

NC Tip #3: Lightning Fast Booting

Customer Requirement

The customer wants his NC900 to boot in less than 10 seconds.

Solution

At first glance, this requirement seems insurmountable considering that the NC900 requires approximately 40 seconds to boot from across the network or 15 seconds to boot from the standard flash memory card. However, by loading the NC900 binary files into the flash memory card in an uncompressed format, the NC900 can reduce its boot time by 50%.

By default, the NC900 binary files are loaded into the flash memory card in a compressed format. These compressed files have to be decompressed when the NC900 boots. A typical configuration of NC binary files will fit in the 8MB flash card uncompressed. If more space is required, customers can purchase the 16MB flash card. Using a command in the NCBridge remote configuration file, the flash memory card can be reloaded with the NC900 binaries in the uncompressed format.

Benefit

If the user has to powers on the NC every morning, he will be more productive since he will not have to wait as long for the NC to boot. This form of booting would also be important for kiosk applications where the least amount of down time is required during a reboot process.

For the best demonstration of the NC900 performance, load the flash memory card with uncompressed files. This will allow the NC900 to boot in the shortest amount of time.

Notes

This procedure will not work if the customer requires the local browser because it must be compressed to fit in the 16MB flash memory card. All files are either compressed or non-compressed when loaded into the flash memory card. They cannot be mixed.