Fresh Tomato



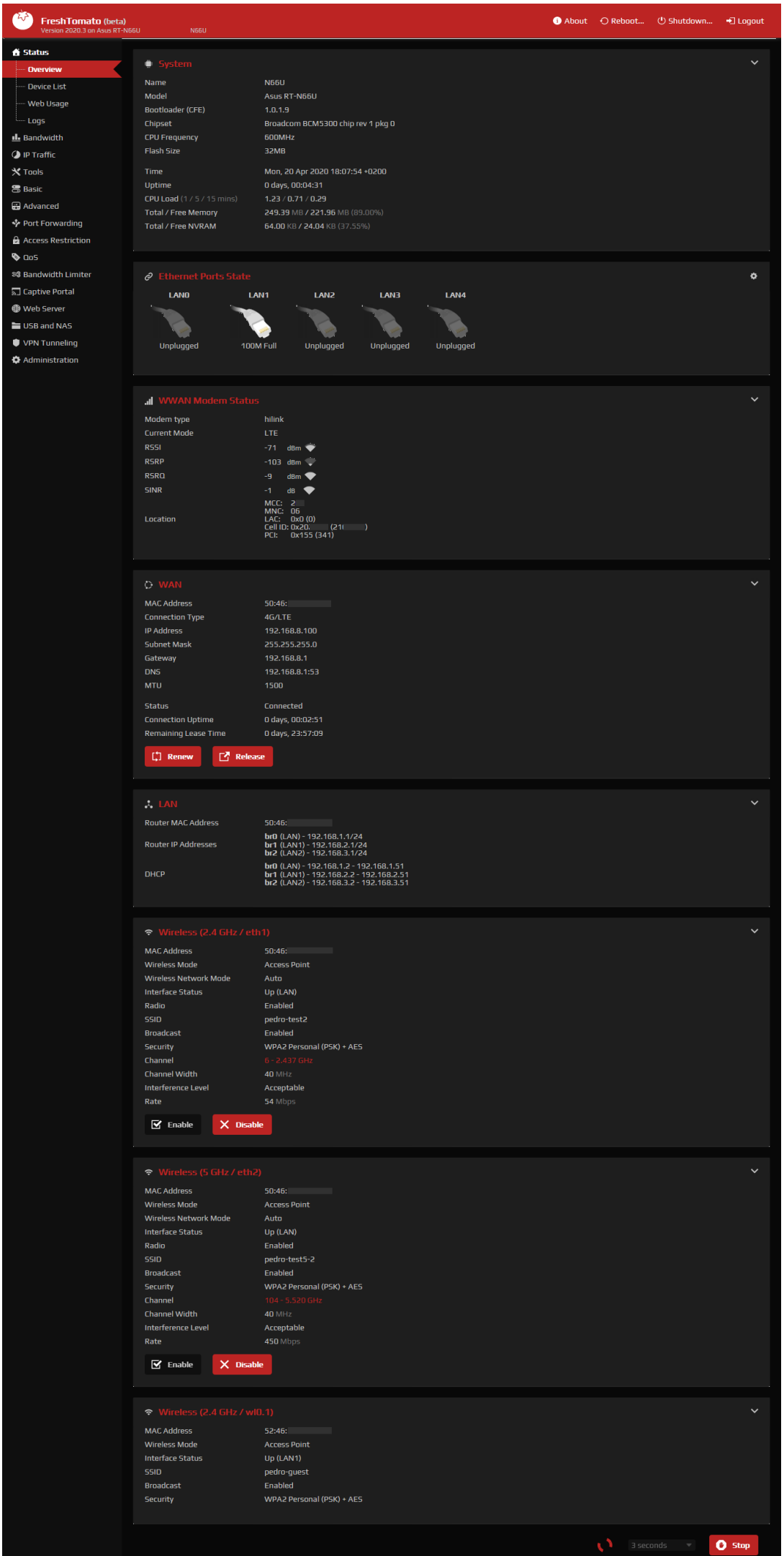
FreshTomato is a firmware project based on Linux, targeting home and SOHO routers.

FreshTomato is distributed on the GPL license.

FreshTomato supports Broadcom based systems.

> I currently run Fresh Tomato firmware on several Netgear Nighthawks. The R7000 and R8000 are my current preferred routers for Fresh Tomato firmware.

It is far superior in both security and features than the original Netgear firmware that came with these routers. Unlike Netgear, updates for the router firmware to address security vulnerabilities or correct bugs are available on a regular basis. Netgear would usually take well over a year to address security issues, if at all.


FreshTomato (beta)
Version 2020.3 on Asus RT-N66U
N66U
About
Reboot...
Shutdown...
Logout
Status
Overview
Device List
Web Usage
Logs
Bandwidth
IP Traffic
Tools
Basic
Advanced
Port Forwarding
Access Restriction
QoS
Bandwidth Limiter
Captive Portal
Web Server
USB and NAS
VPN Tunneling
Administration
System
Name N66U
Model Asus RT-N66U
Bootloader (CFE) 1.0.1.9
Chipset Broadcom BCM5300 chip rev 1 pkg 0
CPU Frequency 600MHz
Flash Size 32MB
Time Mon, 20 Apr 2020 18:07:54 +0200
Uptime 0 days, 00:04:31
CPU Load (1 / 5 / 15 mins) 1.23 / 0.71 / 0.29
Total / Free Memory 249.39 MB / 221.96 MB (89.00%)
Total / Free NVRAM 64.00 KB / 24.04 KB (37.55%)
Ethernet Ports State
LAN0 Unplugged
LAN1 100M Full
LAN2 Unplugged
LAN3 Unplugged
LAN4 Unplugged
WWAN Modem Status
Modem type hilink
Current Mode LTE
RSSI -71 dBm
RSRP -103 dBm
RSRQ -9 dBm
SINR -1 dB
Location MCC: 2
MNC: 06
LAC: 0x0 (0)
Cell ID: 0x20. (21)
PCI: 0x155 (341)
WAN
MAC Address 50:46:
Connection Type 4G/LTE
IP Address 192.168.8.100
Subnet Mask 255.255.255.0
Gateway 192.168.8.1
DNS 192.168.8.1:53
MTU 1500
Status Connected
Connection Uptime 0 days, 00:02:51
Remaining Lease Time 0 days, 23:57:09
Renew
Release
LAN
Router MAC Address 50:46:
Router IP Addresses br0 (LAN) - 192.168.1.1/24
br1 (LAN1) - 192.168.2.1/24
br2 (LAN2) - 192.168.3.1/24
DHCP br0 (LAN) - 192.168.1.2 - 192.168.1.51
br1 (LAN1) - 192.168.2.2 - 192.168.2.51
br2 (LAN2) - 192.168.3.2 - 192.168.3.51
Wireless (2.4 GHz / eth1)
MAC Address 50:46:
Wireless Mode Access Point
Wireless Network Mode Auto
Interface Status Up (LAN)
Radio Enabled
SSID pedro-test2
Broadcast Enabled
Security WPA2 Personal (PSK) + AES
Channel 6 - 2.437 GHz
Channel Width 40 MHz
Interference Level Acceptable
Rate 54 Mbps
Enable
Disable
Wireless (5 GHz / eth2)
MAC Address 50:46:
Wireless Mode Access Point
Wireless Network Mode Auto
Interface Status Up (LAN)
Radio Enabled
SSID pedro-test5-2
Broadcast Enabled
Security WPA2 Personal (PSK) + AES
Channel 104 - 5.520 GHz
Channel Width 40 MHz
Interference Level Acceptable
Rate 450 Mbps
Enable
Disable
Wireless (2.4 GHz / wl0.1)
MAC Address 52:46:
Wireless Mode Access Point
Interface Status Up (LAN1)
SSID pedro-guest
Broadcast Enabled
Security WPA2 Personal (PSK) + AES
3 seconds
Stop

Installing on a R8000 Router

Since I use Netgear Nighthawk R8000 routers in my environment, I thought I would outline the process I use to flash fresh Tomato firmware to them. Fresh Tomato supports other broadcom based routers as well. If you have another make and model of router, you can check if yours is supported by going **here**.

> Be sure to read the installation information for your model of router. This installation guide is simply the way I install the firmware on my R8000 routers. I do not imply any guarantee this will work for yours. You are responsible for taking the risk.

> “ I will get the instructions in here as soon as time permits. A bit busy with life at the moment.

Fixing a 'Bricked' R8000 Router

Recently, I decided I wanted a router as a "shelf spare" in the event one of my production routers failed. Since I have previously flashed many R8000s for myself without issue, I proceeded to purchase a used R8000 from eBay. This particular router, however, 'bricked' on me when I attempted to flash Tomato firmware to it.

> “Bricking” essentially means a device has turned into a brick. It may be an electronic device worth hundreds of dollars, but it’s now as useful as a brick (or perhaps a paperweight). A bricked device won’t power on and function normally. A bricked device cannot be fixed through normal means.

Anyway, I thought I would detail the steps and requirements I used to 'unbrick' my router and get it working with Tomato firmware.

> “ I will get the instructions in here as soon as time permits. A bit busy with life at the moment.

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