SharePoint Reporting
For NetPlanner, OpticalPlanner, Modeler, and NetAuditor
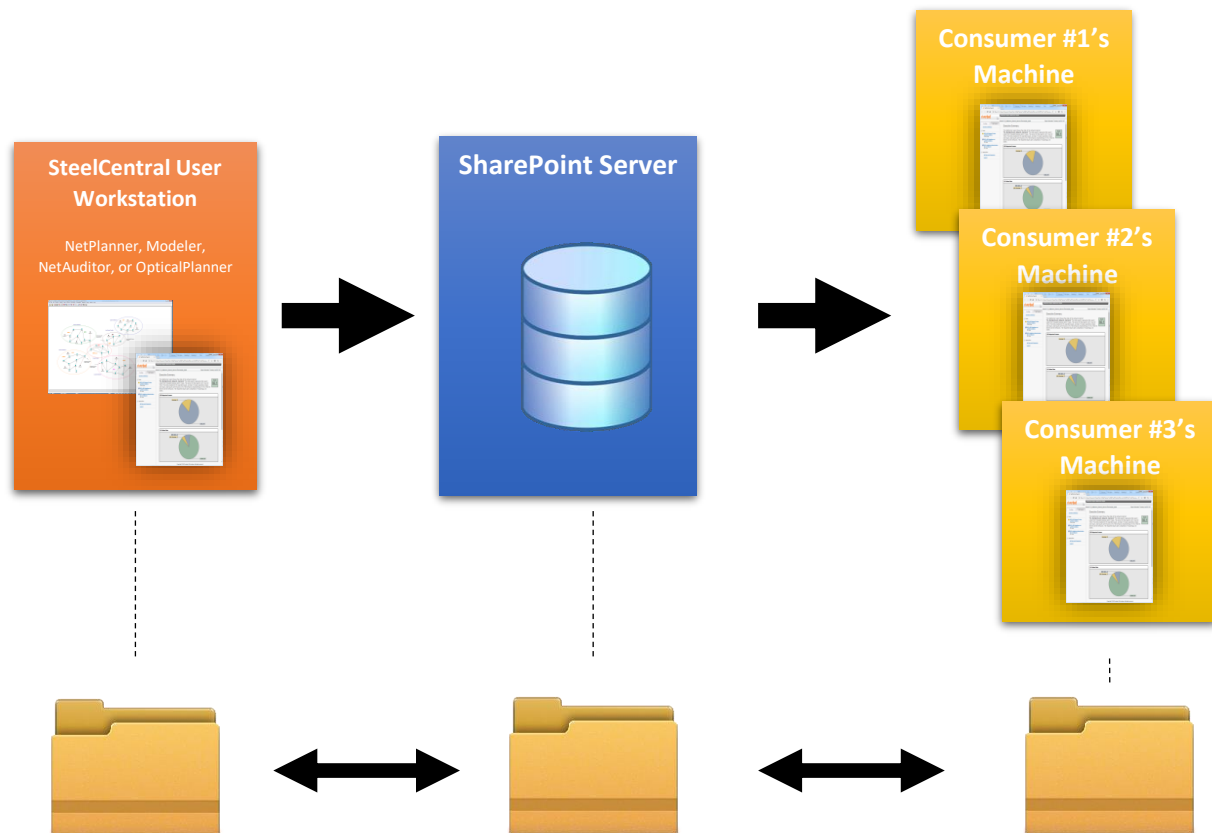
Feb 2021

NOTE: *Riverbed Support is not responsible for troubleshooting or assisting with any issues related to Sharepoint. The guide is to be taken AS-IS.*

1 INTRODUCTION

This document discusses how to configure SharePoint reporting for Riverbed SteelCentral products, such as NetPlanner, OpticalPlanner, Modeler, and NetAuditor. Since all of these products share the same reporting infrastructure, the same procedures can be used for all of them.

Configuring SharePoint reporting provides a viable alternative to the legacy "OPNET Report Server" functionality. It will enable users of the SteelCentral products to create analysis reports and share them with consumers of those reports who do not need to be SteelCentral users. Access control of those reports will be provided by the SharePoint server. The diagram below show the architecture of required for SharePoint reporting.
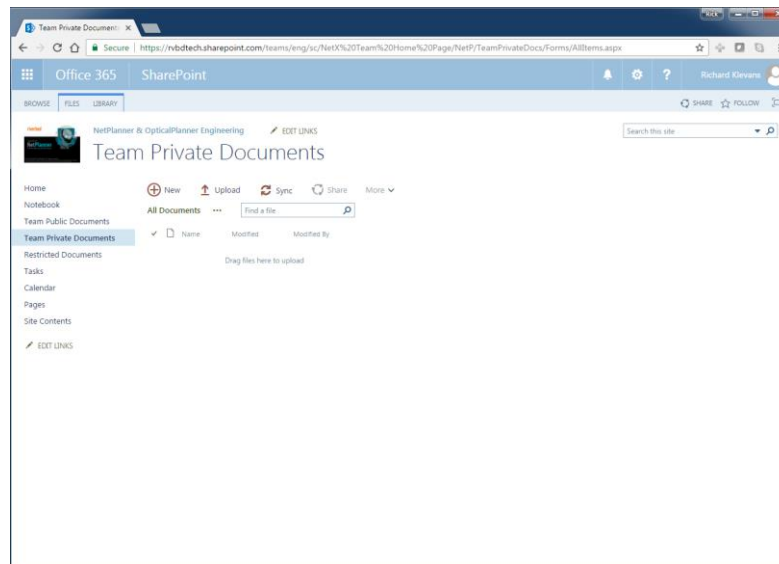
In this configuration, the reports will not be directly served using the SharePoint server since it is not a fully functional webserver. Instead, the SharePoint server will act is a repository of files. The SteelCentral user's workstation will synchronize a SharePoint directory to a local folder in order to provide a channel for pushing reports to the SharePoint server's file repository. Similarly, consumers will synchronize the same SharePoint directory to local folders on their workstations in order to be able to read the analysis reports.
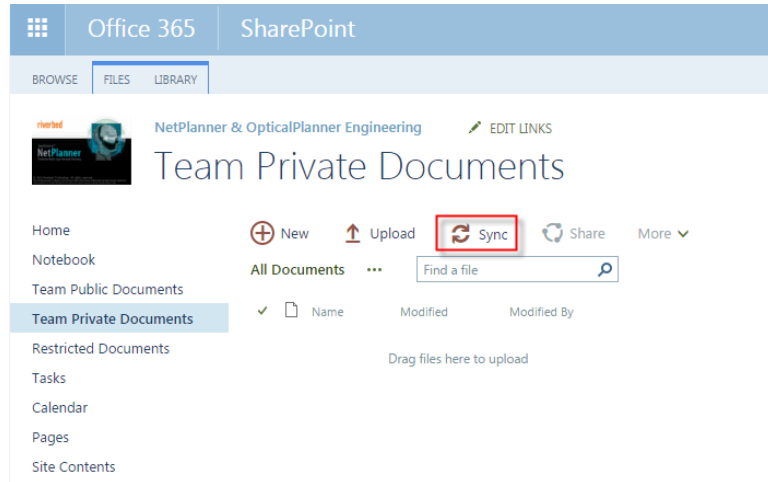
2   SHAREPOINT SETUP

The first step is to make SharePoint directories available to the workstation where the SteelCentral products are hosted.
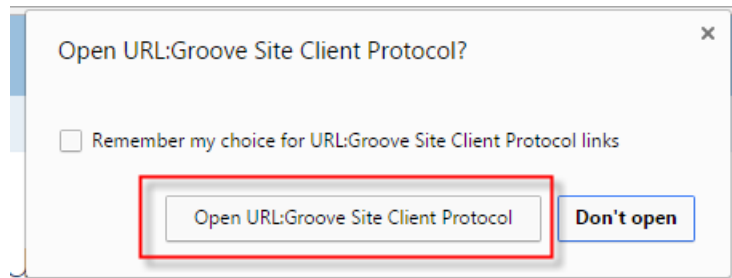
1. Login in the SharePoint
2. Navigate to the SharePoint site (directory) where you want reports to be placed.
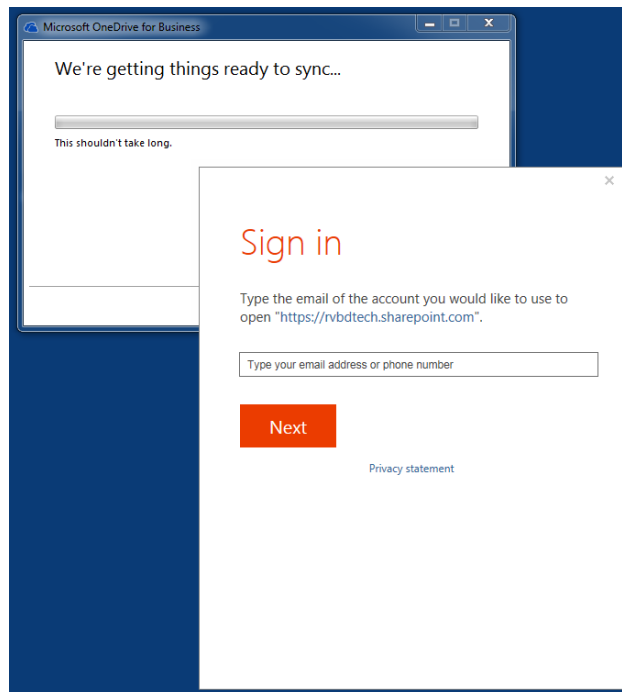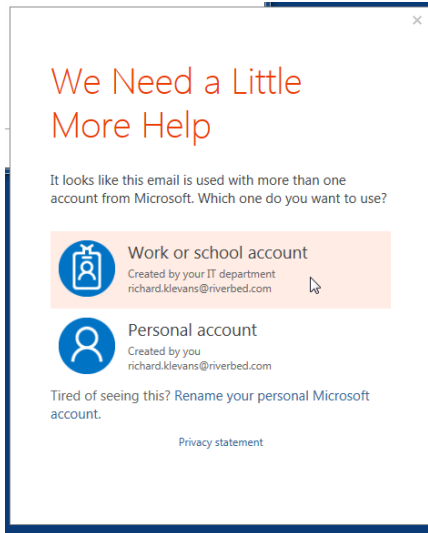

3. Click on the "Sync" hyperlink.

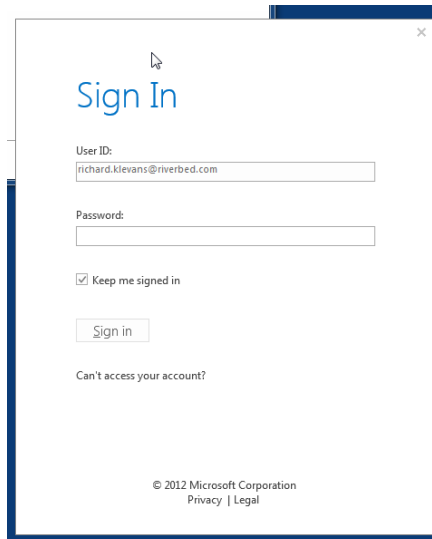4. In the popup window, click on the "Open" button.
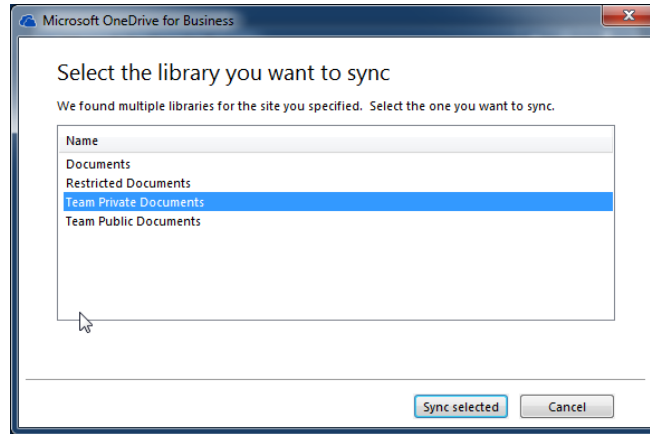

5. Sign in to SharePoint on your local machine.

6. Choose which account. Pick the "Work" account.

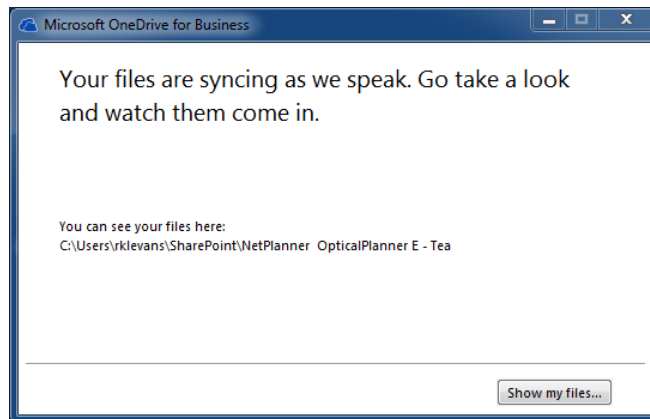

7. Enter your password
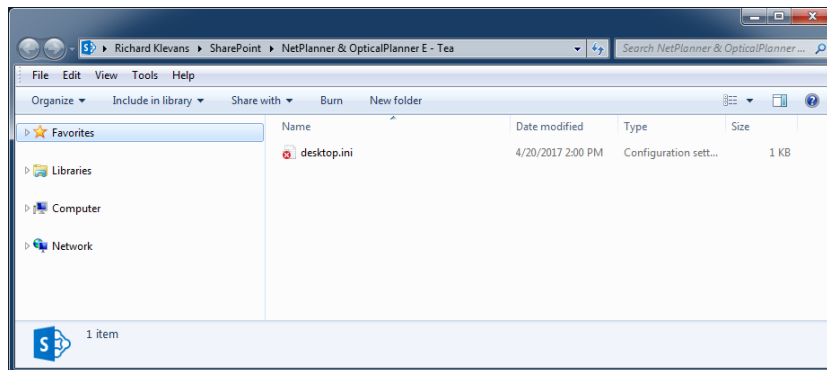

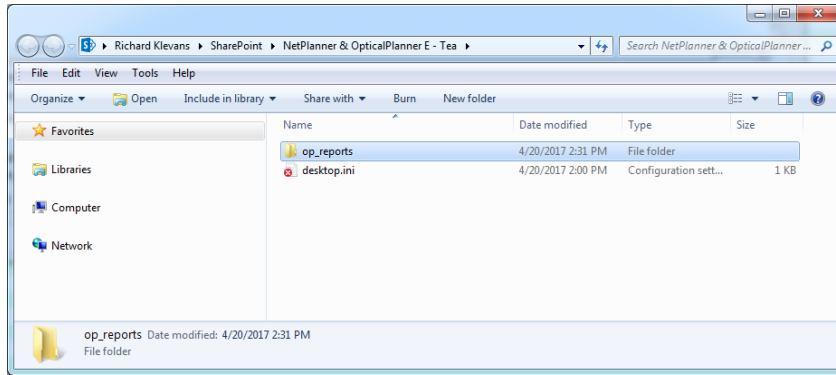8. Select the library to sync.

9. Click "Sync selected".
10. Wait.

11. Navigate to local copy of the SharePoint directory by clicking on the "Show my files…" button.

12. Create a sub-directory for storing the reports by clicking on the "New folder" button at the top of the window.
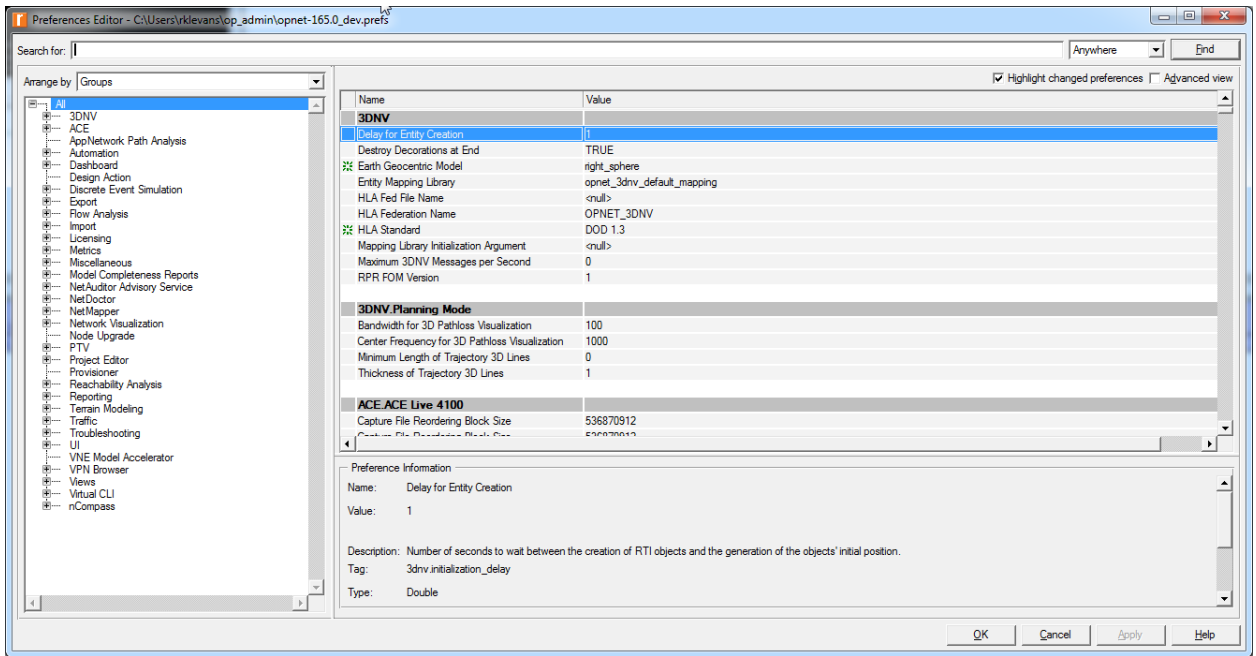13. Name the new directory "op_reports".

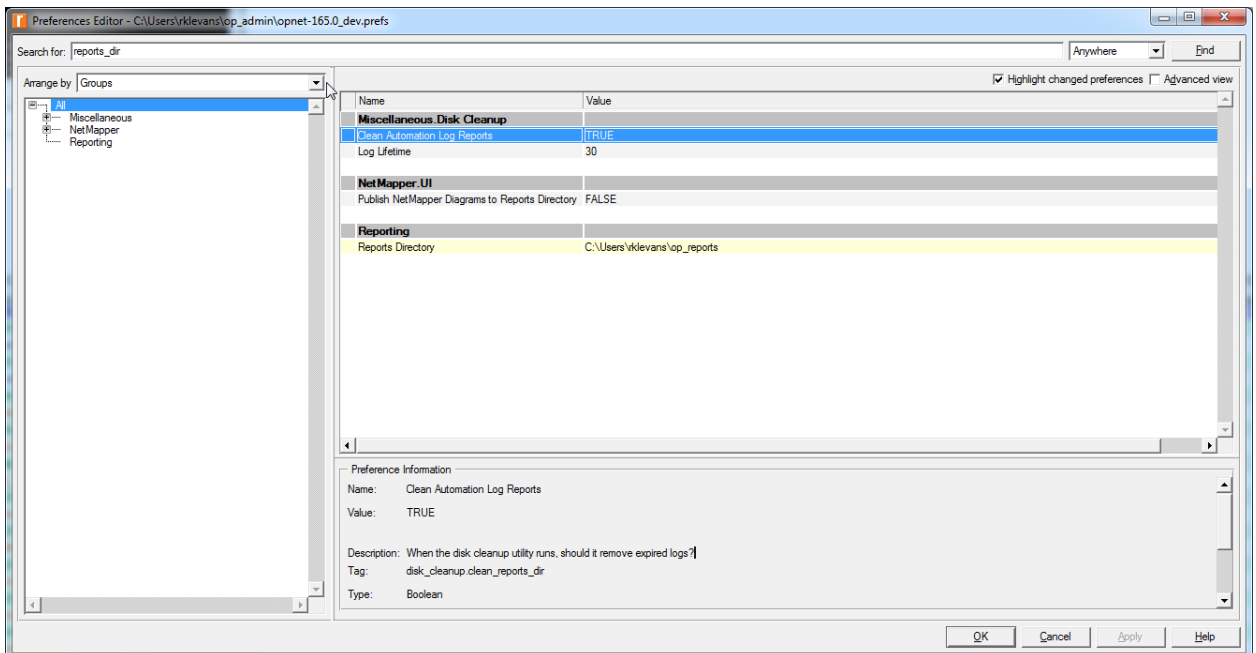That completes the process of synchronizing a SharePoint directory with a local user folder.

3 CONFIGURING STEELCENTRAL PRODUCTS TO USE SHAREPOINT

The section discusses how to use the local copy of the SharePoint directory as the storage location for reports generated by SteelCentral products such as NetPlanner or Modeler.
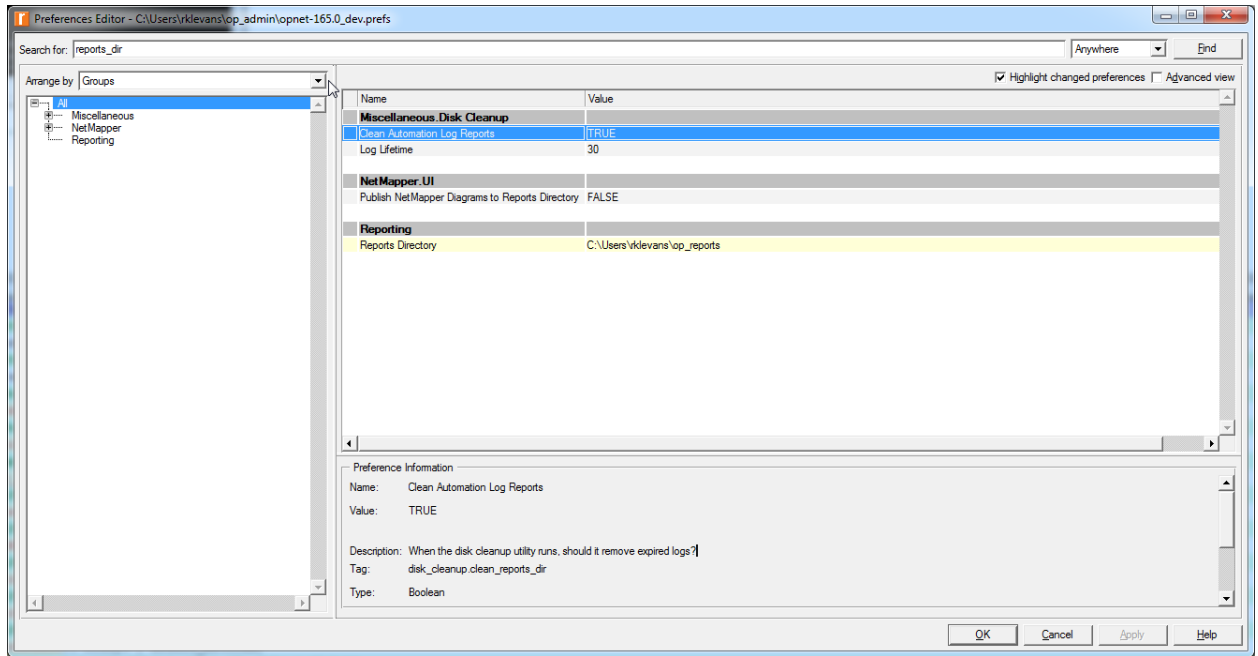
1. Start the SteelCentral product – i.e., NetPlanner, OpticalPlanner, Modeler, and NetAuditor.
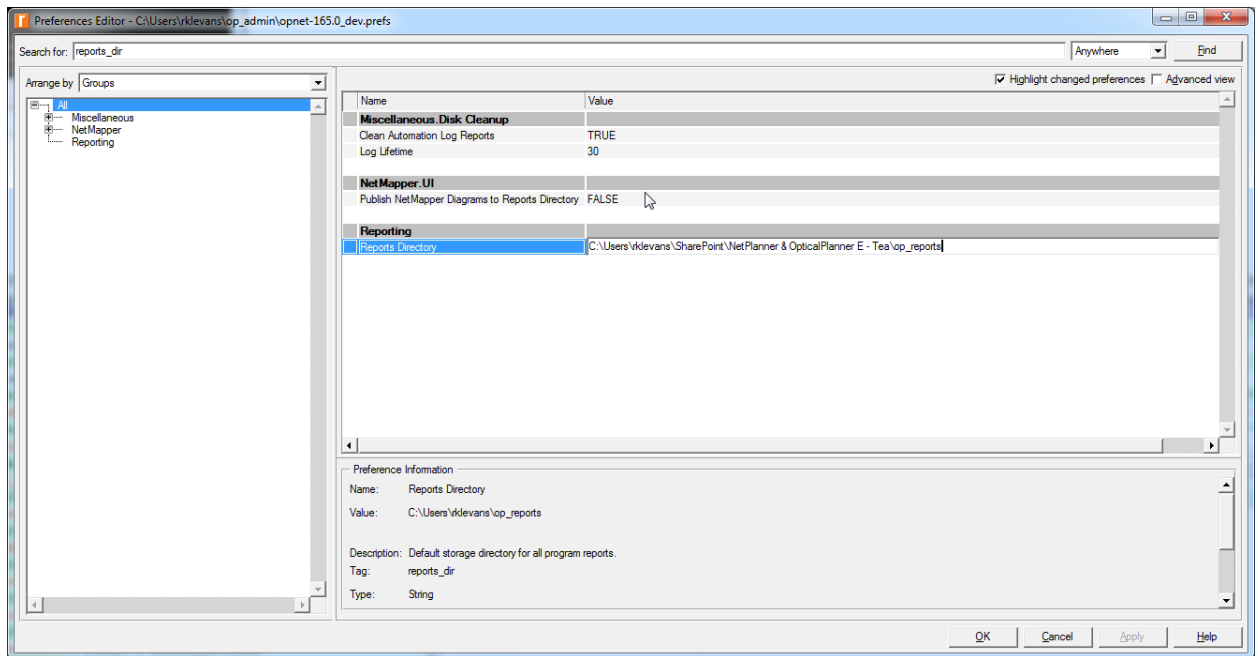2. Edit the system preferences using the menu command: **Edit > Preferences.**

3. In the "Search for" editor type "reports_dir" and hit the <Enter> key.

4.   Double-click on the "Value" entry for the row labeled "Reports Directory".

5.   Type in (or paste) the directory name for your local copy of the SharePoint directory's "op_reports" sub-directory.
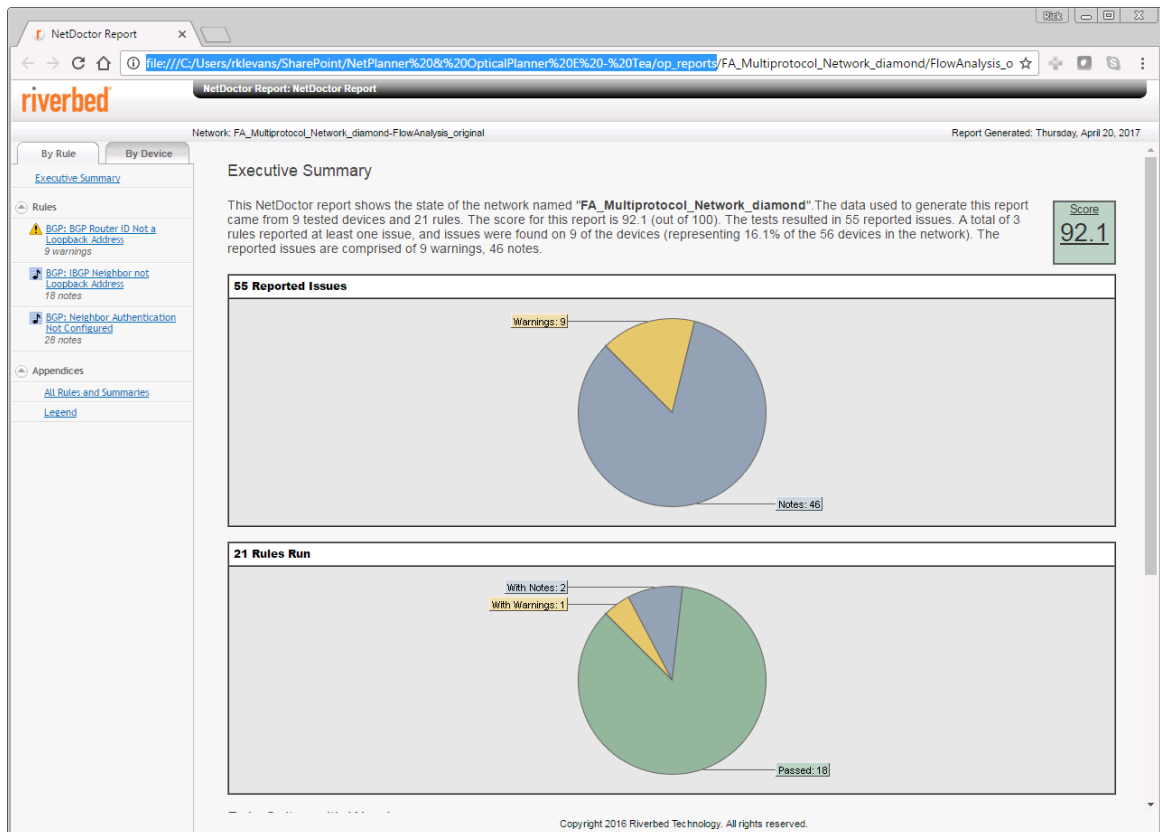

6.   Click on "OK" to save the preference change.

This completes the necessary configuration of the SteelCentral product to enable SharePoint reporting.

4 TESTING

This section discusses how to test the new configuration.

1. Open any NetPlanner project.
2. Create a NetDoctor report for any scenario in the project using the menu command: **Workflows > Auditing > Run NetDoctor…**
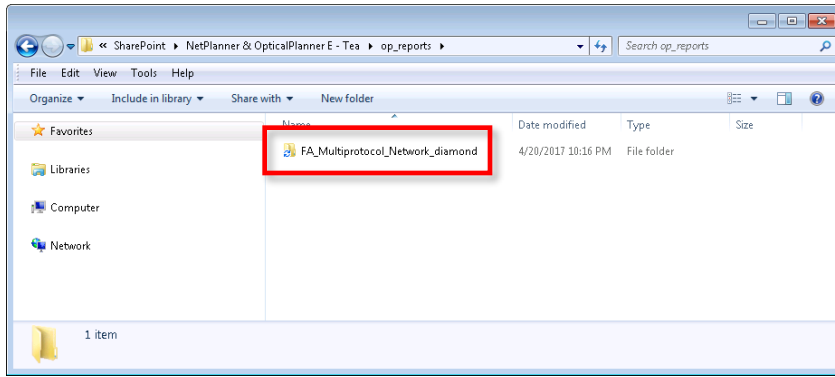

3. Notice that the URL for the report starts with the local SharePoint directory that you specified. This confirms the preference changes was done correctly and that analysis reports will be written to the local SharePoint directory.
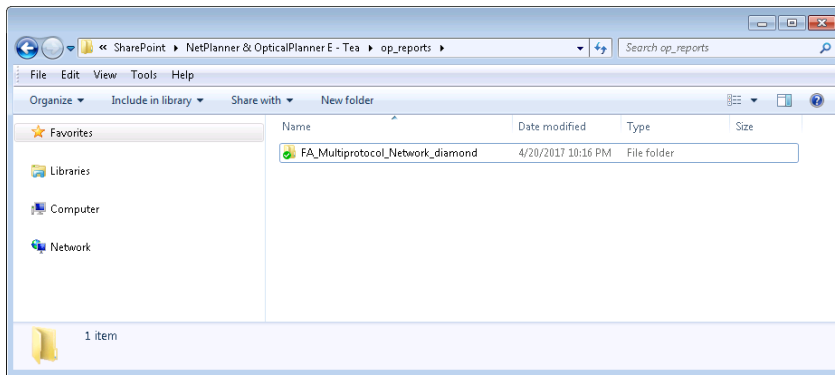
5 SYNCHRONIZING THE REPORT DIRECTORY

1. Using the Windows Explorer, navigate to you the op_reports directory that you created within your local SharePoint directory. The circle of arrows indicates that the folder is still being synchronized in the background.
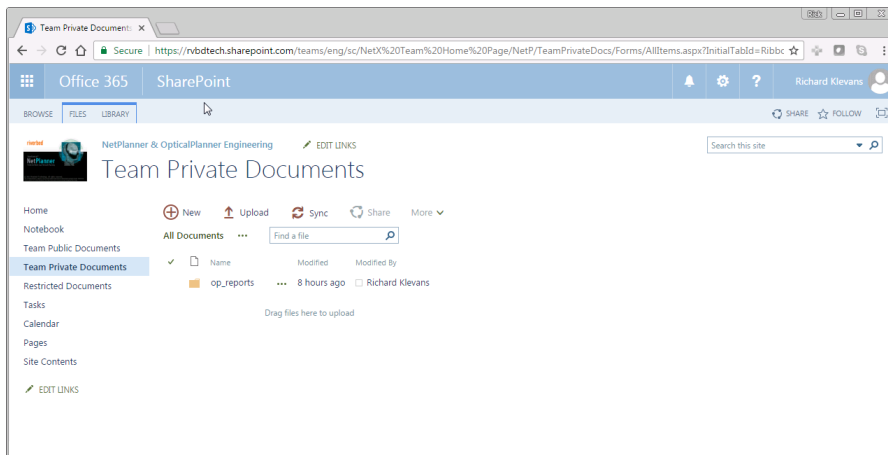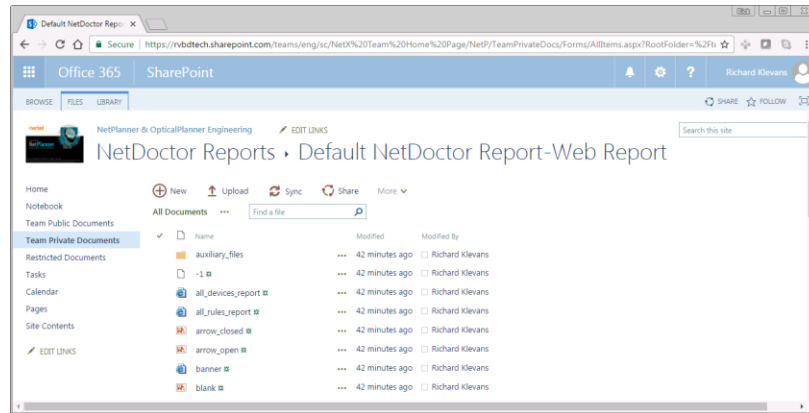
2. The green checkmark indicates that the system has completed the synchronization with the remote SharePoint server.

3. In your web browser, go to the SharePoint folder that you synchronized with your local folder.
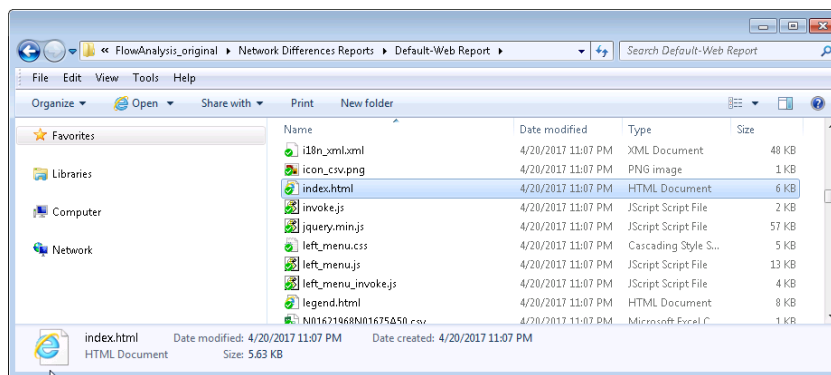4. Refresh the web page, using F5.

5. You can navigate into the folder to see that the report's component files are stored in the SharePoint directory.
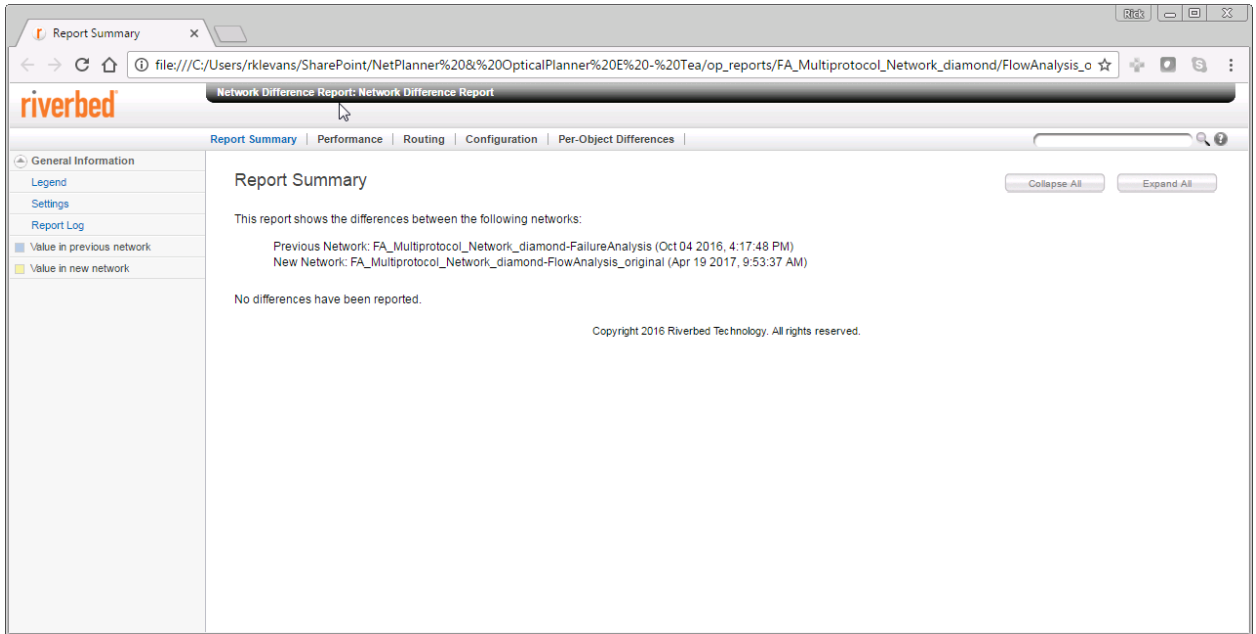
6 VIEWING REPORTS ON OTHER MACHINES

Warning: The reports cannot be directly served using the SharePoint server. In this situation, the SharePoint server is only a repository of files and not a fully functional webserver. In order to view the reports on another machine, you must synchronize the SharePoint directory on the other machine just as we did on the first section of these instructions.
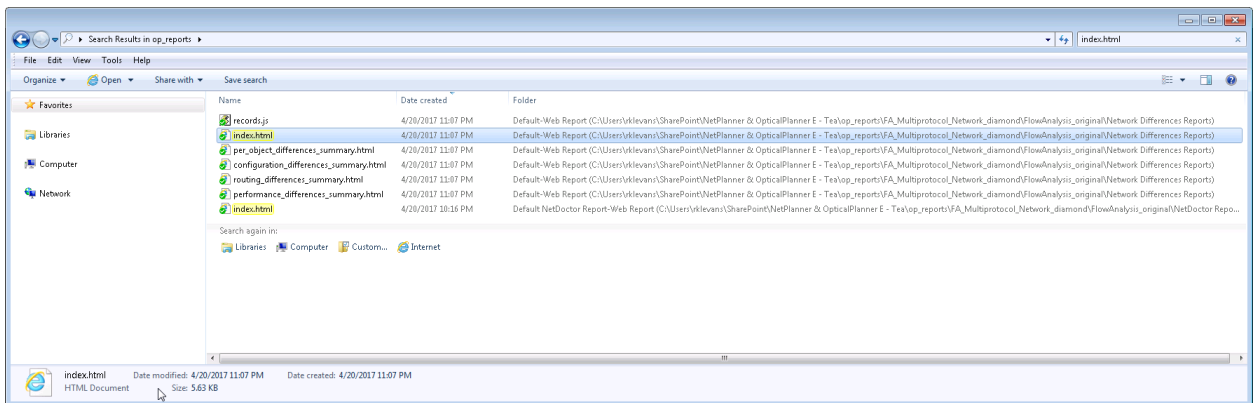
1. The structure of the report directories is as follows:
   a. Project Name
      i. Scenario Name
         1. Report Type (e.g., NetDoctor Reports)
            a. Report Name (e.g., Default NetDoctor Report-Web Report)
               i. Main Report HTML file (e.g., ndex.html)

1. Navigate to the index.html file of the one of the report and double-click on it to open it in your web browser.

2. Double-click on the "index.html" file to launch the report.

3. The search feature of the Windows Explorer can be used to easily identify all of the index.html files for the reports that have been generated. The list can be sorted by the creation date in order put the most recent reports at the top of the list.

7 SUMMARY

These instructions contain all of the necessary steps for sharing Riverbed SteelCentral analysis report via a SharePoint server. It should be noted that the basic concepts used here could be applied to sharing the analysis reports using other types of file server devices, such as a network attached storage (NAS) device, or a tradition HTTP server (e.g., Apache).