

## Spirent TestCenter System and Application Overview

# **Spirent TestCenter Functions**

- PGA: Packet Generation/Analysis
- Emulation Protocol Support (e.g., BGP and PPP)
- ALP: Application Layer Protocols (e.g., TCP and HTTP)
- Avalanche: full TCP and application layer support
- All chassis support all functions; some modules are limited

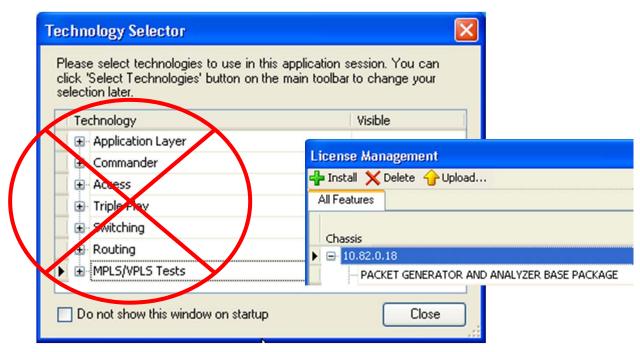




### **PGA Function**

- The Packet Generator/Analyzer "Basic Package" contains all the tools and functionality required to Transmit (Tx), Receive (Rx), and Analyze traffic.
- It does not require any special "Technologies" to be active; and only requires the "PGA Base Package" license.
- The PGA functions can be used with any/all other protocols.

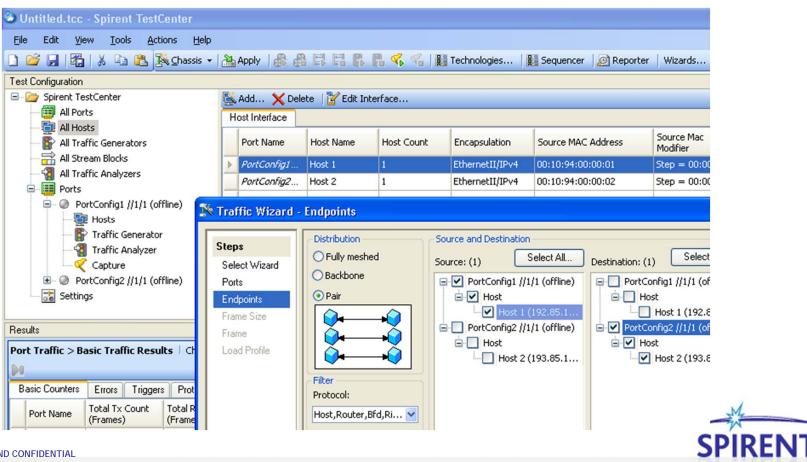
not required for PGA function





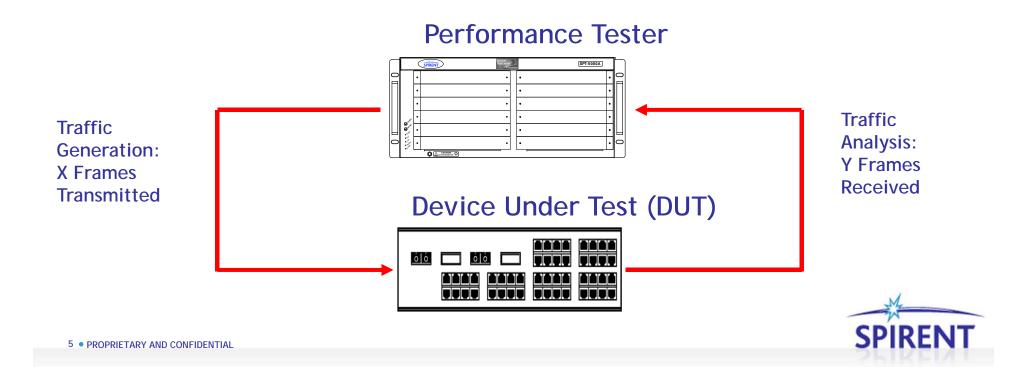
### **PGA Overview**

- The PGA consists for the follow "umbrella" tools which are covered in detail here: Traffic Wizard, Generator, Custom Test Wizard, Analyzer, and Results.
- Also incorporated in the PGA, but not covered in detail here, are the Port Settings, Hosts Blocks, Stream Blocks, Capture and their related functionality.



# PGA: Packet Generation/Analysis

- Layer 2, 3, and Layer 4+ headers
- IP layer emulation: ARP/ND, Ping, IGMP
- Performance, Multicast, and QoS Testing
- Capture and Error Generation

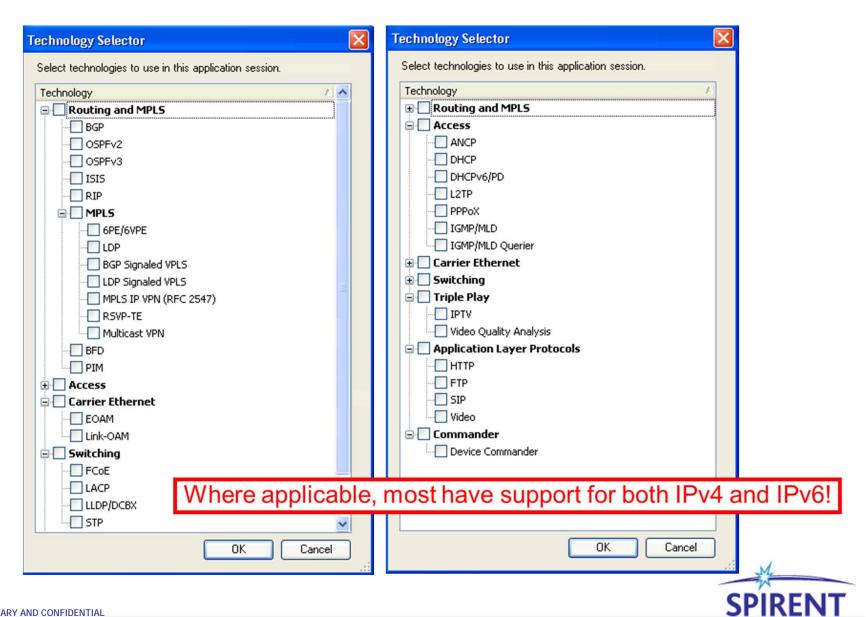


## Module's PGA Capabilities

- 1000 Series and HM CV generator
  - 16383 streams; billions of flows
  - 4 variable fields of 4-bytes each (6 of 4-bytes with CV)
- 2000 Series and HM CM generator
  - 32767 streams; billions of flows
  - 6 variable fields of 4 bytes
- All generators
  - transmit at up to 104% of wire rate; down to 8 byte IFG
  - 40 bytes to 16383 bytes frames sizes
  - error Generation: Ethernet FCS, IP/UDP/TCP checksums, IP/UDP total length
- All analyzers
  - 64,000 streams, 40 statistics per stream; stream/port/protocol counts and rates
  - Histograms; 10ns latency resolution
  - four 16 bit and one 32 bit Analyzer Filters
  - error counters: CRC, checksums, length, PRBS, header errors
  - Capture Buffer 16M (8M on 10G); supports real-time capture mode

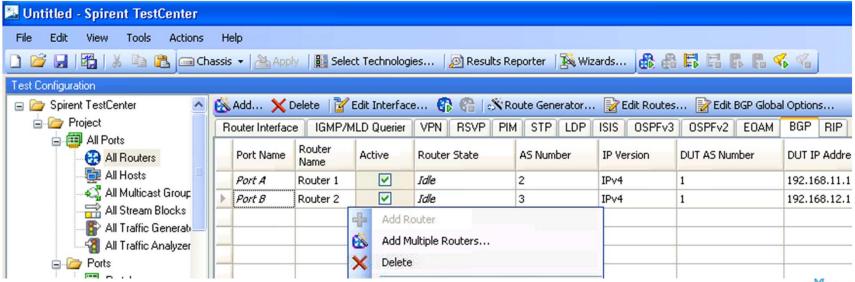


### **Emulation Protocol Support**



## Spirent TestCenter Router Emulation

- Routing Emulation with Spirent TestCenter is router centric.
  - This is more like you would set up a real router.
  - You define a router interface(s) and multiple protocols can be bound to it/them.
- An Emulated Router is a "real" router in that it will form an actual session and participate is all protocol events with the DUT.
  - It can also represent a network, internet, or topology of 100s/1000s of Simulated routers.
  - You have direct control over all the route/router parameters (even negatively).

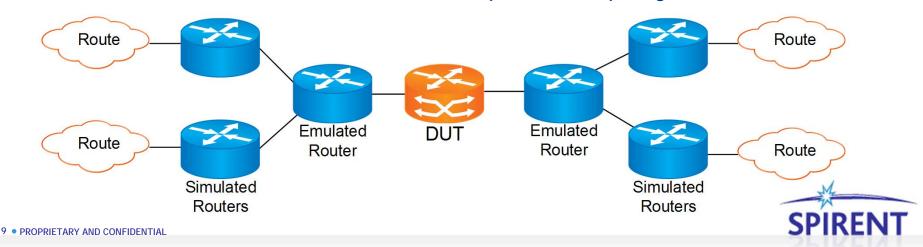




## Simple Routing Topology Example

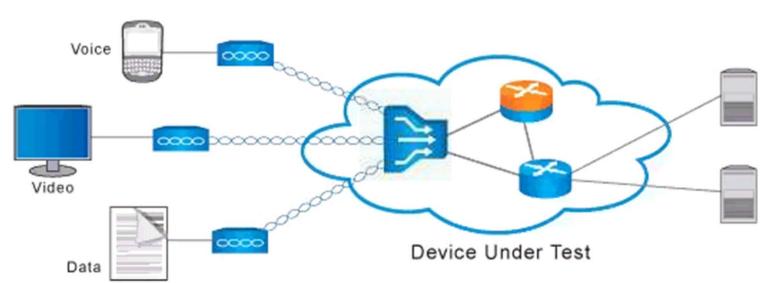
Spirent uses two terms to describe router emulation:

- Emulated Routers run a routing protocol with the DUT, maintain protocol state, send routes, etc.
- Simulated Routers exist as link-state routing advertisements from OSPF or IS-IS, or additional AS Paths with BGP
- Use emulated routers to exchange routes or perform interactive testing
- Create simulated routers to build topologies to represent an environment
- Simulated routers are created via Route Generators, configuration grids, and test wizards
- Create topologies that extended tens of routers deep, then simulate traffic from remote access networks across core/provider topologies



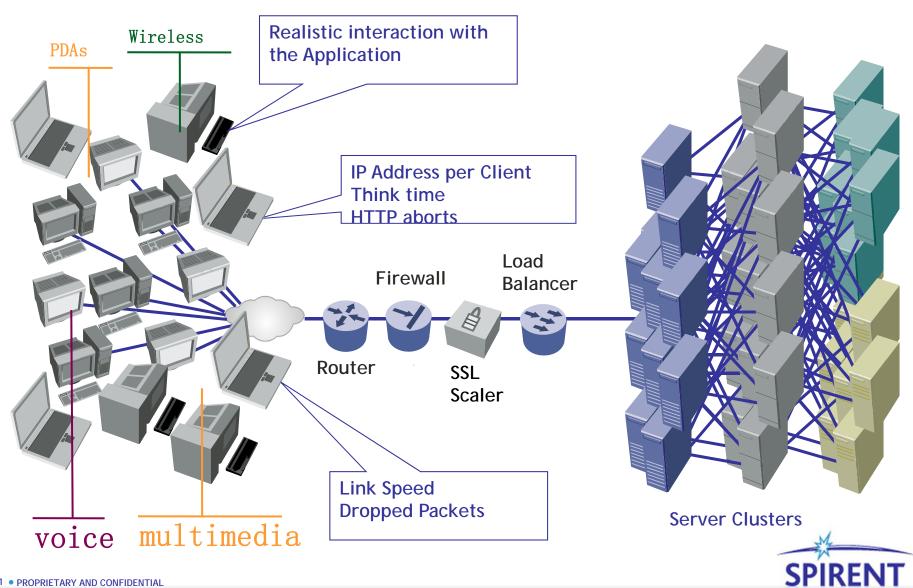
# **ALP: Application Layer Protocols**

- Enables integrated Layer 2-7 Testing
- Supports Stateful TCP
- Limited HTTP, FTP, and SIP
- Video Quality Analysis (VQA)



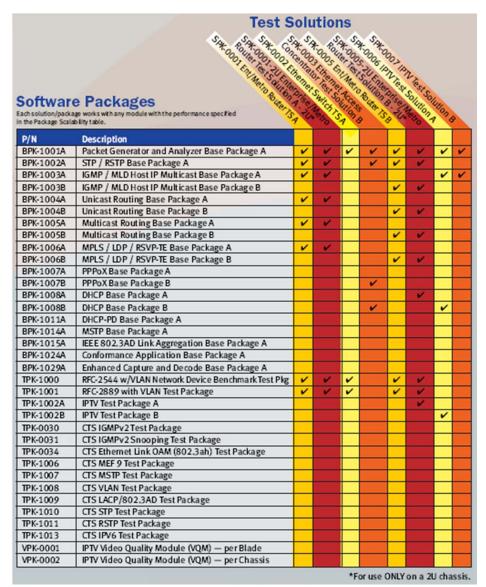


### **Avalanche: Emulated Clients and Servers**



# Layer 2/3 Test Solutions Example

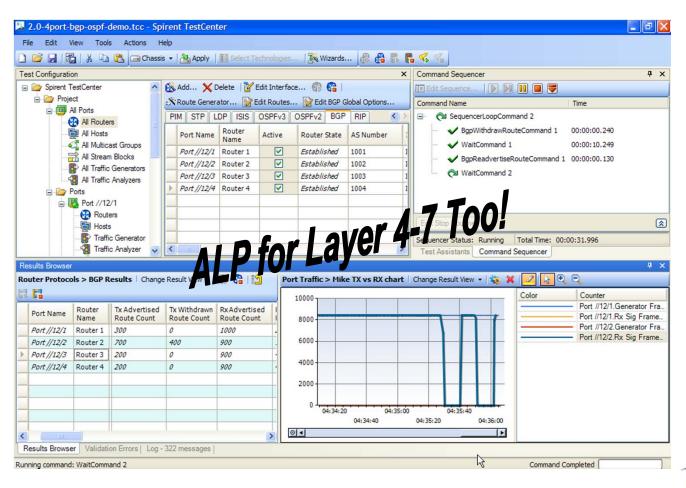
This is not a complete list!





## Graphical User Interface for Layer 2/3

- The Spirent TestCenter "Application"
- Common GUI Framework for all Layer 2/3 Test Solutions





## The Spirent TestCenter Application

- Supports Performance and Functional Testing for Layers 2-7
  - Layers 4-7 supported with ALP
- Integrated control and data plane testing
  - For example, sending traffic to BGP advertised routes
- Provides deterministic and repeatable test environment
- Test results are available in real-time and at the end of a test
- The setup and results can be saved in different formats
- Includes many easy-to-use wizards:
  - Simplifies test set up and execution
  - Used for Device and Traffic creation
  - Used for Large Scale testing
  - For creating Access and Routing Topologies
  - For creating MPLS Layer 2/3 VPNs
  - Plus RFC 2544/2889 Test Packages



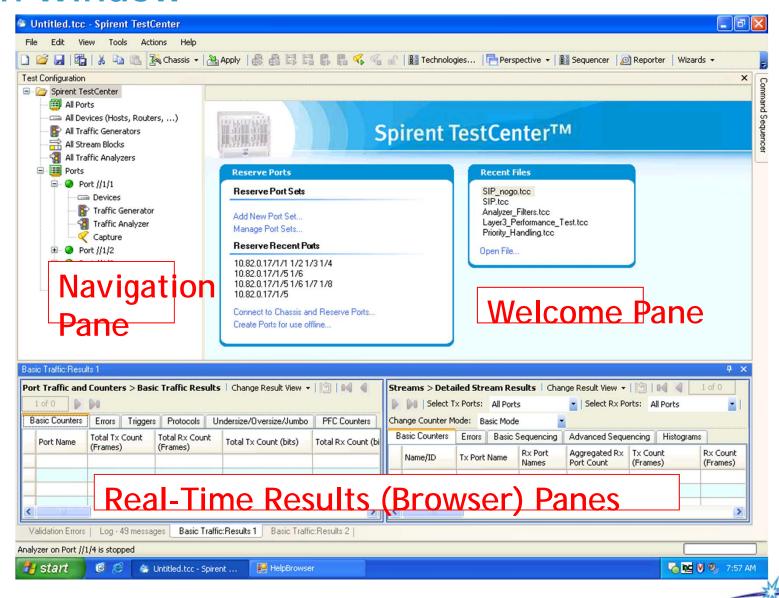


### **Basic GUI Features**

- Multi-pane window to see and compare everything at a single glance
- Includes equipment, firmware. and license management features
- Spreadsheet configuration windows with copy down and fill functions
- Multiple Wizards for setting up and running tests
- Allows you save the setup and results in standard formats: XML&SQL
- Unique analysis capabilities aid in the interpretation of test results
- Troubleshooting tools reduce time to identify and correct problems
- GUI-to-script improves the time and effort required to automate tests
- Allows you to simultaneously view both Setup and Results
- Customizable setup and results windows
- Reporting tools quickly produce summarized and detailed test reports

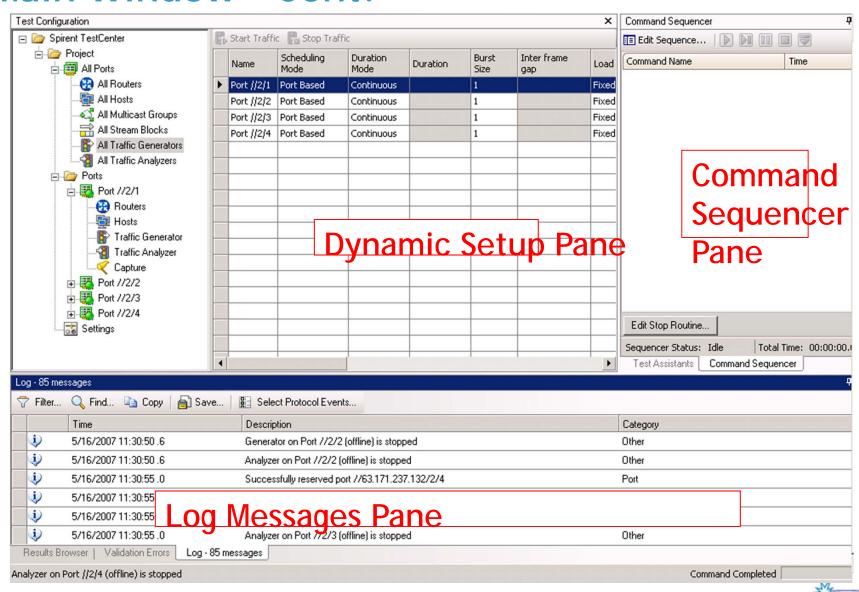


### **Main Window**

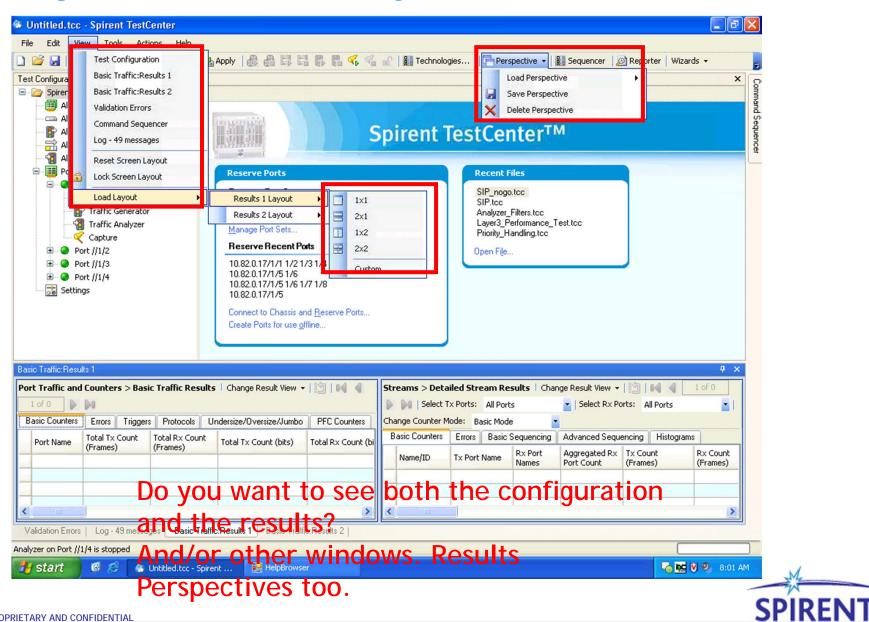


**SPIRENT** 

### Main Window - Cont.

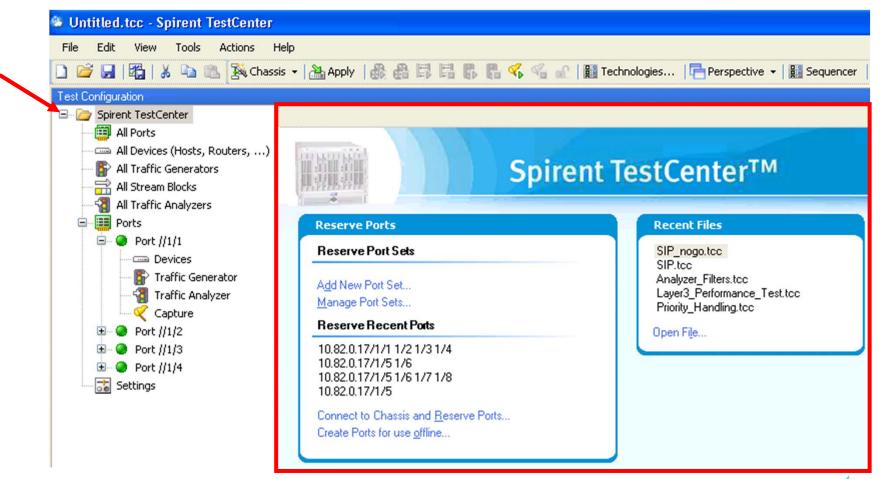


## Change Window View by Menu



#### Welcome Pane

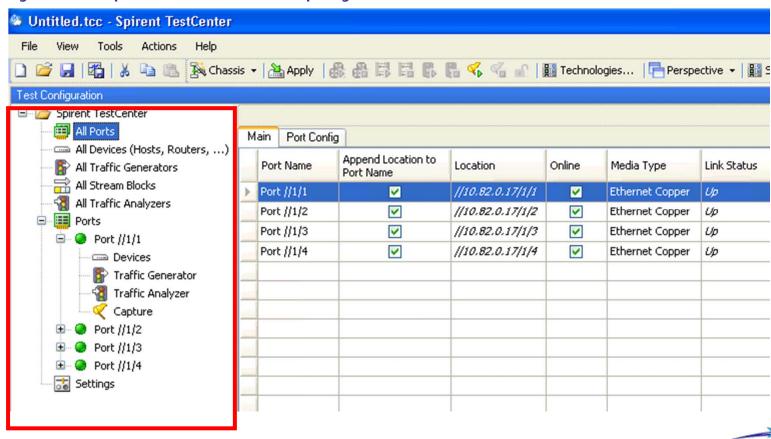
Port Reservation, add Offline Ports, Load Files





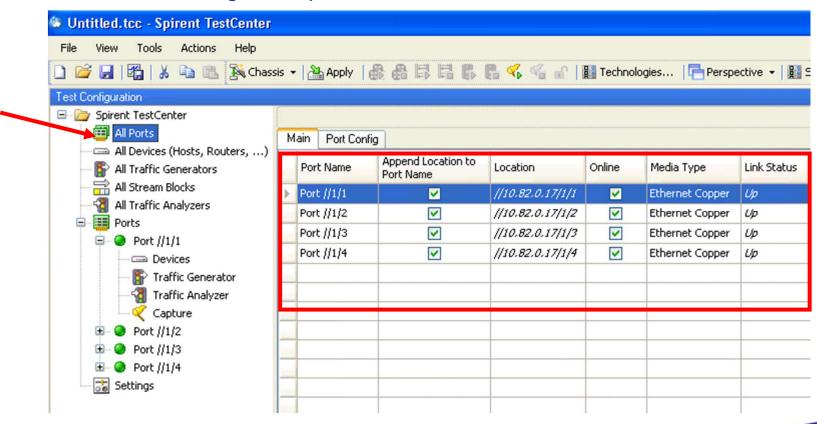
# Test Configuration Pane - Navigation Tree

- The navigation test configuration pane is always displayed on the left side of the Test Setup pane.
- When you open the application, the navigation tree is collapsed with only the top-level icons displayed.



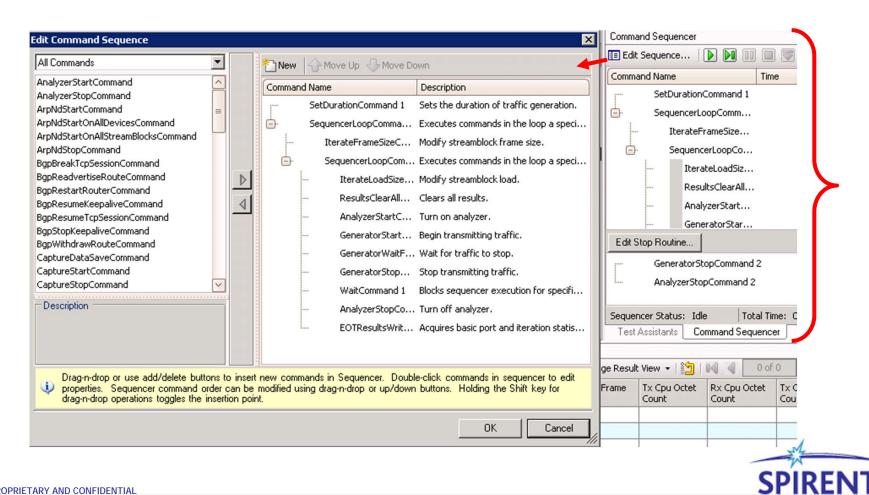
## Test Configuration Pane - Setup Pane

- Allows user to configure detail testing parameters.
- The Setup pane, located on the right side of the Navigation pane, displays the active test setup grid (spreadsheet) or form.
- Change the grid or form displayed in the Setup pane by clicking another icon in the Navigation pane.



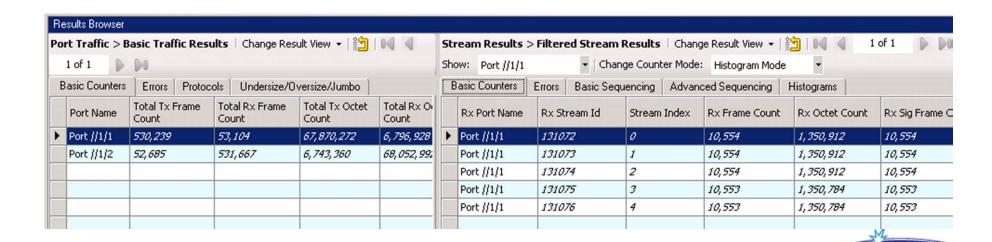
## **Command Sequencer**

- User customizable; used to run batch mode tests
- Sequence steps can also be created using the Wizards



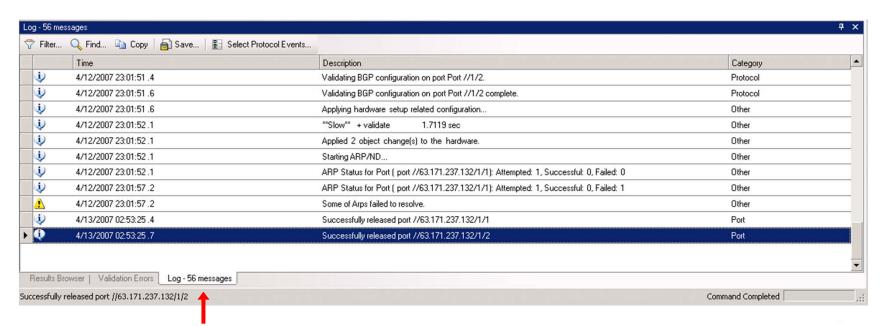
### Results Browser Pane

- All real-time results data is displayed in the Results Browser
- There are two Results Browser windows by default
- There are ports-based and stream-based counters
- There are events and rates
- There are dataplane and control plane (CPU) counters
- There are many, many more!



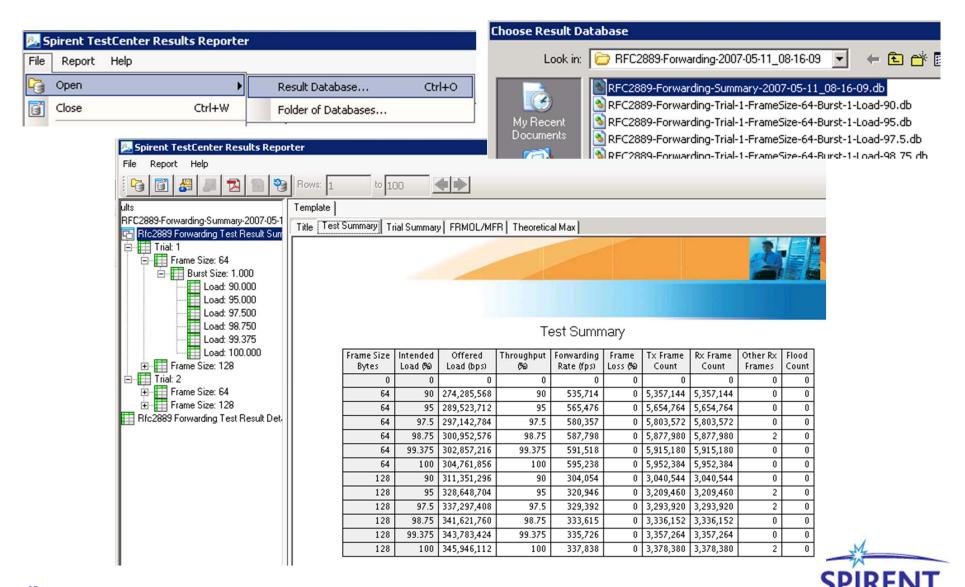
## Test Log Pane

- The Event Log is displayed on demand.
- It records both informational and warning messages.
- A row is appended to the Event Log each time it receives a new event.



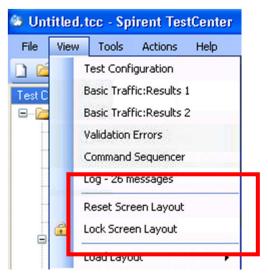


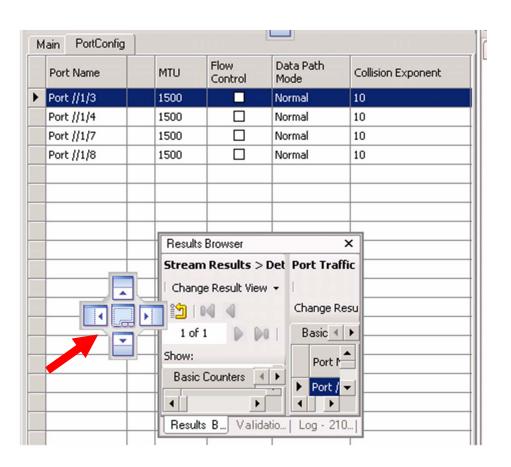
## Results Reporter Application



# **Docking Framework**

- Flexible layout
  - Window panes or tabs
- Allows docked or floating views
  - Example: you can have a floating results window on a 2<sup>nd</sup> monitor
- Auto-hide pin
- Can bring back the windows using the View menu

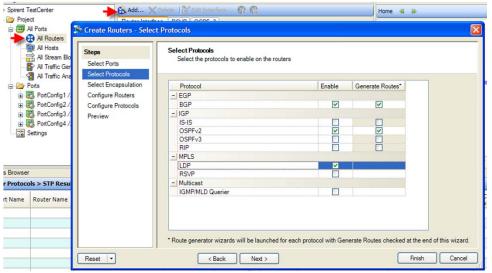




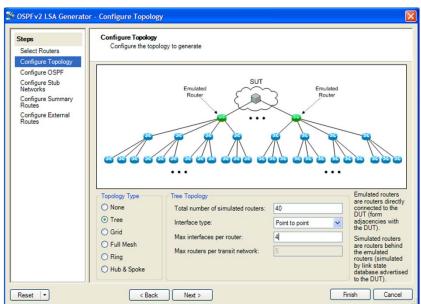


# **GUI Configuration Tools**

Quickly build tens, hundreds or thousands of emulated routers and enable multiple protocols as well as routes to advertise:



The Route/LSA generators provide ease creation of large, realistic network topologies:

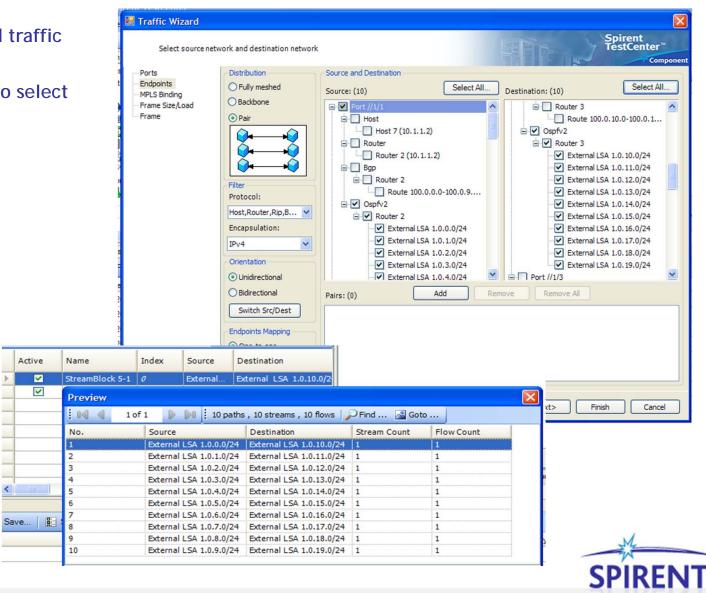


### **Traffic Wizard**

Quickly and easily build traffic to and from routes.

Use the Select All tool to select specific protocols.

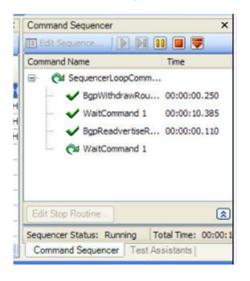
Right-click on the stream blocks created and select Preview to see all streams/flows created:

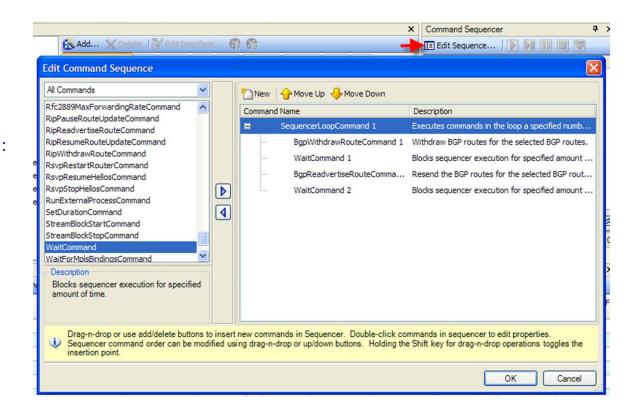


## **Command Sequencer**

The Command Sequencer includes over 130 commands including all protocol, stream, capture and more:

It can be run at any time and shows status and time stamp for each event:

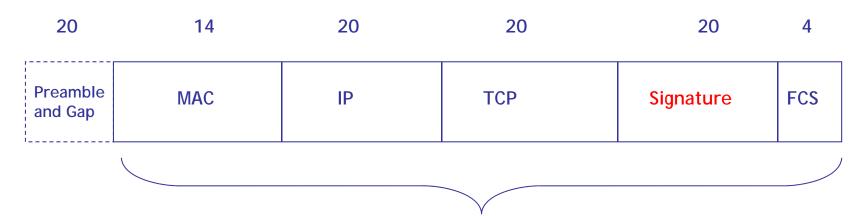




Command Sequencer also includes "Run External Event" command which enables White Box testing to interact with the DUT/SUT during the test.



## Spirent TestCenter Test Frame



Frame Length = 78 byte minimum with TCP and no PRBS



Frame Length = MAC+IP+N+Signature



# The Spirent TestCenter Signature Field

Network Transmission Order 31 0					1		
Complement of Sequence Byte 0	Stream ID Byte 3 (MSB)	Stream ID Byte 2	Stream ID Byte 1	)			
Stream ID Byte 0 (LSB)	Sequence	Sequence	Sequence			Sequence Mode	
	Number Byte 5  ~Seq Num Byte 3	Number Byte 4  ~Seq Num Byte 2	Number Byte			Enhanced Detection	
Sequence Number Byte 2	Sequence Number Byte 1	Sequence Number Byte 0	Timestamp Bits 31:24		Mode		
Timestamp Bits 23:16	Timestamp Bits 15:8	Timestamp Bits7:0	Timestamp Bits 37:32	p r b	I a s t		
CRC-16		Checksum Cheater (MSB)	Checksum Cheater (LSB)				

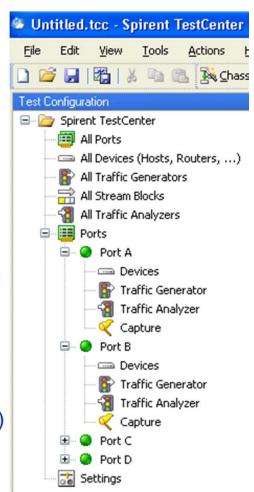
- the Signature is **Scrambled** so not to influence repetitive patterns
- it is 20 bytes and oriented at the end of the IP Datagram
- it contains 32 bits of Stream ID (up to 4 billion test streams possible)
- it has a 10 nanosecond Timestamp resolution
- the PRBS bit is set when Spirent TestCenter inserts a PRBS 23 pattern in the payload
- the Last bit will tell the receiver which byte was time stamped
- it has a built in UDP/TCP Checksum Cheater field (for use when modifiers are placed in the payload)

## 12 Steps to Setup and Run a Test

Work your way from the top down on the Test Configuration Tree

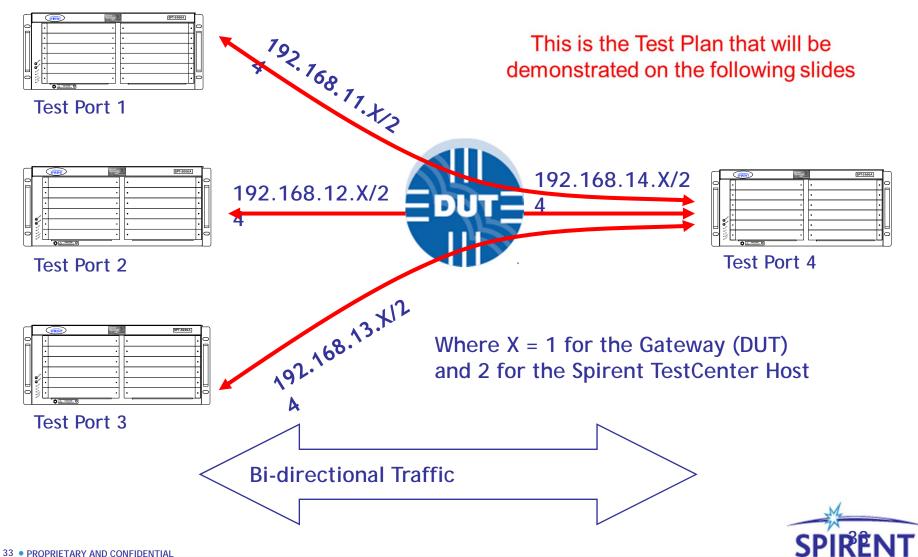
- 1. Configure and connect to the Device/System Under Test (DUT/SUT)
- 2. Verify that you have IP connectivity to the chassis (your PC)
- 3. Connect and reserve the test ports (Port Reservation)
- 4. Configure the physical layer parameters (Ports)
- 5. Possibly enable network emulation (Devices: Routers)
- 6. Possibly define the traffic endpoints (Devices: Hosts/Routes/LSPs)
- 7. Create the traffic and traffic attributes (Stream Blocks: Raw or Bound)
- 8. Possibly modify transmit properties (Traffic Generator)
- 9. Possibly modify receive properties (Traffic Analyzer)
- 10. Possibly setup the test schedule (Command Sequencer)
- 11. Possibly modify other test parameters (Settings and Tools > Options)
- 12. Run your test; view and interpret the results (Results Browser)

Only Items 1-4, 7 & 12 are required Underlined items are related



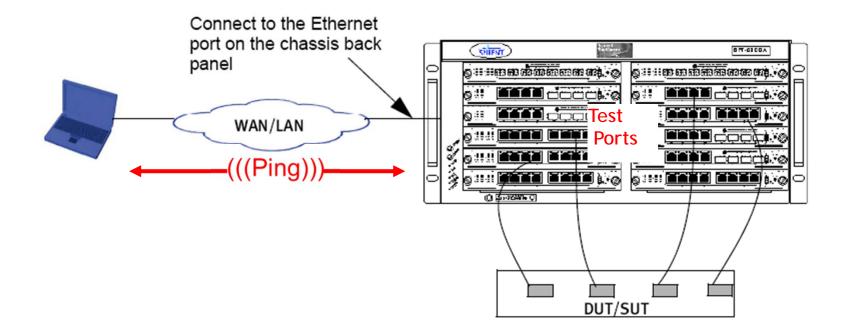


# 1. Configure and connect to the DUT/SUT



## 2. Verify IP Connectivity

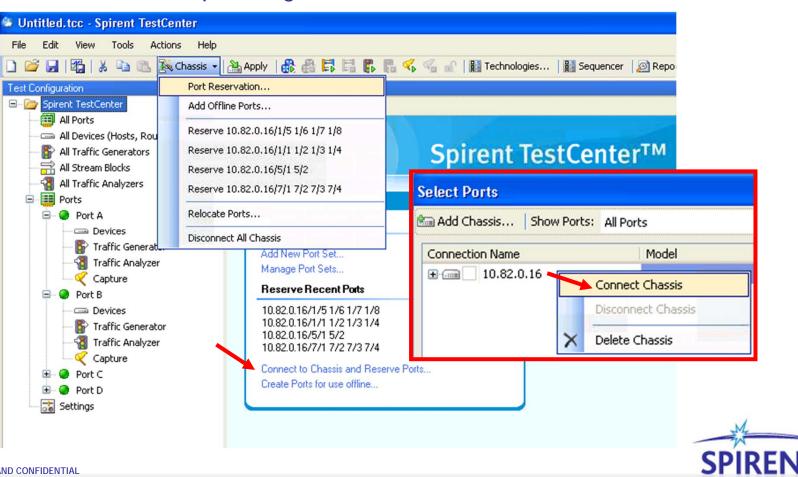
 Your PC runs the "Spirent TestCenter Application" and connects out-of-band to the chassis' management port.



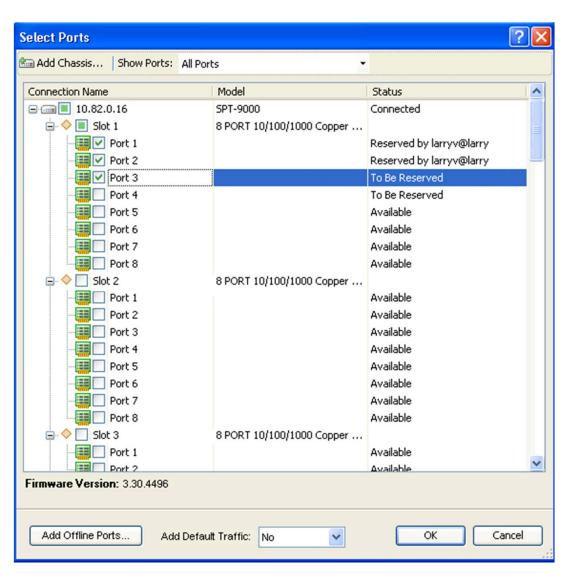


### 3a. Connect to the Chassis

- In the Select Ports window, right-click and select Connect Chassis
- This can also be done by expanding the + sign under Connection Name column for the corresponding IP address



#### 3b. Reserve the Ports



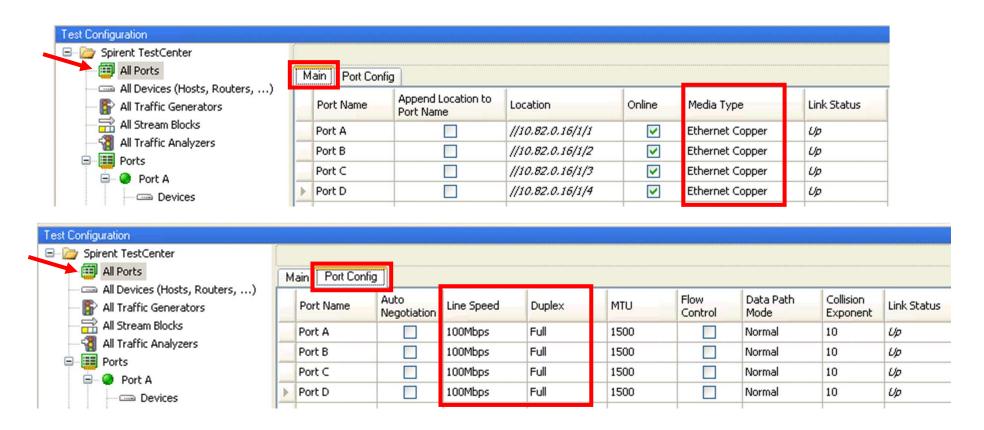
- After connecting to Chassis, select the ports which are to be used.
- Ports are reserved in multiples of two unless it is a 10GigE port or a HM CM module\*

\*Optional with 3.40



## 4. Configure the Physical Layer Properties

Example shows setting 4 ports to copper and 100M full duplex.

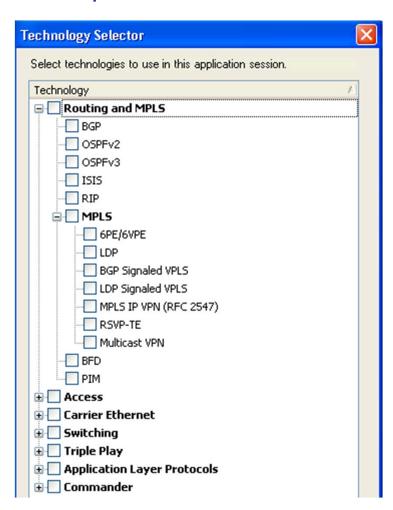




## 5. Enable Network Emulation if Required

 Since we are using static addresses and directly connected interfaces for this example, no other emulation is required.

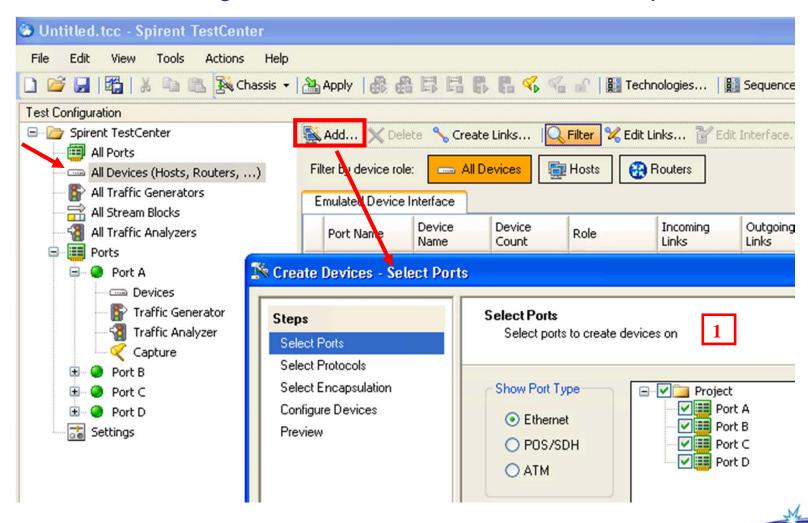
ARP/ND and will still ping will still be enabled be default by



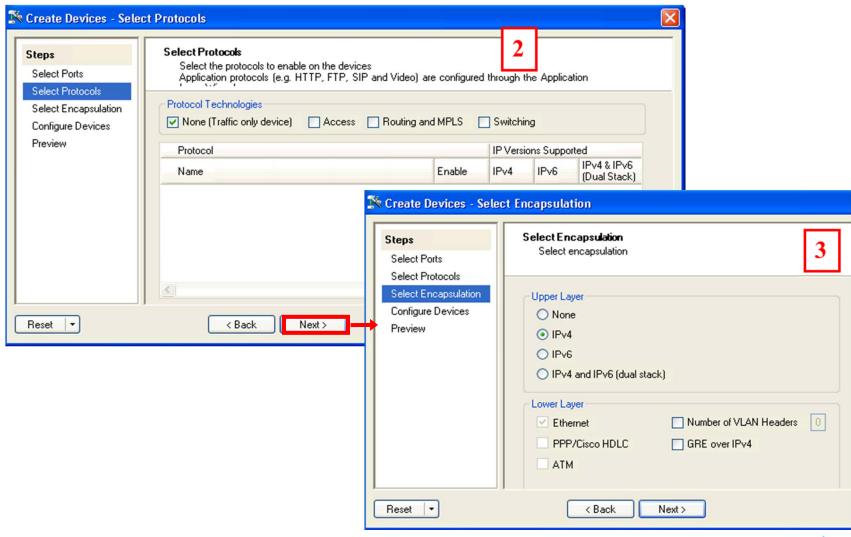


#### 6a. Define the Traffic End Points

Add Devices using the Create Devices Wizard: Step 1



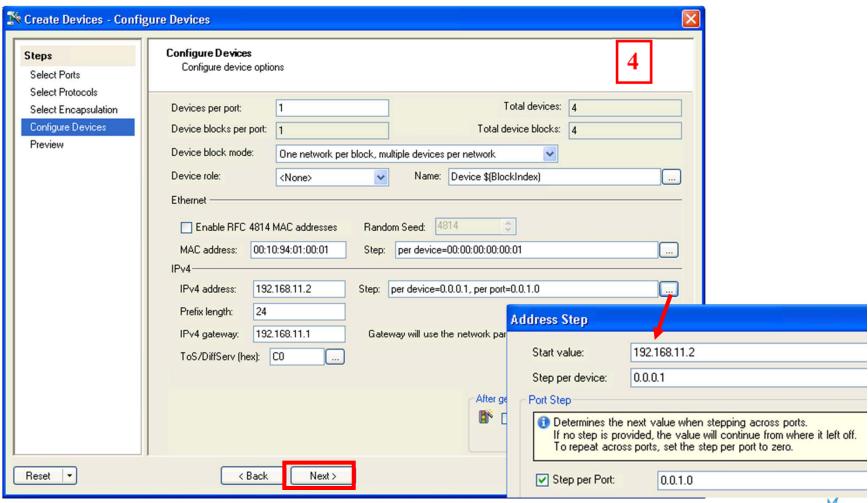
## 6b. Creating the Devices - Wizard Step 2 & 3





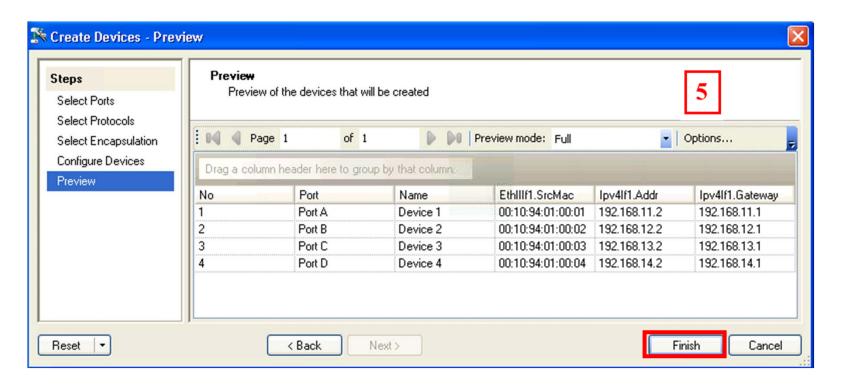
## 6c. Creating the Devices - Wizard Step 4

Configure MAC and IP/Gateway addresses for the Devices.



## 6d. Creating the Devices - Wizard Step 5

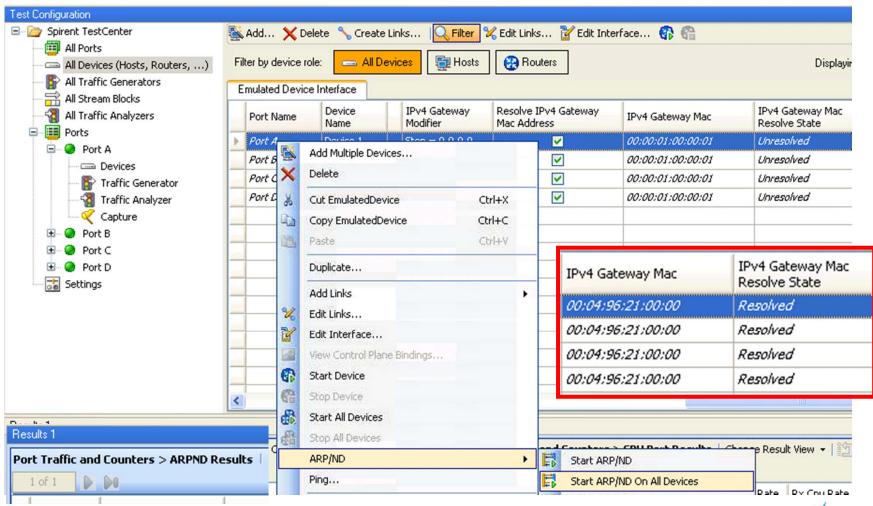
Preview of the Devices that will be created.





## 6e. Resolve the Gateway's MAC Address

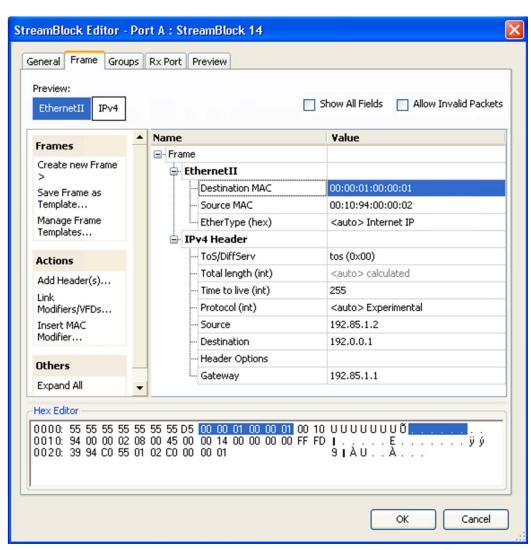
Right-click on a Device(s) and select ARP/ND





## 7. Traffic using Raw Stream Blocks

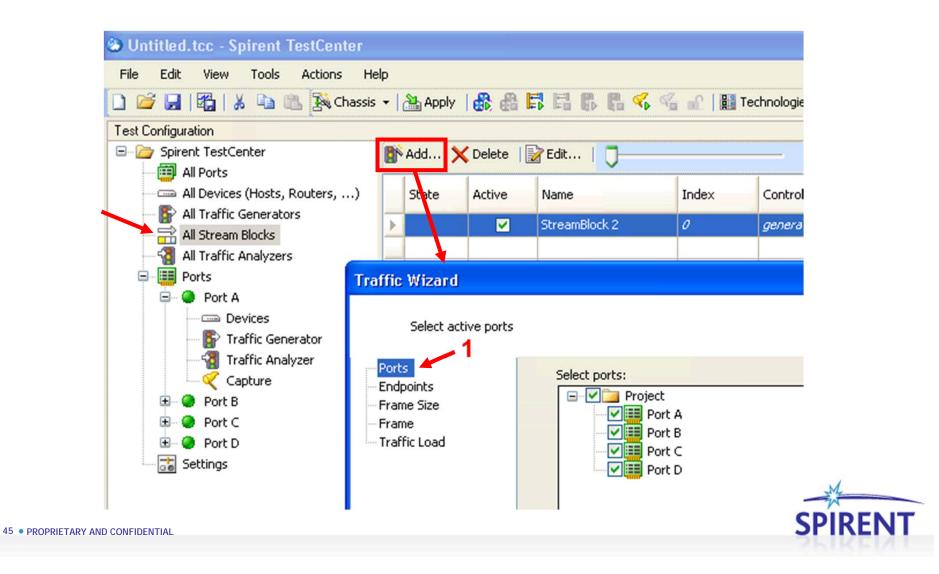
- A way to build custom traffic
- No direct concept of endpoints
- Still supports ARP
- Has other Stream Block concepts:
  - Frames Sizes\*
  - Payload Definition\*
  - Traffic Mode and Load\*
  - Specific Receive (Rx) Port(s)
  - \*General tab



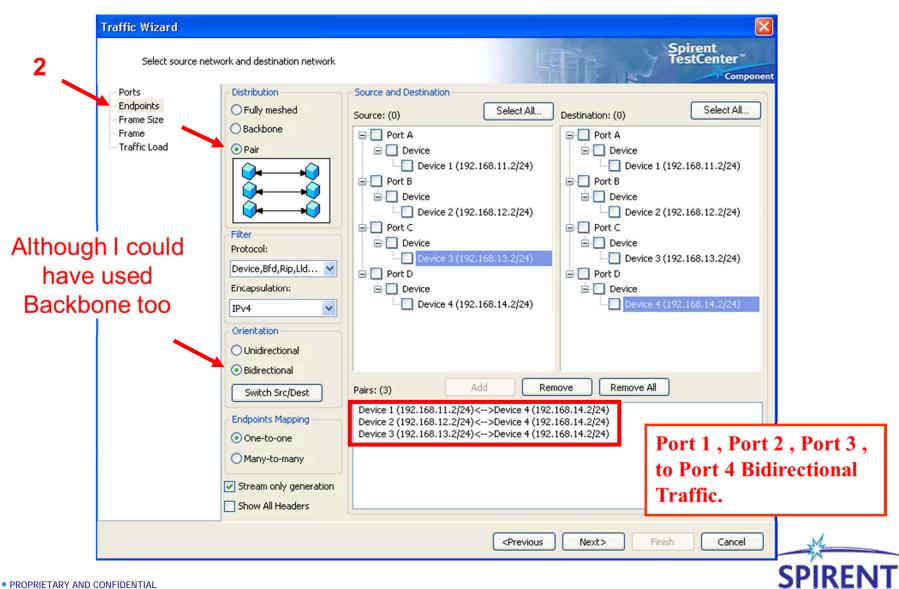


## 7a. Traffic Wizard Step 1

Or access the Traffic Wizard to create Bound Stream Blocks

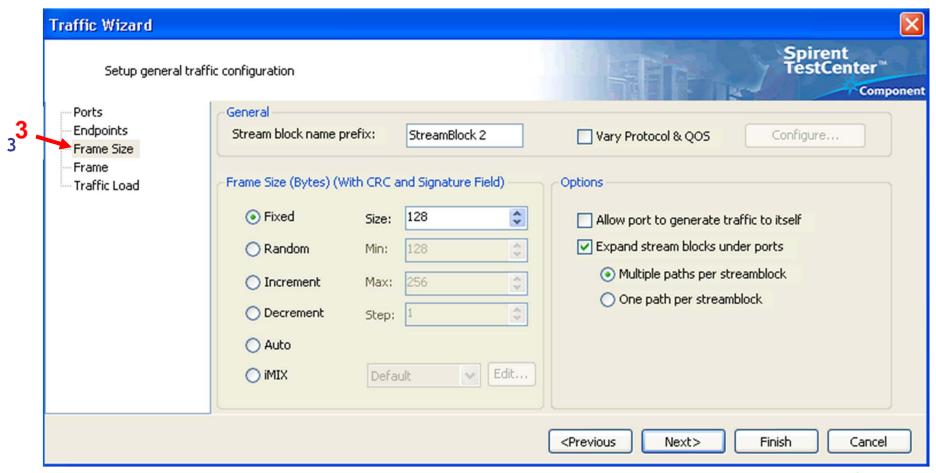


## 7b. Traffic Wizard Step 2



## 7c. Traffic Wizard Step 3

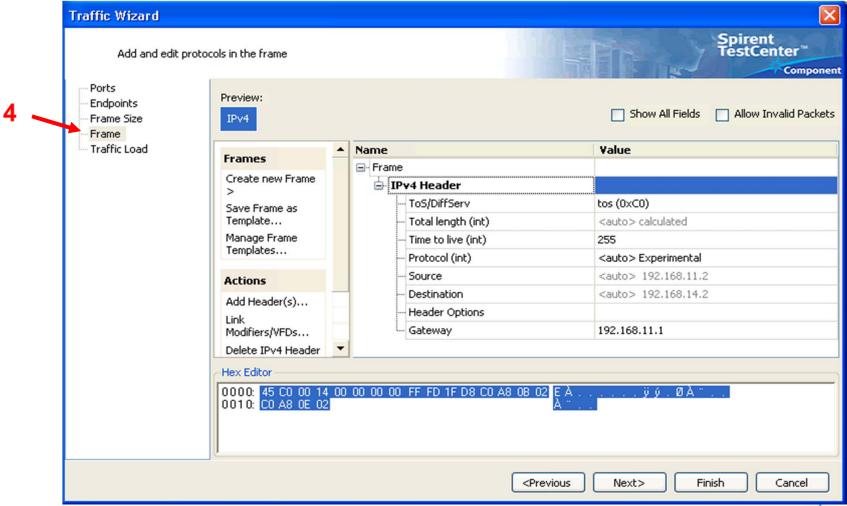
Configure the Stream Block name, Options, and Frame Size





## 7d. Traffic Wizard Step 4

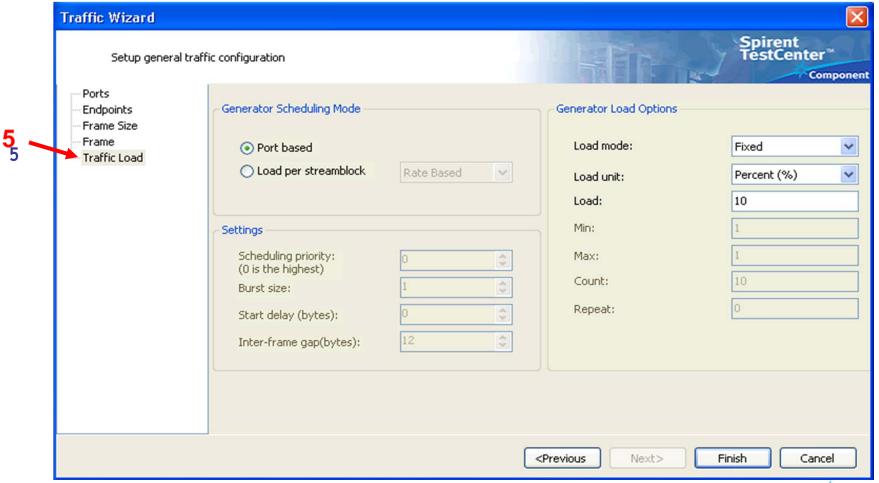
Configure the Frame template; optional





## 7e. Traffic Wizard Step 5

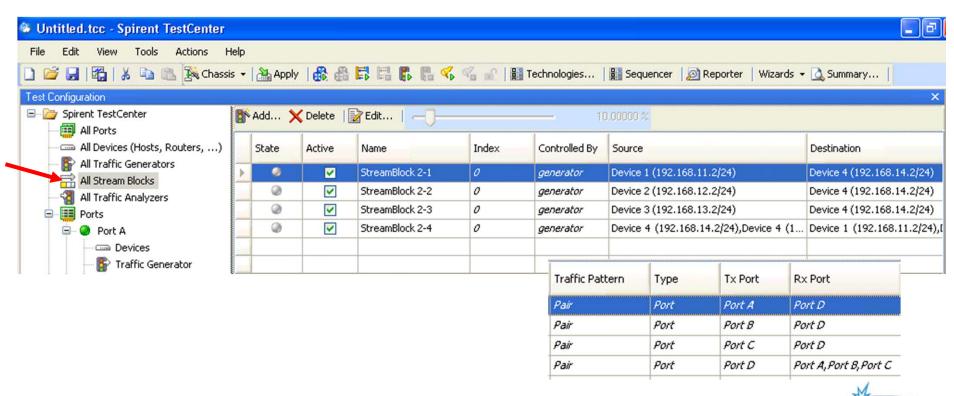
Configure the Traffic Load options





#### 7f. Traffic Wizard Result

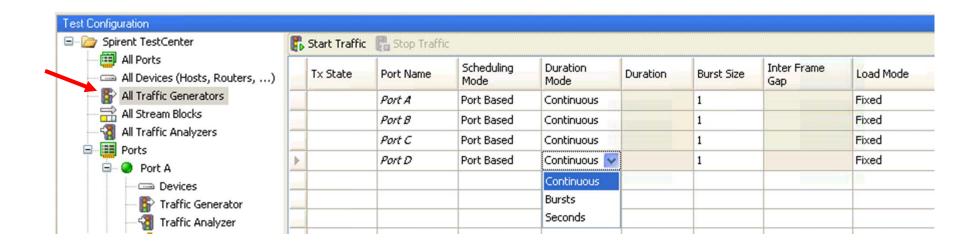
- Bound Stream Blocks from the All Stream Blocks view
- See Source and Destination endpoints; and specific Tx/Rx Ports





## 8. Possibly Modify Transmit Properties

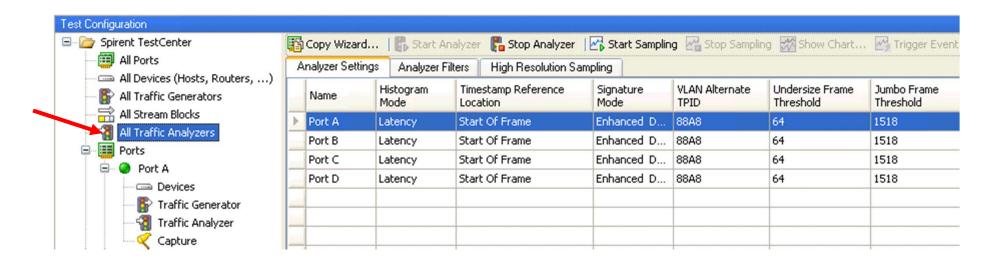
Not necessary for this example





## 9. Possibly Modify Receive Properties

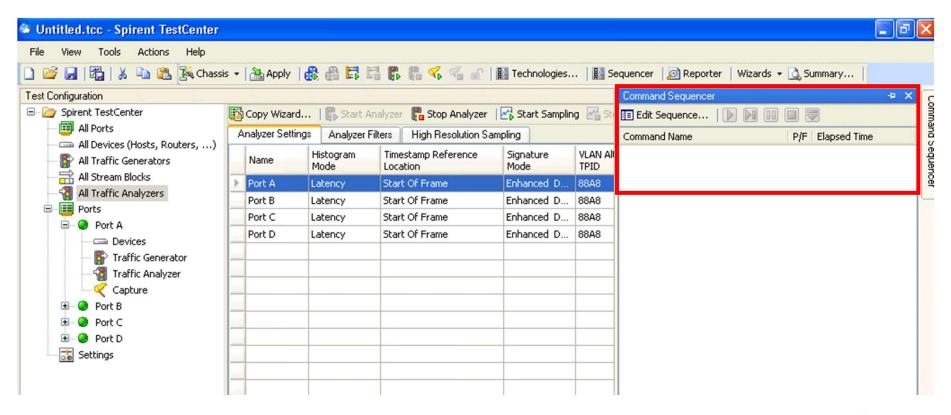
Not necessary for this example





#### 10. Possibly Setup the Test Schedule

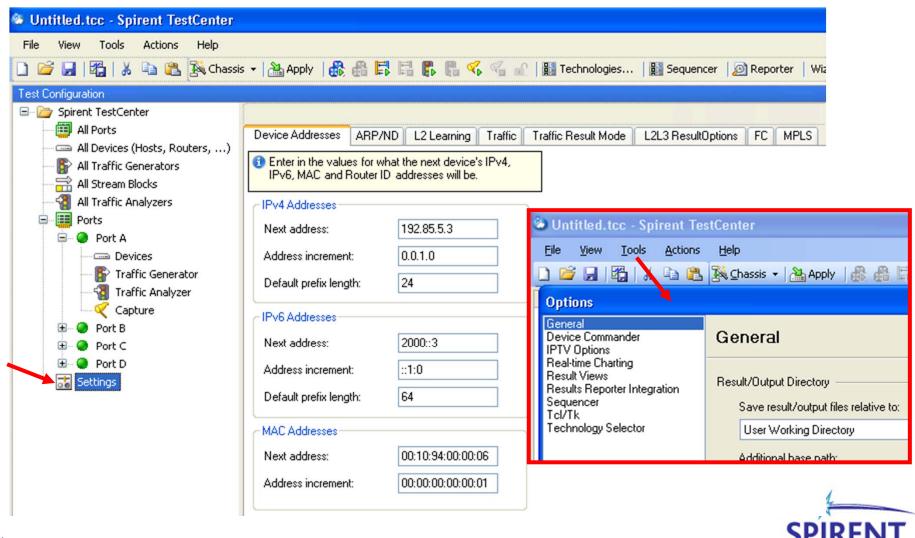
 Not necessary for this example since we will run the test interactively.





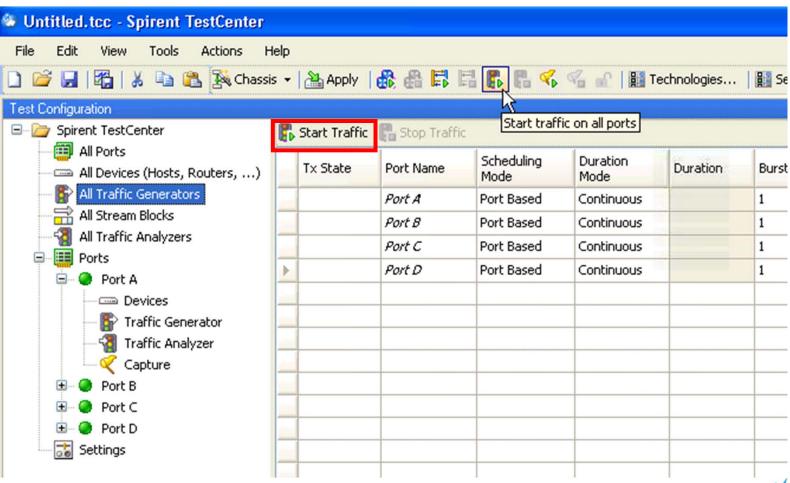
## 11. Possibly Modify other Test Settings

Not necessary for this example



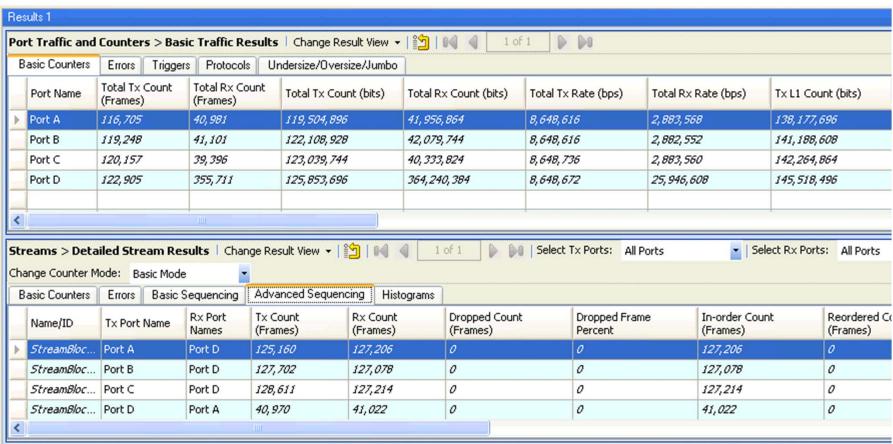
#### 12a. Run the Test

Send traffic by clicking Start Traffic button.



## 12b. View and Interpret the Results

 You can view the Port-based aggregate or Stream-based individual statistics; Stream-based also supports Histograms



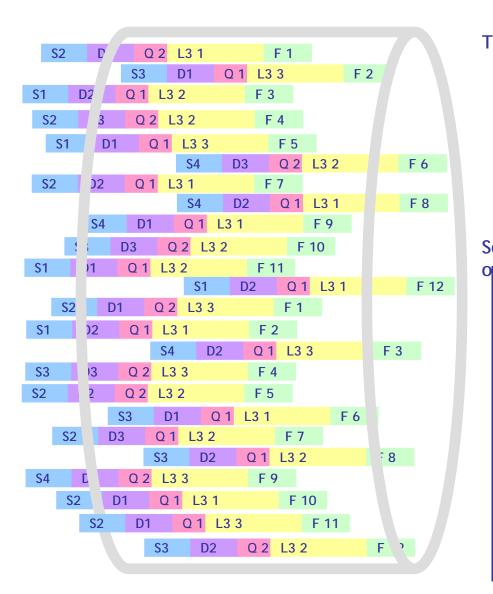


## **Analyzer Capabilities**

- Flexible classification of results
  - Stream ID is the default; track only "Test" traffic
  - Customize Analyzer Filters; track anything
    - by QoS, Protocols, Addressing, VLANs, More!
- Up to 2 Million user-selectable real-time statistics per port
- Advanced measurements, concurrently, in real time
  - Jitter
  - Loss
  - Sequencing
  - Latency
  - Data Integrity



## Spirent TestCenter Analyzer Filters



There are 100s of Analyzer Filter Options!

Source		Destinati			QoS		L3		
		OH			Leve	ei		Proto	ocoi
S1		D1			Q1			L3 1	
S2		D2			Q2			L3 2	
S3		D3					'	L3 3	
S4				l					

ource/Destinati			i	Source &			
				0.00			
S1	D1			S1	Q1	H	
S1	D2			S1	Q2	H	
S1	D3			S2	Q1	L	
S2	D1					L	
S2	D2			S2	Q2		
S2	D3			S3	Q1		
S3	D1			S3	Q2		
_				S4	Q1		
S3	D2			S4	Q2		
S3	D3						
S4	D1						
S4	D2						
S4	D3						

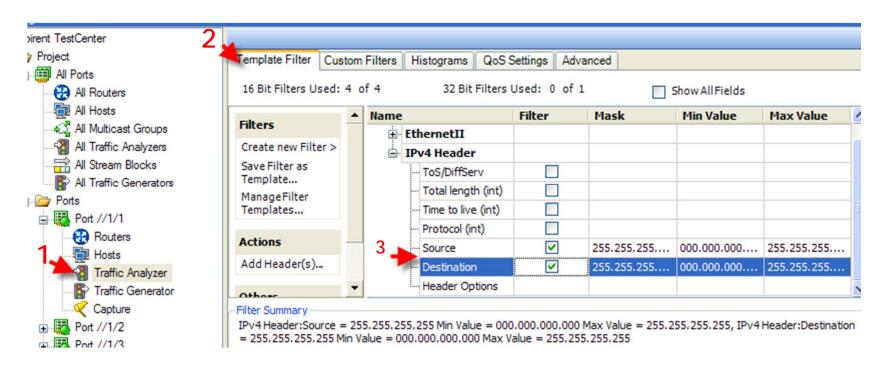
S1 Q1 S1 Q2	
S1 Q2	
<u> </u>	
S2 Q1	
S2 Q2	
S3 Q1	
S3 Q2	
S4 Q1	
S4 Q2	

& QoS				
L3 1	Q1			
L3 1	Q2			
L3 2	Q1			
L3 2	Q2			
L3 3	Q1			
L3 3	Q2			

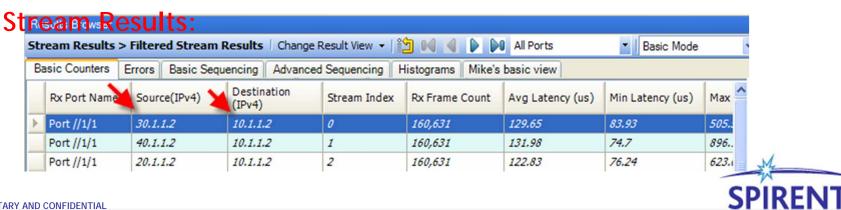
L3 Protocol



## **Customizing Analyzer Filters**

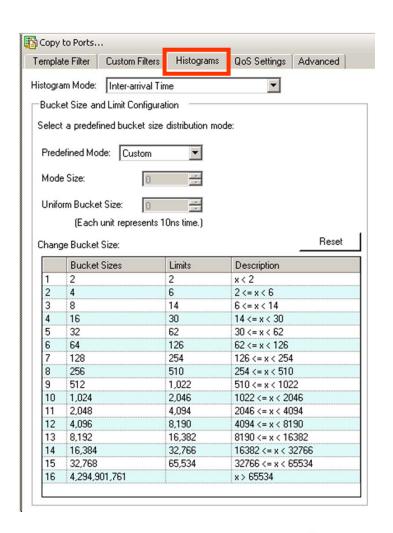


#### The results of customized filters are viewable in the Filtered



## Traffic Analyzer Histograms

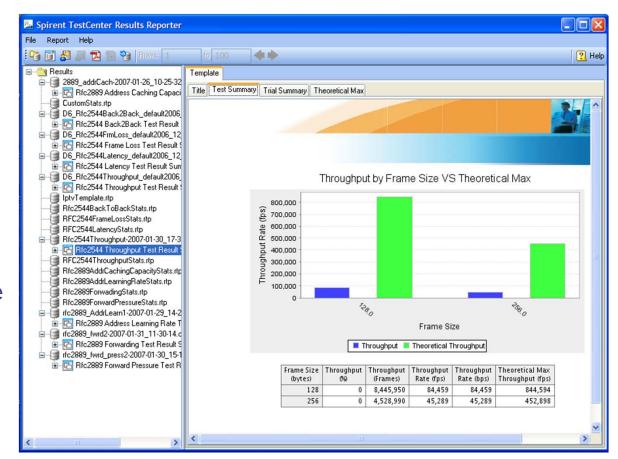
- There are a several customizable choices that display in real-time
- The following types of histograms are available:
  - Inter-arrival time\*
  - Frame length distribution\*
     \*available for non-test traffic too
  - Latency distribution
  - Sequence run length
  - Sequence difference check
  - Jitter as per the MEF specs
- User-defined buckets and distribution modes
- Real-time results displayed in the Results Browser
- Post-test results saved in the database and displayed via the Results Reporter





## Post-test Results and the Results Reporter

- Results are saved to a standard .db database format
- Then they can be viewed with Results Reporter:
  - Templates format results into test reports
  - Results reports can be exported to PDF, XLS, CSV or HTMI
  - SQL queries can be used to examine specific result fields
- Alternatively they can be manipulated with SOLite





## **Generator Aggregate Statistics**

# The following statistics are available for the generator on each port (rates are available for each statistic)

- Generator Frames
- Generator Octets
- Generator Signature Frames
- Generator Signature Octets
- Generator CRC Error Frames
- Generator L3 Checksum Errors
- Generator L4 Checksum Errors

- Generator IPv4 Frames
- Generator IPv6 Frames
- Generator VLAN Frames
- Generator MPLS Frames
- Generator Undersized Frames
- Generator Oversized Frames
- Generator Jumbo Frames



## Port Aggregate Statistics

The following statistics are available for each port (rates are available for each statistic)

Tx and Rx Frames **Total Tx MPLS Frames** 

- Tx and Rx Octets
- Rx FCS Frror Frames
- Rx IPv4 Checksum Frrors
- Rx TCP Checksum Frrors
- Rx UDP Checksum Errors
- Rx PRBS Filled Octets
- Rx PRBS Bit Frrors
- Total IPv4 Frames
- Total IPv6 Frames

- Rx IPv4 Frames
- Rx TCP Frames
- Rx UDP Frames
- Rx MPI S Frames
- Rx ICMP Frames
- Rx VLAN Frames
- Rx Oversized Frames
- Rx Jumbo Frames
- 8 user-defined counters/triggers



#### Control Plane Statistics

The following statistics are available for the CPU ("control plane" or "stack") on each port (rates are available for each statistic) Tx and Rx CPU Frames

- Tx and Rx CPU Octets
- Tx and Rx CPU IPv4 Frames
- Tx and Rx CPU IPv6 Frames
- Tx and Rx CPU ARP Requests
- Tx and Rx CPU ARP Reply
- Tx and Rx CPU ICMP Echo Requests
- Tx and Rx CPU ICMP Echo Replies



## **Stream Analysis**

The following statistics are available for each stream; it depends on the Analyzer "mode" though.

- Tx/Rx Frames (rate)
- Tx/Rx Bytes (rate)
- Packet Loss (rate)
- In Order Packets (rate)
- Reordered Packets (rate)
- Duplicate Packets (rate)
- Late Packets (rate)
- Dropped Packets (rate)
- In Sequence Packets (rate)
- Out of Sequence Packets (rate)

- First and Last Arrival Time
- Min/Max/Ave Inter-arrival Time
- Min/Max/Ave Latency
- Min/Max/Ave Jitter
- Histograms (inter-arrival time, latency, jitter, frame length, sequence run length, sequence difference check)
- Invalid FCS (rate)
- IPv4 Errors (rate)
- TCP/UDP Errors (rate)
- PRBS Errored Bits and Fill Bytes (rate)

RED = always trackable, even without the signature field; think custom analyzer filters!





## Thank You

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