

The ABC's of NSM - Q is for QCheck



Jason Rahm, 2009-31-03

Welcome back for another episode of the ABC's of NSM. What's NSM you say? We'll go with Network and System Management, but you could throw Security in there as well. We'll work our way through the alphabet over the next several weeks looking at tools and concepts along the way for all the administrators out there. By the way, you can thank [Joe](#) for the format & [Don](#) for the title (I couldn't for the life of me come up with one.)

Today's letter **Q** is for [Qcheck](#). Qcheck is a free network utility available from [IXIA](#) that has a clean easy to use interface for those that fear the command line. I'm not sure how much SPX/IPX is still out there in the wild, but if you need it, Qcheck is there for you, in addition to the TCP/UDP options. You can check your throughput, response time, and your route path between Qcheck endpoints (or you can target systems with the IXIA performance endpoint). The streaming option checks your transfer and loss rates simultaneously, while also giving you an idea on your network's ability to support multimedia. Whereas this tool isn't going to win any functionality awards, it is a nice utility for your user base to install so when they call for tech support, you can run them through a few quick tests to assist your efforts in isolating their problem.



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