

TID_MSI Network Installations of NTS Client
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New in NTS 6.2 is a Microsoft “MSI” installation of the NTS client software. This MSI installation may be pushed out to networked computers using standard software deployment techniques.

The NTS-6.2 client MSI installation may be launched with an optional command line argument with the following form. Items in angle brackets are optional.

```
msiexec /i nextalkclient.msi </quiet or /passive> <TARGETDIR="<alternate install path>"> CFG="<path to ini file>"
```

TARGETDIR is an alternate directory for install. If not present, installs to PROGRAMFILES%\NXi\6.2\NextalkClient.
CFG is the full path to the alternate config file.

An examples of the above would be:

```
Example 1: msiexec /i nextalkclient.msi /quiet CFG="c:\temp\ntsconfig.ini"  
Example 2: msiexec /i nextalkclient.msi /passive CFG="c:\temp\ntsconfig.ini"
```

The only difference in the two examples above is that the user will see installation activity on-screen with the “/passive” option but will not see anything on-screen with the “/quiet” option.

A command line argument to the NTS-6.2 client installation allows (a) a alternate target directory to be specified, but more importantly, (b) allows the beginning NtsConfig.ini file to be specified on a central network drive. By controlling this ini file several start-up values for the NTS client may be specified, including the IP address and port of the NTS server or servers.

Theory of operation... What is the NtsConfig.ini file and how is it used ?

How does the NTS client use the NtsConfig.ini file ?

At start-up, the NTS client looks in the NtsConfig.ini file to find :

- the IP address and port of the NTS server(s)
- the “skin” to load
- whether to start in the system tray
- whether to minimize to the system tray on exit
- the login method (“user” or “TCA” (Trusted Client Authentication using an LDAP database like Active Directory)).
- additional items

Where does the NTS client find the NtsConfig.ini file ?

At start-up, the NTS client software will look for an NtsConfig.ini file in the NexTalk folder under the Application Data folder for the current Windows account. So each user logging into Windows has their own copy of the NtsConfig.ini file under their Windows profile folder.

If the current Windows login account does not have a NtsConfig.ini file, then the client will look in the installation folder and obtain an archival copy of this file. The NTS client software will then write this archival copy to the user's nextalk folder in their Windows profile folders as described above.

Each NTS user can modify certain initial settings, but not other settings, by means of manually selected settings in the Preferences, Settings section of the NTS client software.

The command line argument to the MSI installation process causes a central copy of the NtsConfig.ini file, placed on a shared network drive, to be installed in the installation folder of the NTS client software. On each user login, this NtsConfig.ini file will then be copied to each user's profile "nextalk" folder. In this way the organization deploying the NTS client can specify the IP address and other settings of the local NTS server.

NTS 6.2.1.257 and later adds a new feature. At login, the "onlogin" script can update the active NtsConfig.ini file for a client even after client installation.



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Sample BAT file:

```
rem msi_install.bat
rem TARGETDIR is an alternate directory for install. If not present, installs to \
rem %PROGRAMFILES%\NXI\6.2\NextalkClient.
rem CFG is the full path to the alternate config file.
rem RESTART is optional and will cause the app to start if present.
rem msixec /x nextalkclient.msi

rem Please note.. the line below from 'example:' to ' "Y" ' is all one line.
rem : example: msixec /i nextalkclient.msi /quiet TARGETDIR="C:\temp\NXI\6.2\NextalkClient"
CFG="<path to ini file>" RESTART="y"

msixec /i nextalkclient.msi /passive CFG="z:\temp\NtsConfig.ini" /l log.log
```

Sample NTSCONFIG.INI file:

```
; NtsConfig.ini - Nextalk client configuration file - 10/6/2006
[Last Login]
Domain Name=nextalk.net
Login Name=operator
Password=Tq%.+yzm

[Nts Domains]
Domain Name 1=nextalk.net
NTS Server Addresses 1=nx7.nextalk.net:2591
Randomize NTS Server Addresses 1=0

[Configuration]
; Login Authentication (TCA "Trusted Client Authentication" or User)
Login Authentication Method = User

;Open Module On Startup = Phonebook
Skin = Target

[Integer Features]
Minimize To System Tray On Exit = 0
Randomize NTS Server Addresses = 1
Launch to System Tray=0
*****
```

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