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Flowmon Probe

Flowmon Probe is a high-performance appliance that monitors network traffic and generate IP flow statistics. The flow statistics are then exported to storage for further analysis by a Flowmon Collector or other NetFlow/IPFIX compatible application. The Probe provides NetFlow/IPFIX data necessary for network operations, troubleshooting, performance, and security monitoring.

Flowmon Probe is available in the form of a hardware appliance of 1U rack unit size and as a virtual appliance for deployment into VMware, Hyper-V, and KVM virtual environments.











Flowmon IPFIX Extensions

Flowmon Probe, a hardware-based or virtual appliance, supports Flowmon IPFIX Extensions which extend IPFIX information elements with monitoring of network performance statistics (Round-Trip Time, Server Response Time, delays, jitter, etc.) and application protocols such as HTTP, DNS, DHCP, SMB, E-mail, MSSQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, VoIP SIP statistics, SSL/TLS, CoAP, IEC104 and others. For more information about Flowmon IPFIX Extensions, see the Flow Standards Specification document available at support.flowmon.com.

Supported L2 and Tunneling Protocols

Besides MAC addresses monitoring, Flowmon Probe also supports various L2 protocols and encapsulations such as VLAN, QinQ, MPLS, GRE, OTV, ESP, Avaya SPB, TRILL, and VxLAN. The monitoring interfaces of FM-PRB-HW-STD-1000-CU, FM-PRB-HW-STD-2000-CU, FM-PRB-HW-STD-4000-CU, FM-PRB-HW-STD-10000-SFP+, FM-PRB-HW-STD-20000-SFP+ and FM-PRB-HW-PRO-4000-CU can be used as targets for ERSPAN/GRE or VxLAN monitoring sessions.

Additional Modules for Probes

Flowmon Probes can be extended with additional modules (licensed separately) such as APM Probe, FPI Probe and IDS Probe. For details, please refer to corresponding specifications. Flowmon



Probe needs to be covered by valid technical support in order to run additional module otherwise only standard Probe functionality is available and additional modules cannot be activated.

Hardware Appliance

Flowmon Probe in the form of a hardware appliance is a high-performance stand-alone device for monitoring all types of networks from 10 Mbps to 100 Gbps. Flowmon Probe comes in a **standard** or **Pro model** with a different number and type of monitoring ports. A hardware-based Flowmon Probe provides a **built-in flow collector** and Flowmon Monitoring Center (FMC) – application for flow collection, visualization, reporting, and analysis. The built-in collector is restricted to receive flow data only from the Probe itself. It is necessary to use a stand-alone Flowmon Collector for collecting data from other/multiple sources.

Flowmon Probe is equipped with two copper 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet **management ports** (except for FM-PRB-HW-STD-1000-CU with only one management port) which can be used for appliance configuration, management, and flow data export. On the FM-PRB-HW-PRO-200000-QSFP28 model, management ports can be upgraded to 10 Gbps Ethernet by purchasing an upgrade package. The upgrade package can be purchased only for new appliances (at the moment of purchase).

Flowmon Probe is also equipped with a **remote control** feature for remote monitoring of device conditions. It offers command-line access, a web GUI and a virtual console. All hardware-based models provide a dedicated network interface for remote control.

Pre-installation Manual document available at support.flowmon.com.

Virtual Appliance

Flowmon Probe in the form of a virtual appliance (VA) is a network monitoring appliance designed for deployment into a virtual environment (VMware, Hyper-V, KVM). Flowmon Probe VA provides functionality similar to the hardware-based Flowmon Probe appliance. Flowmon Probe VA models differ in the number and speed of supported monitoring ports. In contrast with the hardware-based appliance, a Flowmon Probe VA **does not include a built-in collector**, hence it is necessary to use a dedicated collector for NetFlow/IPFIX data storage and analysis.

Flowmon Probe VA supports up to two **management ports** (except for FM-PRB-VA-1000 with only one supported management port) which can be used for appliance configuration, management, and flow data export.



Hardware Appliances

P/N ¹	Model Performance Performance Monitoring Per Port Per Appliance Monitoring		Monitoring Port	Flow Cache	RAID	Disk Type	CPU [*]	RAM	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-1000-CU	Flowmon Probe 1000	1.48 Mpps	1.48 Mpps	1 x 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet	0.5 M	-	1 x SATA	8	32 GB
FM-PRB-HW-STD-2000-CU	Flowmon Probe 2000	1.48 Mpps	2.96 Mpps	2 x 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet	0.5 M	-	1 x SATA	8	32 GB
FM-PRB-HW-STD-4000-CU	Flowmon Probe 4000	1.48 Mpps	3 Mpps	4 x 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet	0.5 M	-	1 x SATA	8	32 GB
FM-PRB-HW-STD-10000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 10000 SFP+	1.5 Mpps	1.5 Mpps	1 x 10/25 Gbps Ethernet	4 M	-	1 x SATA	12	64 GB
FM-PRB-HW-STD-20000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 20000 SFP+	1.5 Mpps	3 Mpps	2 x 10/25 Gbps Ethernet	4 M	-	1 x SATA	12	64 GB
FM-PRB-HW-STD-40000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 40000 SFP+	5 Mpps	20 Mpps	4 x 10/25 Gbps Ethernet	4 M	RAID1	2 x SATA	48	64 GB
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-4000-CU	Flowmon Probe 4000 Pro	1.48 Mpps	3 Mpps	4 x 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet	0.5 M	RAID1	2 x SATA	8	32 GB
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-20000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 20000 Pro SFP+	14.8 Mpps	29.6 Mpps	2 x 10/25 Gbps Ethernet	4 M	RAID1	2 x SATA	48	128 GB
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-40000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 40000 Pro SFP+	14.8 Mpps	59.2 Mpps	4 x 10/25 Gbps Ethernet	4 M	RAID1	2 x SATA	48	128 GB
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-200000-QSFP28	Flowmon Probe 200000 Pro QSFP28	100 Mpps ⁵	150 Mpps ⁵	2 x 40/100 Gbps Ethernet	32 M	RAID1	2 x SATA	40°	256 GB

CU indicates a copper-based monitoring interface. SFP, SFP+ and QSFP28 interfaces require the use of a transceiver module chosen from Flowmon Accessories Price List according to the characteristics of the monitored network. Flowmon Probes supporting 10/25Gbps Ethernet monitoring can be used with 10Gbase SFP+ or 25Gbase SFP28 transceivers.

Flowmon Probe FM-PRB-HW-PRO-200000-QSFP28 can operate in 2x 100G or 2x 40G modes. We recommend to use transceivers from Flowmon Accessories Price List:

• 2x 100G mode: 2x 100G-OSEP28-SR4 or 2x 100G-OSEP28-L R4 transceivers

• 2x 40G mode: 2x 40G-QSEP-SR4 or 2x 40G-QSEP-LR4 transceivers

All models of a hardware-based Flowmon Probe are equipped with a built-in collector capable of processing 50,000 fps (flows per second) and come with 1TB storage capacity



Performance is measured in our test environment using the smallest supported packet size of 64 bytes. Flowmon Probe is configured without any optional L2/L3/L4/L7 protocol analysis, tunnel decapsulation or additionally installed packages. All RX/TX traffic of the monitored network is sent to a single monitoring port of the appliance. There are several other factors that may affect your specific performance, such as traffic type, average packet size, distribution of packet arrival times, number and type of L2/L3/L4/L7 protocols being analyzed or additionally installed packages. In deployments that split RX/TX traffic of the monitored network to different monitoring ports of the appliance, e.g. by using an optical TAP, NPM metrics will not be computed correctly, the quality of L2/L3/L4/L7 protocol analysis may be negatively impacted and the overall performance may not be optimal. While we do our best to represent the data as fairly and accurately as possible, your environment may experience different limits.

The number of flow entries in flow cache per monitoring port.

The number of CPU cores, with Hyper-Threading enabled.

Performance is measured for IP traffic or IP traffic encapsulated in MPLS (up to 2 layers), VLAN or QinQ, without any optional L2/L3/L4/L7 protocol analysis or additionally installed packages. If other encapsulation protocols or appliance configuration options are used, performance may vary based on the encapsulation protocol and network traffic distribution and mixture. For example, the observed performance of an appliance monitoring a network with up to 100,000 flows per second whilst performing DNS, HTTP, NBAR2, TLS and NPM metrics analysis is approx. 6 Mpps per port.

[°]Model FM-PRB-HW-PRO-200000-QSFP28 has Hyper-Threading disabled.

Hardware Appliances – Operating conditions

	Model	Dimensions (H x W x D) cm	Weight (kg)	PSU		Power Consumption		Heat	
P/N				Power	Hot Swap	CPU Idle	CPU max	Dissipation (max.)	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-1000-CU	Flowmon Probe 1000	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 46.1	9.6	450 W	no	44 W	108 W	1730 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-2000-CU	Flowmon Probe 2000	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 46.1	9.6	450 W	no	44 W	108 W	1730 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-4000-CU	Flowmon Probe 4000	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 46.1	9.6	450 W	no	44 W	108 W	1730 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-10000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 10000 SFP+	1U, 4.3 × 43.4 × 56.3	13.2	600 W	no	62 W	122 W	2250 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-20000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 20000 SFP+	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 56.3	13.2	600 W	no	62 W	122 W	2250 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-STD-40000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 40000 SFP+	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 71.2	18.6	2 x 800 W	yes	178 W	416 W	3000 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-4000-CU	Flowmon Probe 4000 Pro	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 56.3	13.2	600 W	no	62 W	122 W	2250 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-20000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 20000 Pro SFP+	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 71.2	18.6	2 x 800 W	yes	127 W	354 W	3000 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-40000-SFP+	Flowmon Probe 40000 Pro SFP+	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 71.2	18.6	2 x 800 W	yes	127 W	354 W	3000 BTU/h	
FM-PRB-HW-PRO-200000-QSFP28	Flowmon Probe 200000 Pro QSFP28	1U, 4.3 x 43.4 x 78.7	22.5	2 x 1100 W	yes	249 W	726 W	4100 BTU/h	

Continuous Operation:

Temperature: 10°C to 35°C

• Relative Humidity: 10% to 80% at 29°C

Expanded Operation²:

Temperature: 5°C to 40°C

Relative Humidity: 5% to 85% at 29°C



The specified temperature is the maximum dew point temperature.

When operating in the expanded temperature range, system performance may be impacted. Device can work in this condition for up to 1% of annual operating hour

Virtual Appliances

P/N	Model	Performance Per Port	Performance Per Appliance	Monitoring Interfaces	Flow ₂ Cache	VMware ESXi	Microsoft Hyper-V	KVM	Minimum Configuration ³
FM-PRB-VA-1000	Flowmon Probe 1000 VA	Up to 0.3 Mpps	Up to 0.3 Mpps	1 x 1 Gbps Ethernet	0.5 M		later 2012 R2 and higher		4 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD
FM-PRB-VA-2000	Flowmon Probe 2000 VA	Up to 0.3 Mpps	Up to 0.6 Mpps	2 x 1 Gbps Ethernet	0.5 M			KVM 3.10.0	4 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD
FM-PRB-VA-4000	Flowmon Probe 4000 VA	Up to 0.3 Mpps	Up to 1.2 Mpps	4 x 1 Gbps Ethernet	0.5 M	5.5 and later		and higher QEMU 1.5.3 and higher	6 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD
FM-PRB-VA-6000	Flowmon Probe 6000 VA	Up to 0.3 Mpps	Up to 1.8 Mpps	6 x 1 Gbps Ethernet	0.5 M	5.5 and later		libvirt 4.5.0 and higher	6 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD
FM-PRB-VA-10000	Flowmon Probe 10000 VA	Up to 0.7 Mpps	Up to 0.7 Mpps	1 x 10 Gbps Ethernet	4 M		and migner	8 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD	
FM-PRB-VA-20000	Flowmon Probe 20000 VA	Up to 0.7 Mpps	Up to 1.4 Mpps	2 x 10 Gbps Ethernet	4 M				8 CPU cores, 8 GB RAM, min. 25 GB HDD

Performance is measured in our test environment using the smallest supported packet size of 64 bytes. Flowmon Probe is configured without any optional L2/L3/L4/L7 protocol analysis, tunnel decapsulation or additionally installed packages. In virtual environments, the performance depends on allocated resources, overall system load, and environment of deployment. There are several other factors that may affect your specific performance, such as traffic type, average packet size, distribution of packet arrival times, number and type of L2/L3/L4/L7 protocols being analyzed or additionally installed packages. While we do our best to represent the data as fairly and accurately as possible, your environment may experience different limits.

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A number of flow entries in flow cache per monitoring port.

Some configuration options, such as supported disk size, may be limited by the customer's virtual environment regardless of which Flowmon Probe model has been selected. Any such limitations should be consulted with the vendor/distributor of the virtual environment.

The Flowmon Probe VA must be running on a host system that supports the following instruction sets: MMX, SSE, SSE3, SSSE3, CX16, SAHF and FXSR. For Intel CPUs, it corresponds to Intel Core 2 family and newer.