



Configuring Windows 7 for BNCS clients and servers

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1 Overview

The Clients and Servers are expected to boot into a usable state. To this end, they need to automatically log in and run specific applications. In addition, because Panelman runs full screen and has some specific requirements regarding window animations, there are a number of visual tweaks required.

The principle here is to configure the registry of the PC to optimise its behaviour as a BNCS PC. That is to automatically log in, to recover after a power loss, to power up promptly etc.

Where there are multiple blades in a frame, this setup needs to be applied to each of them in turn.

2 Configuration

2.1 Add BNCS_RunTime User - ESSENTIAL

Start > Right click Computer > Manage

Select Local Users and Groups

Right click Users > New User...

- User name: **BNCS_RunTime**
- Full Name: **BNCS_RunTime**
- Description: **BNCS RunTime Login**
- Password: **BNCS_NTC**
- Confirm: **BNCS_NTC**
- User must change password at next login OFF

Select Create, then Close

DoubleClick the BNCS_RunTime user that appears in the list box

Member Of > Add – enter the object name '**Administrators**' > OK > OK

Close Computer Management console

2.2 Change Default user to BNCS_RunTime – ESSENTIAL

Right click Start > Properties > Customize... > check Run Command > OK

Start > Run... > enter **control userpasswords2**

- Check then uncheck Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer
- Click Apply
- Automatically Log On dialog box appears
- User name: **BNCS_RunTime**
- Password: **BNCS_NTC**
- Confirm: **BNCS_NTC**
- OK > OK

2.3 User Account Control – ESSENTIAL

Start > Control Panel > Search '**uac**'

Under Action Centre, click Change User Account settings

- Set to **Never Notify**
- Click OK

2.4 Set the computer IP address - ESSENTIAL

Start > Control Panel > Search 'adaptor'

Under Networks and Sharing Centre, click View Network Connections

Right click Local Area Connection > Properties

- UnTick QoS Packet scheduler
- Select Internet Protocol (TCP/IPv4) > Properties
- Check Use the following IP address
- Add the correct IP information for the machine
- Select Advanced > WINS and check Enable NetBIOS over TCP/IP
- OK > OK

2.5 Set Name and Workgroup - ESSENTIAL

Start > Right click Computer > Properties > Advanced System Settings > Computer Name

- Enter a verbose computer description
- Click Change...
- Enter the computer name (to be advised)
- Select Member of Workgroup
- Enter a workgroup name of 'BNCS'
- OK > OK

NOW REBOOT THE PC AND CHECK THAT IT WILL RESTART STRAIGHT INTO WINDOWS LOGGED IN AS BNCS_RUNTIME.

2.6 Security Centre - ESSENTIAL

Start > Control Panel > System and Security > Windows Firewall > Check Firewall Status

- Home or work (private) networks > Turn Off Window Firewall
- OK

Start > Control Panel > System and Security > Windows Updates

- Click Change settings
- Select '**Never check for updates**' from pull down list
- OK

Start > Control Panel > System and Security > Action Centre

- Click Change Action Centre settings
- Uncheck all Security and Maintenance messages
- OK

2.7 Folder view details

Start > Control Panel (small icons) > Folder Options > View

Advanced Settings

- Display file size information in folder tips **OFF**
- Display the full path in title bar **ON**
- Hidden files and folders – Show hidden files, folders and drives
- Hide extensions of known file types **OFF**
- Hide protected operating system files **OFF**
- Display Contents Sys Folders **ON**
- Full Path Title Bar **ON**
- Show Hidden Files **ON**
- Show pop-up description for folder and desktop icons **OFF**
- Use Sharing Wizard **OFF**

2.8 Date and Time

Start > Control Panel > Date and Time > Date and Time

- Notify me when the clock changes **OFF**
- Apply

Start > Control Panel > Date and Time > Internet Time

- Synchronise with an Internet time server **OFF**
- OK

Note: The BNCS Server PC should be set to use a network/internet time reference. An inbuilt function within CSI can then be used to lock all the other BNCS PCs to it

2.9 Power Management - ESSENTIAL

Right click on the Desktop > Personalise > Screen saver

- Screen saver **(None)**

Right click on the Desktop > Personalise > Screen saver > Change Power Settings

- Click 'Choose when to turn off the display'
- Turn off the display **NEVER**
- Put the computer to sleep **NEVER**

Right click on Computer > Manage > Device Manager > Network Adapters

- Right click on each installed Ethernet card > Properties > Power Management
- Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power **OFF**

2.10 Themes

Right click on the Desktop > Personalise >

- Change theme to Windows Classic

2.11 Desktop

Right click on the Desktop > Personalise > Change desktop icons

- Computer **ON**
- Network **ON**
- Recycle Bin **ON**
- OK

Right click Computer > Properties > Advanced System Settings – ESSENTIAL

- In the Performance section click Settings...
- Click 'Adjust for best performance' to deselect everything
- Smooth edges of screen fonts **ON**
- Smooth-scroll list boxes **ON**
- OK > OK

Right click on the Desktop > Screen Resolution - ESSENTIAL

- Resolution 1280 by 1024

Right click on the Desktop > Screen Resolution > Advanced Settings > Monitor

- Select 75 Hz or highest possible for supplied touch-screens
- Select 60Hz for driver and Touch-screen machines via a KVM
- Colour 32 bit
- OK > OK

2.12 Taskbar - ESSENTIAL

Right click Taskbar > Properties > Taskbar

- Lock the taskbar **OFF**
- Taskbar location on screen: **Bottom**
- Taskbar buttons: **Always combine**
- Notification area Customise... > Always show all icons and notifications... **ON**
- OK > OK

2.13 Start Menu

Right click Start Menu > Properties > Start menu

- Customize... > check Run Command > **OK**
- Power button action: **Restart**

2.14 System Properties

Right click Computer > Properties > Remote Settings

- Allow Remote Assistance connections to this computer **OFF**

2.15 Telnet

Start > Control Panel > Programs > Uninstall a program

- Click 'Turn Windows features on or off '
- Scroll down and check "Telnet Client" and "Telnet Server"
- OK

2.16 DisableTaskBarOnTop

The Windows 7 taskbar behaviour has changed since Windows XP and can't normally be set to run behind normal windows. There is a utility that can be used to override the default behaviour that is available from:

<http://www.sevenforums.com/tutorials/54842-taskbar-always-top-disable-enable.html>

- Create a new directory C:\Program Files\DisableTaskBarOnTop
- Copy the 32-bit or 64-bit version of DisableTaskBarOnTop.exe depending on which windows version is in use and also the readme.txt into this directory
- Create a shortcut in Startup folder to execute DisableTaskBarOnTop as Windows starts

The path to the Startup folder is as follows:

C:\Users\BNCS_RunTime\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\StartMenu\Programs\Startup
or for All Users - C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\StartMenu\Programs\Startup

DisableTaskBarOnTop can fail to run in some cases reporting an "unknown explorer" error. The conflict may be overcome by uninstalling windows patch "KB2515325" - more details here:

<http://www.sevenforums.com/tutorials/54842-taskbar-always-top-disable-enable-15.html#post1452118>

2.17 Touchscreen Driver

Install the appropriate touchscreen driver for your chosen touchscreen. Connecting via serial or USB , you may need a touchscreen to complete the installation. Note the path to the calibration application, as this will need to be added to workstation_settings.xml. Ideally, you will only have one type of touchscreen!

The system will now be ready to install the BNCS toolkit and project and behave as a BNCS workstation.

2.18 Useful utilities

Optional – place copies of these offline installers on the Server for local installation as required.

2.18.1 Notepad++

Notepad++ is a good general purpose text and XML editor. Download the latest version from <http://notepad-plus-plus.org/>

Installation notes

- Install NPP from the installer
- If possible, connect to the Internet and run the plugin manager from the Plugins menu. Note that if you connect via a proxy, NPP has its own proxy settings.
- Install the XML tools plugin (The XML tools zip package can also be downloaded from <http://sourceforge.net/projects/npp-plugins/files/XML%20Tools/> , unzip and copy the XMLTools. dll into Notepad++/Plugins folder).
- Then navigate to Plugins>XML tools and enable the “Syntax auto check”
- Right click on an XML file from Windows Explorer and select ‘Open with’ to register NPP as the default handler for XML files
- Right click on a TXT file from Windows Explorer and select ‘Open with’ to register NPP as the default handler for TXT files

2.18.2 PDF Reader

An offline installer package of Adobe Reader can be downloaded from:

<http://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/enterprise/>

2.18.3 Java RunTime Environment

Windows offline 32bit and 64bit installer packages for JRE can be downloaded from:

<https://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>

3 Version History

3.1 Document version

Version No	Date	Details	Name
1.0	25/07/14	Revised and updated from earlier XP and Win7 versions.	Steve Lowe

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