

Implementation of Lotus eSuite WorkPlace for AIX on IBM NetworkStations

README

Build date: 10 July 1998
Release name: 1.0.0.0
Full version: netstation.eSuite 1.2.0.0

** NOTE:

The software contained in this package applies only to AIX Version 4.2.1 or later. It is NOT supported on earlier versions. The user who installs the code needs WRITE privileges to /etc/ filesystem, and /usr/ filesystem.

Prerequisites

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The Lotus eSuite Workplace is designed to run on the IBM Network Station Series 1000 with at least 64MB RAM.

The following filesets need to be installed on your machine before you install the eSuite code.

AIX 4.2.1 or higher
IBM Internet Connection
APAR IX70775 (can be downloaded from
<http://service.boulder.ibm.com/aix.wv/aixfixes>) (this is an APAR for AIX 4.2.1)
Release 3.0 of IBM NSM Code (base, java, ibmlogin and NSM) (can be downloaded from <http://service.boulder.ibm.com/nc/aix/>)
JDK 1.1.4 (or higher) for AIX (this has to be installed as an lpp)
42M of disk space on the AIX server

Migration

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Registry files will be preserved when installing this version of eSuite over the previous version of eSuite for Release 2.5+. User data in the /home/ directories will need to be manually copied over to the /usr/netstation/eSuite/nsm/users/ directory.

Installation

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To install the Lotus eSuite code:

- 1) If you have a previous version of eSuite Workplace installed, have all eSuite users log off and end the registry server processes. (To do this, issue "ps -ef | grep java" to find the process ids and then issue "kill -9 xxxx" where xxxx is the process id for each registry server.)
 - 2) Insert the eSuite CD-ROM into the CD-ROM drive.
 - 3) Access the Install Software SMIT panel. (To do so, issue the "smitty install_latest" command from the AIX command line. Use "/dev/cd0" as the device from which you are installing.)
 - 4) When prompted to specify the code you wish to install, press F4 to get a list of filesets to choose from, or just specify the following:

netstation.eSuite.rte - to install the eSuite WorkPlace and productivity applications.
 - 5) Press ENTER to process the install.
- If errors occur during install, record the error message(s). Refer to the Troubleshooting section in this document, then call IBM Service if the errors are not corrected.

Auto-Configuration =====

Successful installation of the eSuite code makes the following configuration changes to the AIX system:

- 1) /etc/inittab is updated to automatically start the RMI registry and eSuite registry at system boot time. The file that contains these commands is /etc/rc.eSuite.
- 2) ewadmin is added to the /etc/ directory. This file is used to start the eSuite WorkPlace Administrator.
- 3) eSuite product files have been installed in the /usr/netstation/eSuite directory.
- 4) Previous eSuite Registry data has been preserved.

Manual Configuration =====

You must complete the following configuration manually from the IBM NetworkStation Manager before you can use the eSuite WorkPlace:

- 1) Start up the IBM NetworkStation Manager from your browser

The url is: <http://NetworkStation/Admin>

Note: Due to a limitation with Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0, this NSM configuration should be done on a Netscape or IE 3.x browser.

- 2) Select eSuite as the Default Desktop:

- a) Click "Startup"

- b) Click "Menus"

The "Menu Content Defaults" page appears.

- c) Select "System Defaults" to configure all users to have the eSuite Workplace as the default desktop, or select "Group Defaults" to configure specific groups to have the eSuite Workplace as the default desktop, or select "User Defaults" to configure specific users to have the eSuite Workplace as the default desktop. If you don't know the specific user or group name, click "Browse" and a list of users or groups will be displayed that you can select from.

- d) After selecting "System Defaults", "Group Defaults" or "User Defaults", click "Next" at the bottom of the screen. The "Menu Contents" page appears.

- e) In the "Desktop and Menu Bar Options" section, click the "Desktop Style" list box and select "Lotus eSuite Workplace with menu bar support".

- f) Click "Finish" to apply the change.

- 3) Add an environment variable for Time Zone:

- a) From the IBM NetworkStation Manager

- b) Click "Startup"

- c) Click "Environment Variables"

- d) Select "System/Group/User Defaults" as was done in step 2c.

- e) Click "Next"
- f) Fill in the fields with the following information:
 - Environment Variable: TZ
 - Value: set time to correct time zone
 - for example: For Central Standard Time:
 - Value: CST
 - Note: Do not set value to "UTC", as this will prevent eSuite from launching.
- g) Click "Add an Environment Variable"
- h) Click "Finish"
- 4) Configure Domain Name Server
 - a) From the IBM NetworkStation Manager
 - b) Click "Hardware"
 - c) Click "Workstations"
 - d) Select "System Defaults"
 - e) Click "Next"
 - f) In the "Domain Name Server" section, select the following:
 - "DNS Configuration created by NetworkStation Manager" and
 - "Update NetworkStation Manager DNS file"
 - g) Click "Finish"
- 5) Exit IBM NetworkStation Manager

Starting the RMI registry and eSuite registry server

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The RMI registry and eSuite registry are automatically started when the AIX server is booted. You can verify the registries are running by issuing the ps -ef command and grep on NCS and rmi.

(ie From the AIX command line, issue "ps -ef | grep NCS" and "ps -ef grep rmi". These commands should return with PIDs for each process.)

To manually start the registries, execute the /etc/rc.eSuite script.

Starting the eSuite WorkPlace Administrator

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After the RMI and eSuite registry are running, you can run the /etc/ewadmin script to bring up the Administrator. This needs to be run from userid="admin". A user will need to be created on the AIX system for this purpose. After logging in as "admin", the Administrator can be used to give another userid permission to run the Administrator. To find out more about using the Administrator, see the eSuite documentation or use the HELP function.

Configuring eSuite Applications

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Some software requires customization before it will work at your site. For example, some of the following tasks will be necessary:

- a) Configure the Proxy Server for the Web Browser
- b) Configure the MailServer
- c) Configure LDAP for the Address Book

To complete this customization, Click the "Help" button from the eSuite Workplace Administrator.

Starting the eSuite WorkPlace

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Once a user has logged on to the IBM Network Station and has been authenticated, the eSuite WorkPlace will automatically be started if that user has been configured to have the eSuite Workplace as the default desktop. In addition, a button will appear on the menu bar for the users to click if eSuite is stopped and needs to be restarted.

Troubleshooting

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If you encounter problems bringing up the eSuite Workplace, registry servers, or the eSuite WorkPlace Administrator, check the following:

- 1) Verify the Registry servers are running (issue "ps -ef | grep java) and make sure there are processes running for the java RMI registry as well as the NCServer (eSuite registry server).
- 2) Check the "Console" messages on the NetworkStation.
- 3) If a log is needed of the eSuite Registry server, the 'ewadmin' script

can be edited to redirect stdout and stderr to a file. (Keep in mind that the server issues constant messages, so this should only be done for debugging.)

Limitations =====

eSuite Workplace Web Browser and the search engine:

The eSuite Workplace Web Browser application has Altavista (<http://www.altavista.com>) set as it's default search engine. The Web Browser has problems with this website, so another search engine must be set. This is done through the eSuite Workplace Administrator.

From the eSuite Workplace Administrator, select "users" for a specific user or "groups" for a specific group of users from the column on the left. Next, select the users or groups, and select "Customize Workplace" from the lower right hand corner of the same panel. In the panel that appears in the "Browsers" box, change "Search Engine" to something other than altavista, i.e. <http://www.yahoo.com/>. After specifying the new Search engine, click "OK" and Exit.

eSuite Workplace Web Browser and animated .GIF format images

Browsing web pages with the eSuite Web Browser (shipped with the eSuite Workplace desktop) that contain animated .GIF format images can cause users to encounter problems including reduced system performance. This problem occurs on web pages that appear to have motion, with a fast motion rate (small frame delay), or where there are several animated GIF's on a single page. We suggest the following user actions to avoid this problem and/or reduce side effects.

- o Avoid browsing web pages with large numbers of animated GIF's
- o Save your data in open applets before browsing to prevent data loss in case of a system crash. As an additional safety measure, consider saving your data periodically while you are browsing, especially while browsing unfamiliar sites.
- o If the system becomes less responsive while or just after browsing, close the browser task and save your data. If the system continues to be less responsive, close the Workplace and restart.

o When leaving a machine idle, do not leave the browser running a page with animated GIF's. Since it may be difficult to distinguish animated GIF's images from some applets, it is advisable not to leave the browser running on a NetworkStation which will remain idle.