

# Financial Markets

**CLS chooses NetUsage to monitor the world's only global FX Settlement System.**



## Continuous Linked Settlement

Think what would happen if the world's banks were suddenly unable to trade foreign currencies. It is a truism that our world is becoming rapidly more and more interdependent. Export and import trade and investment have become the lifeblood of virtually every country in the world. And since they are done in multiple currencies, they require huge volumes of foreign exchange transactions every single day.

Until recently, each individual bank managed its own foreign exchange transactions – buy one currency, sell another. A single transaction but with 2 separate sides frequently spanning different time zones. If one side succeeded and the other side failed, the bank could risk huge losses. But while transaction volumes increased by quantum leaps, the way in which they were settled stayed virtually the same for 300 years.

CLS Bank was formed specifically to eliminate that risk. Supported by 71 of the world's leading banks and financial institutions and maintaining accounts with national central banks, it provides the Continuous Linked Settlement service as a means of settling foreign exchange transactions finally and irrevocably. Settlement is final the moment instructions cross CLS Bank's books.

CLS settles the majority of interbank FX, the largest segment of the US\$2 trillion daily FX market.

## Continuity

CLS operates 24 hours a day, 6 days a week. During every moment of that time continuity is critical to CLS. So critical it is part of the service name and implied in the Bank's own name. And that operation depends upon informed and courteous customer service and total reliability of its technology.

In I.T. terms continuity means uptime and throughput. The most beautiful software is useless if the data cannot reach the application or the user cannot access the information. Uptime and throughput demand a reliable network.

Which is why CLS chose NetUsage.

For CLS Services, the technical arm of the CLS group, achieving reliable uptime and throughput requires intimate knowledge of network performance on both a real-time and a historical basis. With real-time visibility of network traffic CLS Services can be alert to the development of capacity problems and bottlenecks anywhere in the network and to exceptional situations as they arise and can take prompt and decisive action to trouble-shoot and rectify them.

With historical reports they can review "unsociable" network use by users, developers and administrators and implement rules for future behaviour as well as extrapolate trends to plan the most effective and cost-effective development strategy for the network and the maximisation of their investment in technology.

To date, CLS services FX transactions in the 11 major currencies. Four more are scheduled later this year. They cannot afford to stand still even before allowing for the rapid pace of growth in foreign trading and the resulting settlement volumes. For CLS, the ability to "future proof" their network is critical.

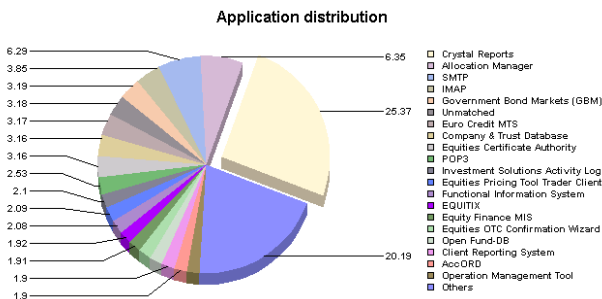
## NetUsage

The NetUsage Console is a plug-and-play appliance with a suite of integrated software tools that provide a network-wide view of an organisation's traffic from any individual location. NetUsage requires the minimum number of network probes, is non-invasive and, unlike most other network monitoring tools, does not impede the flow of traffic.

Significantly, CLS manages its global WAN and external networks with a single NetUsage Console and four NetUsage probes.

NetUsage takes the information that is provided by the CLS network's Cisco routers and converts that data into useful reports from which they can learn all they need to know to optimise the performance of the network and manage its business application. The Console can be installed in approximately 30 minutes with zero network downtime and no impact on network performance.

**Link name:** London to Paris (The Bridge - Paris Centre)  
**Speed:** 256kbps  
**Media type:** Leased Line



## Traffic Reporter

All the information that CLS requires to maintain the health of their network is provided by Traffic Reporter. This module provides clear, graphical and numeric reports on where on the network traffic is coming from and where it is going. It answers questions like: "Who are the 10 biggest talkers on my network?" Not in logs or dumps – in meaningful, easy to understand graphs, accessible by any web browser, with no need to install any client software.

Traffic Reporter's colour-coded graphs show what proportion of network resources are being utilised by link or by application for periods from

5 minutes to 60 days ago and support analysis of trends over weeks, months, quarters and years.

**For network managers with a more commercial than technical mandate NetUsage provides further tools:**

### Business Reporter

Unique to NetUsage, Business Reporter allows network managers to map network links to individual applications and business infrastructure uses such as e-mail and web surfing. Business Reporter translates the network use data into information a business manager can use to allocate responsibility, justify purchase requests, mediate conflicts for use of shared resources and identify proprietary applications that are shirking their unit's responsibility by masquerading as infrastructure.

### Cost Reporter

Also unique to NetUsage, Cost Reporter takes the next step beyond Business Reporter. It takes the business unit allocation of resource use provided by Business Reporter and turns it into dollars and cents.

Business Reporter assigns responsibility for use of network resources. Cost Reporter lets the unit manager claim responsibility and know the cost of doing so, include it in his budget and justify or modify his management decisions. Resolving the issues to money provides clarity and certainty allowing more rational decision-making and easier resolution of disputes.

### Host Reporter

NetUsage Host Reporter provides server monitoring information, for example, in a server farm environment, so that the System Administrator or Application Manager is able to take decisions based on fine-grained visibility of the servers (hosts) and data contained within them. Presented as dynamic, drill-down reports, this module is a must for any organisation considering or about to embark on a server consolidation or Data Centre consolidation programme.

## What does CLS say?

Mark Hill, CLS's technical infrastructure manager has this to say:

*"NetUsage Console enables us to have both a real time and historic view of our network traffic to a fairly detailed level. In broad terms the benefits are two-fold: first, reactive troubleshooting: it shows graphically what is dominating bandwidth use, causing bottlenecks or creating other issues. Second, through proactive planning, we can trend traffic patterns and plan for future network expansion and growth.*

*NetUsage enables us as network administrators to manage our environment effectively. Without it we would be 'blind' to what is really happening.*

*We particularly like the fact that NetUsage Console requires less physical probes and they can be placed anywhere on the network – plus the data can provide information about what particular protocols are in play. This helps us manage the network and provide our service much more efficiently and safe in the knowledge that we can identify and rectify problems very quickly."*

## The Bottom Line

NetUsage Console provides the visibility, scalability and accountability essential for good network management. It revolutionises network management, enabling unparalleled insight into exactly what is going on within networks thereby allowing informed decisions to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

NetUsage Console enhances capacity planning, troubleshooting, performance monitoring, allocation of costs, quick identification of suspicious network traffic and service level agreement monitoring. It also rationalises server and data centre consolidation.

NetUsage Console does all this using a cost-effective plug and play appliance which allows network administrators access across their network both locally and globally.

NetUsage provides network transparency allowing users to stop reading data and start gaining knowledge.

## About Apoapsis

NetUsage is a division of Apoapsis, a premier network infrastructure consultancy and software solutions company serving Global Fortune 500 companies. The company has specialist experience in global financial, telecommunications and networking arenas. This, together with the software development division, affords Apoapsis a unique insight into enterprise network accountability.

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