



Lab 9.5.5 Link Status Meter and Preferences

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

Number of Team Members: Students will work in teams of two.

Objective

In this lab, students will operate the Link Status Meter (LSM) utility for the wireless client adapter. Students will then learn how to set the Preferences options for the Aironet Client Utilities (ACU).

Scenario

This section explains how to use the LSM utility to determine the performance of the radio frequency (RF) link between the client adapter and its associated AP.

The second section explains how to set optional Preferences for the Aironet Client Utility.

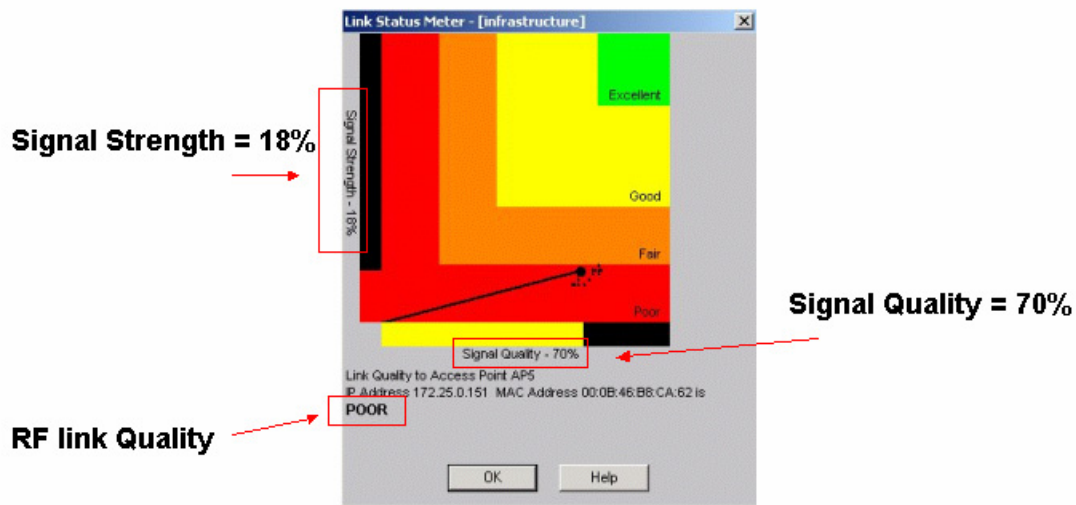
Preparation

The student will read and understand the material presented in FWL Module 9 prior to the lab.

Tools and Resources

The following tools and resources will help with this lab:

- Cisco Aironet AP properly operating and configured
- PC or laptop with a Cisco Aironet Wireless client adapter and utility properly installed



Step 1 Link Status Meter

Use the Link Status Meter to determine the signal strength.

Open the Aironet Client Utility screen.

Click on the **Link Status Meter** button. The Link Status Meter screen appears.

Data pertaining to the performance of the RF link can be accessed from ACU and LSM. However, they are displayed differently by each utility. This data is represented by histograms in ACU and is depicted graphically in LSM.

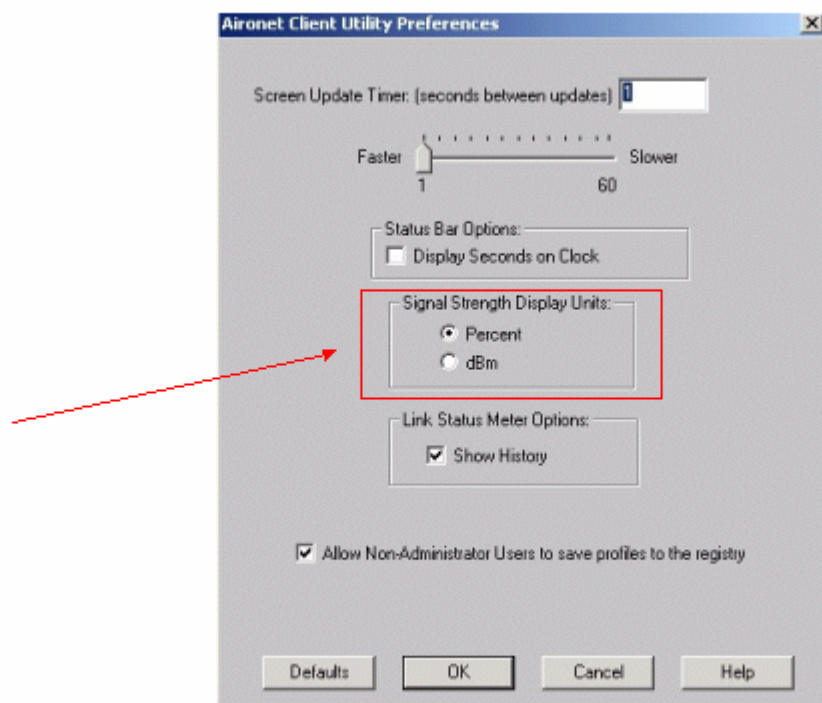
The Link Status Meter screen provides a graphical display of the following:

- **Signal strength**— The strength of the radio signal from the client adapter at the time packets are being received. It is displayed as a percentage along the vertical axis.
- **Signal quality**— The quality of the radio signal from the client adapter at the time packets are being received. It is displayed as a percentage along the horizontal axis.

a. What is the signal strength of the PC to the AP (%)?

b. What is the signal quality of the PC to the AP (%)?

c. What is the quality of the overall RF link?



Step 2 ACU preferences

Open the ACU Screen.

Click on the **Preference** button on the ACU screen.

- a. What units are the signal strength and signal quality expressed in?

Click on the Percent or the dBm option to change the Signal Strength Display Units. Choose the opposite of whatever the current setting is.

Click the **OK** button to save the changes.

Click on the **Site Survey** button on the ACU screen.

- b. What units are the signal strength and signal quality expressed in now?

Click on the **Preference** button and change the Preferences to the settings preferred.

Click the **OK** button to save the changes.