. It exports summarized metrics derived from the packet data to SteelCentral™ NetProfiler appliance for advanced behavioral analysis, monitoring, reporting, and alerting on application performance. Because the metrics from SteelCentral NetShark are deduplicated and integrated with flow-based data from other sources and stored in the same logical record, IT operators can streamline the troubleshooting workflow and accelerate the triage process.

By continuously recording the packets traversing the network, rich troubleshooting details are always available when you

need them, saving time and money by minimizing the effect downtime has on business productivity and by reducing or avoiding business-stopping slowdowns or outages. Via the integration with SteelCentral™ Packet Analyzer software, you can conduct robust analysis and reporting of packet recordings on remote SteelCentral NetShark instances without having to transfer large packet capture files across the network. By continuously capturing and storing multi-terabytes of recordings, SteelCentral NetShark also enhances your productivity since you don't have to wait for problems to appear again or to try to simulate them in order to diagnose issues.

## KEY BENEFITS

- » ACCELERATE TROUBLESHOOTING WITH FAST RETRIEVAL AND ANALYSIS OF PACKET AND TRANSACTION DATA
- » SOLVE INTERMITTENT PERFORMANCE PROBLEMS WITHOUT HAVING TO RECREATE THEM
- » GAIN END-TO-END VISIBILITY FOR A COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR NETWORK
- » ACCOMMODATE ANY MONITORING REQUIREMENT WITH FLEXIBLE STORAGE CAPACITY OPTIONS

## KEY FEATURES

### Powerful packet capture and storage

- Monitors and troubleshoots complex or intermittent performance and security-related problems, without having to transfer large files across the network
- Capable of sustained line-rate, multi-gigabit per second recording, and storage of network traffic using high-performance 1Gb or 10Gb copper or fiber interfaces; up to four 10Gb interfaces per SteelCentral NetShark appliance
- Real-time and back-in time analysis on remote trace files with SteelCentral Packet Analyzer
- Flexible alert options by SNMP for monitoring network devices

### Smart packet indexing to unify flow monitoring and packet-based data

- With real-time indexing of packet data, you can easily search terabytes of data for a seamless transition between flow-based information in SteelCentral NetProfiler appliance and packet-level information in SteelCentral NetShark appliance

### Allocate capture jobs and packet storage based on application type

- Perform multiple, separate capture jobs on a SteelCentral NetShark appliance and dedicate different amounts of storage to each job to flexibly extend storage time for critical applications

### Capture what you need for regulatory compliance or time-sensitive applications

- Selective recording for regulatory compliance: With requirements such as PCI DSS or HIPAA, you can record and store just the right amount of packet data and also extend the amount of packet data and length of time that it can be stored.
- Precision time stamping: Critical for low-latency trading environments, time-sensitive applications, and multi-segment analysis, SteelCentral NetShark adopts the precision time stamps from network tap aggregators such as Gigamon, cPackets, Ixia-Anue, and VSS Monitoring

### Built-in visibility and packet capture in SteelHead appliances

- Acts as a SteelCentral probe, making it easy to gather packet data and receive flow data from the branch
- Provides remote-site troubleshooting with packet capture; a subset of NetShark capabilities is embedded in every Riverbed SteelHead appliance without affecting core WAN optimization.
- Eliminates the need to deploy a dedicated probe — or even a remote site technician — to extend SteelCentral application-aware network performance management to a WAN optimized environment

### Deployment flexibility

- Can be deployed in four ways for maximum coverage: dedicated appliance, virtualized software (SteelCentral NetShark Virtual Edition), add-on module (NetShark module on SteelCentral™ AppResponse) or as embedded functionality in Riverbed® SteelHead™ WAN optimization products

### Application Intelligence

- Recognize and monitor application types, including well-known, custom-developed, virtualized, peer-to-peer, VoIP and web-based applications with deep packet inspection (DPI)

## PRODUCT INTEGRATION

- Best used with Riverbed SteelCentral Packet Analyzer software and Wireshark software for seamless handoff and streamlined troubleshooting
- SteelHead appliances running Riverbed® Optimization System (RiOS®) version 7.0 or later include SteelCentral NetShark packet capture functionality for remote site troubleshooting without affecting WAN optimization
- SteelCentral NetShark module adds rich network intelligence to supplement the existing end-user experience monitoring and transaction analysis provided by Riverbed SteelCentral™ AppResponse
- Streamlined network transaction troubleshooting workflow between SteelCentral NetShark to SteelCentral Packet Analyzer to Riverbed SteelCentral™ Transaction Analyzer for off-line, multi-tier, user transaction analysis for diagnosing root cause quickly and easily. (Requires software release 8.6.2 or newer, on models 4200, 5000 or 6000.)

## PRODUCT MODELS

	SteelCentral NetShark Appliances	SteelCentral NetShark Virtual Edition	AppResponse NetShark Module	Embedded NetShark on SteelHead	SteelCentral NetShark on SteelHead EX
Continuous Capture	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
On-Demand Capture	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Packet indexing for fast analysis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flow export to NetProfiler	✓	✓	✓	**	✓
Analysis by SteelCentral Packet Analyzer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Monitor live traffic with views & watches	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Monitors virtual environment	-	✓	-	-	✓
Supports real-time traffic (VoIP)	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Package storage capacity	4TB to 32TB	50GB to 2TB	8TB to 264TB*	15GB to 119GB	300GB to 4TB***

\*264TB with ARX 6000 – 3 expansion chassis

\*\*SteelCentralFlow export is performed by SteelHead appliance itself, not embedded NetShark functionality.

\*\*\*Packet storage capacity is based on customer allocation via Riverbed Virtual Services Platform (VSP) on Riverbed SteelHead™ EX series appliances

## PRODUCT MODELS (CON.)

SteelCentral NetShark Appliances				
	Size	Storage	NIC Slots	Capture Cards
CSK 1100	1U	4TB	1	2-Port 1GbE card, 4-Port 1GbE card, or 4-Port 1Gb SFP card
CSK 2100	2U	8TB	2	Any combination of 4-Port 1GbE card, 4-Port 1Gb SFP card, or 2-Port 10Gb SFP +card Up to 2 NICs per system
CSK 2200	2U	16TB	2	
CSK 3100	3U	16TB	2	
CSK 3200	3U	32TB	2	

SteelCentral NetShark Virtual Edition			
Models	VSK-00050	VSK-00200	VSK-00400
Packet Storage	Up to 50GB	Up to 1TB	Up to 2TB
Hypervisor	VMware ESXi 4.1, 5.0		
vCPU	2		
Memory	2GB		
System Disk Space	30GB		
Capture Ports	Up to 4		
Management Ports	2		

Additionally, SteelCentral™ NetExpress is an all-in-one appliance that combines the best of flow and packet capture plus monitoring for small to medium enterprises.

The SteelCentral NetExpress 460 appliance accommodates flow rates ranging from 15,000 to 120,000 flows per minute.

SteelCentral NetExpress 460 Series					
Models	U	L	M	H	VH
Flow Capacity	15,000	30,000	60,000	90,000	120,000

\*For complete configuration details and product models, please visit [www.riverbed.com](http://www.riverbed.com) to download the SteelCentral specification sheet or the SteelCentral AppResponse specification sheet for the NetShark module.

## RIVERBED: THE APPLICATION PERFORMANCE COMPANY

With products and solutions including WAN optimization, performance management, application delivery, and storage acceleration, Riverbed helps organizations manage and accelerate performance.

To learn more about Riverbed performance management and other Riverbed products and solutions, visit [riverbed.com/rpm](http://riverbed.com/rpm).

### GARTNER MAGIC QUADRANT RECOGNITION

We're a leader in the Gartner Magic Quadrant for Application Performance Monitoring