

HP AdvanceNet

Using NFS Services

**HP 9000 Computers
Using NFS Services**



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NOTICE TO USERS

The Network Information Service (NIS) was formerly known as Yellow Pages (YP). The functionality of the two remains the same, only the name has changed. The name Yellow Pages is a registered trademark in the United Kingdom of British Telecommunications plc.

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Documentation Overview

Before reading this manual, you should be familiar with HP-UX and have access to *HP-UX Reference* manuals.

Note The information contained in this manual applies to the HP 9000 Series 300, 400, 600, 700, and 800 computers. Any differences in the installation, configuration, operation, or troubleshooting of these computers are specifically noted.

You will find this manual helpful if you are using NFS Services but have no administrative responsibilities.

Contents of This Manual

Refer to the following list for a brief description of the information contained in each chapter and appendix.

Chapter 1: Documentation Overview

This chapter describes who should use this manual, what is in this manual, and where to go for more information.

Chapter 2: NFS Services Overview

This chapter provides a brief overview of the NFS Services product, particularly the NFS, RPC, RPCGEN, REX, Network Lock Manager, NIS, and VHE services. It also describes common terms and concepts.

Chapter 3: Common Commands

This chapter provides brief explanations of remote file access via NFS and common NFS and NIS commands.

Appendix A: HP NFS Services vs. Local HP-UX

This appendix describes the basic differences between NFS Services and local HP-UX operations.

Appendix B: Moving from RFA to NFS

This appendix describes how to translate RFA applications to NFS applications.

Conventions

The table below explains the conventions used in this manual.

Conventions	
Notation	Description
Boldface	Boldface type is used when a term is defined.
Computer Text	Computer type is used for commands and keyboard entries that you must type exactly as shown. It is also used for on-screen prompts and messages.
<i>italics</i>	Italic type is used for emphasis and for titles of manuals and publications. Italic type is also used to represent a variable, such as <i>user_login_name</i> .
Key	This font is used to indicate a key on the computer's keyboard. When two or more keys appear together with dashes separating them, such as Ctrl-D , press those keys simultaneously to execute the command.
Softkey	This font is used to represent function softkeys that appear at the bottom of your screen.
<u>Underlining</u>	Underlining is used to emphasize a user entry. It distinguishes what you type, such as a command, from other data on the command line, such as the command prompt, a computer response, or a variable. For example: <u>\$ date</u>
[]	An element inside brackets in a syntax statement is optional.

Documentation Guide

For More Information	Read
ARPA Services: Daily Use	<i>Using ARPA Services</i>
ARPA Services: System Administration	<i>Installing and Administering ARPA Services</i>
C2 Security	<i>HP-UX System Security</i> <i>HP-UX Beginner's Guide</i> <i>A Beginner's Guide to Using Shells</i>
Commands and System Calls	<i>HP-UX Reference</i>
Network Services: Daily Use	<i>Using Network Services</i>
Network Services: System Administration	<i>Installing and Administering Network Services</i>
Networking: General Information	<i>Networking Overview</i>
NFS Services: Common Commands	<i>Using NFS Services</i>
NFS Services: Programming and Protocols	<i>Programming and Protocols for NFS Services</i>
NFS Services: System Administration - Configuration - Installation - Maintenance - Network Lock Manager - Remote Execution Facility (REX) - Troubleshooting - Virtual Home Environment (VHE) - Network Information Service (NIS)	<i>Installing and Administering NFS Services</i>

NFS Services Overview

HP's NFS (Network File System) Services product allows many systems to share the same files. It is an independent networking product, not a distributed operating system. NFS differs from distributed operating systems by not limiting its use to specific hardware and software. Rather, it operates on heterogeneous nodes and in operating systems from a variety of vendors. Explicit file transfers across the network to your local node are unnecessary. Since access techniques are transparent, remote file access remains similar to local file access.

With NFS all network nodes are either clients or servers or both.

- A **client** is any node or process that accesses a network service.

An NFS client can also be configured as any combination of an NFS server, NIS (Network Information Service) client, or NIS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)

- A **server** is any node that provides one of the network services. A single node can provide more than one service.

An NFS server can also be configured as any combination of an NFS client, NIS client, or NIS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)

Servers are passive in that they always wait for clients to call them. The degree to which clients **bind** to their server varies with each of the network services. However, the client always initiates the binding. The server completes the binding subject to access control rules specific to each service.

NFS servers are **stateless**; they do not maintain information relating to each client being served. Each file request goes to the appropriate server with the parameters attached to it locally (e.g., read and write privileges). An advantage of servers being stateless is that you can reboot servers without adverse consequences to the client.

Components of the NFS Services

The NFS Services product includes the following components:

- NFS remote file access.
- Remote Execution Facility (REX).
- Remote Procedure Calls (RPC).
- Remote Procedure Call protocol compiler (RPCGEN).
- External Data Representation (XDR).
- Network Lock Manager.
- Network Status Monitor.
- Network Information Service (NIS).
- Virtual Home Environment (VHE).

The NFS, REX, Lock Manager, and NIS functionalities are built on top of RPC and XDR library routines.

NFS Remote File Access

Before the client can access remote files, the following steps must be done:

- On the server, the superuser must export the file system (i.e., make it available) to the client.
- On the client, the superuser must mount (import) the file system.

Note

Like local HP-UX operations, if you copy files from a long file name file system to a short file name file system, then file names longer than 14 characters will be truncated after the 14th character.

Long and short file name file systems are set up by the System Administrator.

Access to remote files is the same as for local files. You need to include either the complete path name starting with / (slash) or the path name relative to the current directory. The following figure and steps explain how NFS remote file access works.

EXAMPLE:

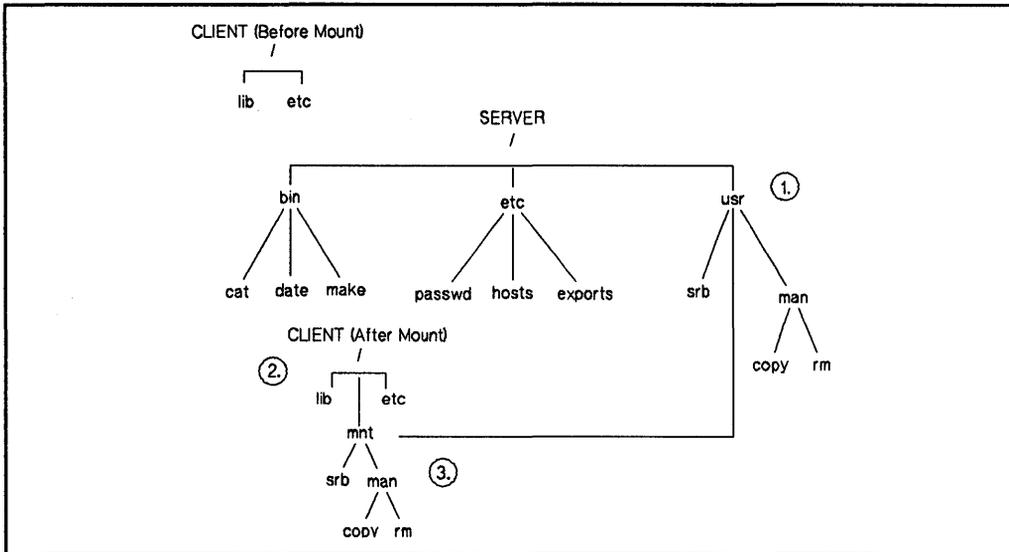


Figure 2-1. NFS Remote File Access

1. The superuser edits the server's `/etc/exports` file to make the `/usr` file system available to the client.

```
server superuser% cat /etc/exports  
/usr client_name
```

2. On the client, the superuser creates a mount point `/mnt` (empty directory) and mounts the file system.

```
client superuser% mkdir /mnt  
client superuser% mount server:/usr /mnt
```

3. The client reads the files in the `/mnt` directory.

```
client% more /mnt/man/copy
```

Two very important features of NFS Remote File Access are **named pipes** and **device files**. The following sections explain the details of these two features.

2-4 NFS Remote File Access

Named Pipes

A named pipe is a special type of object in the HP-UX file system. A named pipe is one of the many ways in HP-UX that unrelated processes can communicate. HP-UX processes executing on the same client system are able to communicate using named pipes. You can use named pipes via normal file operations, e.g. `open()`, `close()`, `read()`, `write()`. Typically, one process will open the named pipe for reading and another process will open it for writing.

To illustrate named pipes, consider the following example:

EXAMPLE:

C1 and C2 are processes executing on system C. Also assume host C has mounted file system / from host S on /mnt. C1 opens /mnt/FIFO for reading and C2 opens /mnt/FIFO for writing. C1 can now read what C2 wrote to the named pipe.

Next, assume a third process (process D3) is running on another client D which also has / from S mounted on /mnt (on system D), and it opened /mnt/FIFO for reading. Is process D3 able to read what process C2 wrote to this named pipe? No, because no actual NFS activity occurs between the NFS client and NFS server for named pipe reads and writes. These are handled entirely by the client.

Note

In certain cases there would be NFS activity. For example, if you do a `chown` on the named pipe, the request will go to the server to change the owner.

`mknod()`

Named pipes are created with `mknod()`. Any user can create a named pipe with `mknod()`. (Use of `mknod()` to create device files requires superuser privileges.)

Note

If you attempt to make a directory or a network special file over NFS, `mknod()` will fail and will return with `errno` set to `EINVAL` (invalid argument).

Device Files

Device files are another type of object in the file system, and are used to access physical or conceptual devices attached to the system. NFS device files always refer to a device attached to the local system and can generally be used where a local device file would be used. Like named pipes, device files are operated on through normal file system operations. For example, to write to the system console, you can write to the file `/dev/console`.

To illustrate the use of device files, consider the following:

EXAMPLE:

System C is an NFS client of the NFS server system S, and has mounted file system / from host S on /mnt (a superuser on system C executed the command `mount S: / /mnt`). If a process on system C attempts to write to `/mnt/dev/console`, a device file representing the system console on system S, the output will go to the system console on system C, not on system S. If a process on system S attempts to write to `/dev/console`, which is the same “file” that system C wrote to, it will actually write to the console on system S.

NFS Mounts: Turning Off Device File Access

NFS device files are not secure. Therefore, the system administrator has the option of turning off device file access on a per-NFS mount basis. The administrator uses the `-o nodevs` option to the `mount` command to turn off device file access.

EXAMPLE:

```
mount -o nodevs nfsserver:/servermountpoint /clientmountpoint
```

2-6 NFS Remote File Access

Note The `nodevs` option does not turn off support of named pipes.

NFS Mounts: Mounting From NFS Device Files

You may mount a local disk that is represented by a remote NFS device file.

EXAMPLE:

```
mount /mnt/nfs/dev/dsk/0s0 /localmntpt
```

Access to the newly mounted file system will proceed as if the disk had been mounted from a local device file.

Note Access to the local disk's mounted file system will not be affected even if the NFS file system is unmounted.

Normally when unmounting a file system, you can give either the name of the device file or the name of the mount point. However, if the NFS server is down or the NFS file system is down, you must give the mount point to unmount the local disk.

EXAMPLE: You would enter the following to unmount a local disk:

```
umount /localmntpt
```

instead of:

```
umount /mnt/nfs/dev/dsk/0s0
```

The latter case will not fail if the NFS server is down, but it will hang until the server comes back up as any other NFS access does.

Remote Execution Facility (REX)

The Remote Execution Facility allows you to execute commands on a remote host. REX is similar to the Berkeley Service remote shell (remsh) with two major differences:

- Your environment is simulated on the remote host.
- You can execute interactive commands on the remote host.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

NFS Services consists of remote programs composed of remote procedures called from the client nodes on the network. Optimally, a remote procedure computes results based entirely on its own parameters. Thus, the procedure (and therefore, the network service) is not tied to any particular operating system or hardware.

NFS clients access server information and processes by making a remote procedure call. RPC allows a client process to execute functions on a server via a server process. Though these processes can reside on different network nodes, the client process does not need to know about the networking implementations.

The client first calls an RPC function to initiate the RPC transaction. The client system then sends an encoded message to the server. This message includes all the data needed to identify the service and user authentication information. If the message is valid (i.e., calls an existing service and the authentication passes) the server performs the requested service and sends a result message back to the client.

Remote Procedure Call Protocol Compiler (RPCGEN)

RPCGEN is a Remote Procedure Call compiler. You use it to convert applications running on a single computer to ones that run over a network. It is also used to assist in writing Remote Procedure Call applications simply and directly. With RPCGEN, your development time will be reduced and you will spend less time coding and debugging network interface code.

You produce three of the files required to convert an application to run on a network. These files are:

- Protocol description file.
- Client side file.
- Server side function file.

RPCGEN accepts remote program interface definitions (the protocol description file) written in RPC and produces the following C output files, which you may use as a starting point, rewriting as necessary:

- Header file.
- Client side subroutine file.
- Server side skeleton file.
- XDR (External Data Representation) routine file.

If you wish to use the RPCGEN compiler to write RPC applications, refer to the “RPCGEN Programming Guide” chapter in the *Programming and Protocols for NFS Services* manual.

External Data Representation (XDR)

RPC uses the eXternal Data Representation functionality to translate machine dependent data formats (i.e., internal representations) to a universal format used by all network nodes using RPC/XDR. Thus, XDR enables heterogeneous nodes and operating systems to communicate with each other over the network.

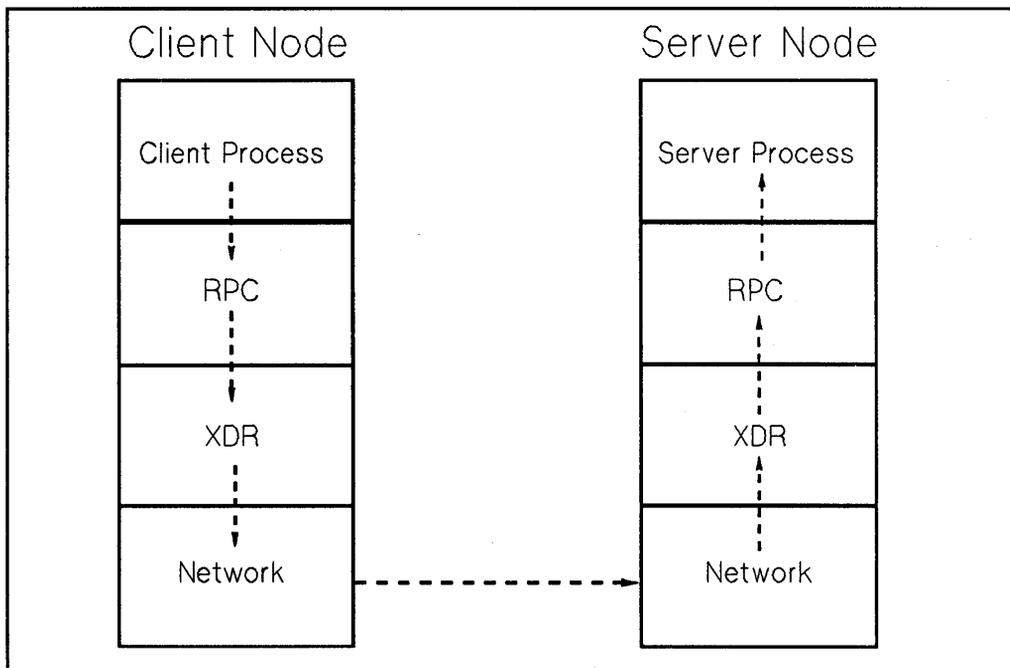


Figure 2-2. RPC and XDR Data Transfer

Note

This figure does not correspond to the ISO Model.

Network Lock Manager and Network Status Monitor

NFS Services includes the Network Lock Manager (`rpc.lockd`) and the Network Status Monitor (`rpc.statd`). The Network Lock Manager supports file locking and synchronized access to shared files via `lockf` and `fcntl` for NFS. The Network Status Monitor is used by the Network Lock Manager to maintain the stateful locking service within the stateless NFS environment. It allows applications to monitor the status of other computers and systems.

Network Information Service (NIS)

The Network Information Service (NIS) is an optional service containing a collection of cooperating NIS server processes that provide NIS clients access to data. (NIS was formerly known as Yellow Pages (YP) which is a registered trademark of British Telecommunications.) You can administer all the databases from one NIS *master server* since it propagates data across the network to other NIS servers. NIS includes the following features:

- NIS manages unlimited databases. Typically these include files in `/etc/group`, `/etc/hosts`, `/etc/netgroup`, `/etc/networks`, `/etc/passwd`, `/etc/protocols`, `/etc/rpc`, and `/etc/services`.

For example, programs previously read `/etc/hosts` to find an Internet address that corresponds to a host name. When you added a new node to the network, you had to add a new entry to every node's `/etc/hosts` file. Now programs can use NIS to obtain information from other NIS servers.

- Since the NIS master server propagates all *maps* (databases) to the **slave servers**, an NIS client receives consistent information regardless of which NIS server it accesses.
- If a remote node running an NIS server process crashes, NIS client processes can obtain NIS services from another NIS server.
- Since the NIS interface uses RPC and XDR, the service is available to other vendors.

NIS Advantages

NIS has several advantages:

- NIS enables you to automatically keep user IDs and group IDs consistent among all the nodes participating in NFS file sharing.

Without NIS, you have to manually keep these IDs consistent for NFS.

- NIS provides the convenience of centrally administering the `/etc` files: `group`, `hosts`, `netgroup`, `networks`, `passwd`, `protocols`, `rpc`, and `services`.

Without NIS, you must administer these files on each node individually.

NIS Disadvantages

NIS has the following disadvantages:

- If a network grows beyond 2000 nodes, NIS may begin to exhibit poor performance or failures. (This limit is based on today's system capacity.)
- Since NIS provides NIS clients access to data via the network, NIS clients may observe slower performance than if the data were accessed from local files. For example, with NIS, logging in may take more time if the NIS server is busy.
- If any of the NIS servers are unstable, remote access to files may be slower since the NIS client may have to rebind to another NIS server. If no other NIS server is available, users may not be able to login to their nodes without access to the NIS's passwd map.
- NIS does not make changes visible to all users unless the changes are made on the NIS master server.
- The NIS slave servers do not immediately see the changes made to the NIS master server maps. The updated maps become consistent among all NIS servers only after each slave server successfully copies the maps via `ypxfr`.

Note

If you configure the BIND Name Server, it will be used instead of NIS for host name and address resolution. NIS will still be used for all other information such as passwords. See "Configuring and Maintaining the BIND Name Server" in the *Installing and Administering ARPA Services* manual.

NIS Concepts

Refer to the following figure and subsections for a summary of how components within the Network Information Service work together: maps, NIS domains, NIS servers (masters and slaves), and NIS clients.

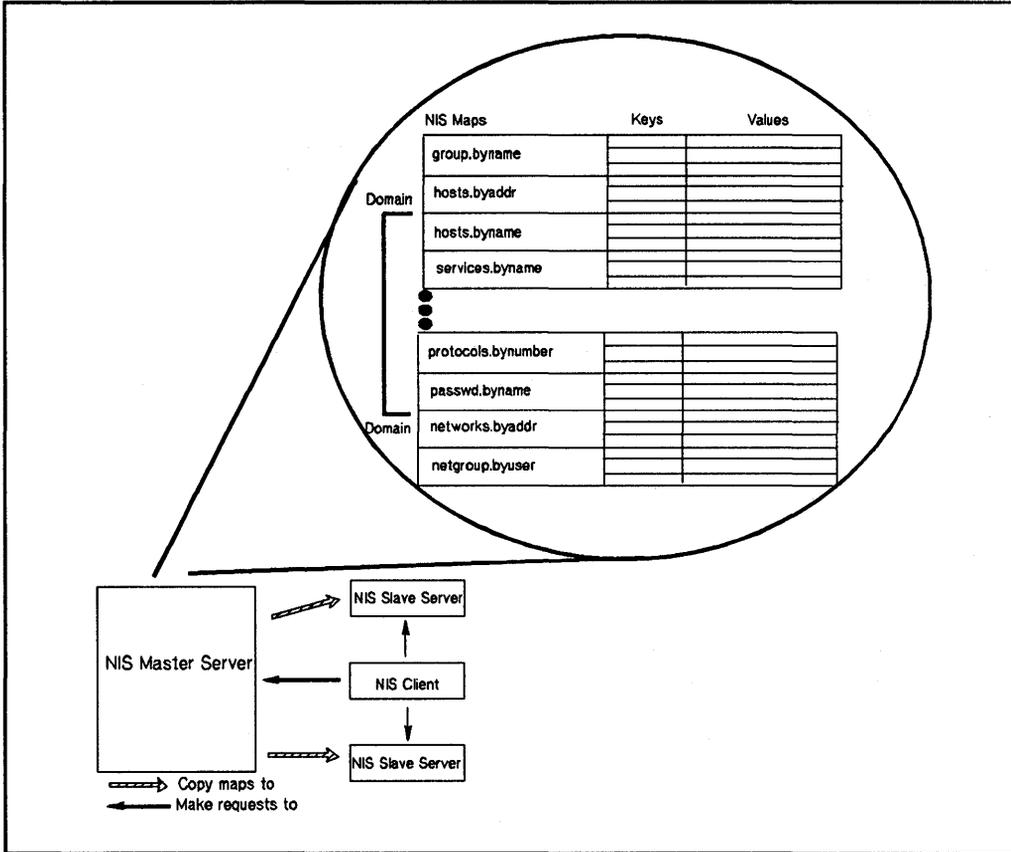


Figure 2-3. Network Information Service Structure

NIS Maps

The NIS system stores information in NIS maps (databases). Each map contains a set of keys and associated values: one key per value and one value per key. (A value may be a string of characters with imbedded blanks or tabs). For example, in the `passwd.byname` map, all the login names are the keys and their matching lines from `/etc/passwd` are the values.

Each map has a unique **map name** that programs use to access the map. Programs must know the format of the data in the map. Many of the maps are derived from ASCII files such as `/etc/hosts`, `/etc/group`, and `/etc/passwd`. The map format is usually identical to the ASCII file format.

NIS Servers and NIS Clients

NIS servers are nodes that provide access to NIS maps via the network. These maps are in `/usr/etc/yp` subdirectories named after the appropriate NIS domains. (See the next section, "NIS Domains.")

NIS clients are nodes that request access to NIS maps from an NIS server as follows:

1. An NIS client that is not bound sends a broadcast to all NIS servers on the network.
2. The NIS client binds to the first NIS server that responds. (Each NIS client binds to one NIS server per NIS domain.)
3. If the request is the NIS client's first attempt to access data, the NIS client remembers which NIS server responded to the request. Subsequent requests by this NIS client go directly to this NIS server.
4. If the bound NIS server is down or unavailable, the NIS client automatically rebinds to the first NIS server that responds to another broadcast.

Note

An NIS client can also be configured as any combination of an NIS server, NFS client, or NFS server.

An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client. It can also be configured as an NFS server, NFS client, or both.

NIS Domains

An **NIS domain** is a logical grouping of the set of maps contained on NIS servers. The following rules apply to NIS domains:

- Nodes that belong to the same NIS domain have the same domain name.
- An NIS domain has only one master server.
- An NIS domain may have zero or more slave servers.
- Maps with the same name in different NIS domains can have different contents.

You implement an NIS domain as a subdirectory of `/usr/etc/yp` on each NIS server; the name of this subdirectory is the name of the NIS domain. For example, maps in the research NIS domain would be in `/usr/etc/yp/research`. (Note that NIS domain names are case sensitive.) All directories that appear under `/usr/etc/yp` are assumed to be domains that an NIS server serves. To remove a domain being served, you must delete that domain's subdirectory name from `/usr/etc/yp` on all of its servers.

The `/etc/netnfsrc` file usually contains the default NIS domain name. You can change the default by executing the `domainname` command or by editing `/etc/netnfsrc` and then rebooting the system.

NIS Master and NIS Slave Servers

Only two types of nodes have NIS databases: master and slave servers.

The **NIS master server** is the node on which NIS maps are built from ASCII files; it, therefore, contains the master databases (maps) which other NIS servers (slaves) copy. Note that the NIS master server may also provide NIS clients access to NIS maps.

Note

You should create and modify NIS databases only on the NIS master server; otherwise, all NIS databases will not be consistent across the NIS servers.

The **NIS slave servers** are the nodes that receive the propagated maps from the NIS master server. In turn, they provide NIS clients access to NIS maps.

An NIS server can be the master or slave of many domains. However, an NIS server can only be either the master or a slave of a given domain.

Though an NIS server may be master for one map and slave for another, random assignment of maps to NIS master servers may cause confusion. Therefore, only one NIS server should be the master for all maps within an NIS domain.

Virtual Home Environment (VHE)

Virtual Home Environment (VHE) is an HP-developed service that allows you to configure your login environment on remote nodes to mirror the login environment on your home node. (Home node refers to the node on which your home directory physically resides.) VHE is an optional service that is available to any HP-UX system that has the NFS product. It may also be used with other UNIX systems that support symbolic links and NFS.

If you find that you never need to work from a remote node, you may want to skip this section.

VHE Advantages

VHE's major advantage is that you can sit down at any remote node (assuming you have login permission), login, and enter into the work environment that is associated with the login on your home node (your home directory as specified in `/etc/passwd`). This includes:

- Home shell configuration (i.e., whichever shell you are configured to use on your home node appears when you login to a remote node).
- Access to files on the file systems exported for VHE on any computers connected with VHE on the network to which you have a login and file access permission.
- Use of previously defined aliases (only for C or K shells) and shell variables.
- Use of customized shell scripts (assuming shells operate similarly on your home node and the node you are currently using).
- Use of compiled files under your home directory from your home node (assuming your home node and the node you are logged into are of the same architecture and operating system).

Thus, VHE allows you to minimize the number of computer interfaces you must learn to be productive on the various computers that are running NFS on your network and you are no longer tied to a particular computer to complete your work tasks.

Another advantage of VHE is that it distributes computational work more efficiently between nodes than ARPA/Berkeley terminal emulation services such as `telnet` or

rlogin. Unlike telnet or rlogin, VHE does not return to your home node, that contains your home environment login, to execute tasks.

Instead, VHE takes advantage of the computing capacity of the machine you are currently using. For example, if you use VHE on a node other than the home node and perform an ls command of a directory on the home node, the ls command is executed from the local /bin directory. VHE does not return to your home node's /bin directory to execute the ls command. The following figure illustrates this concept.

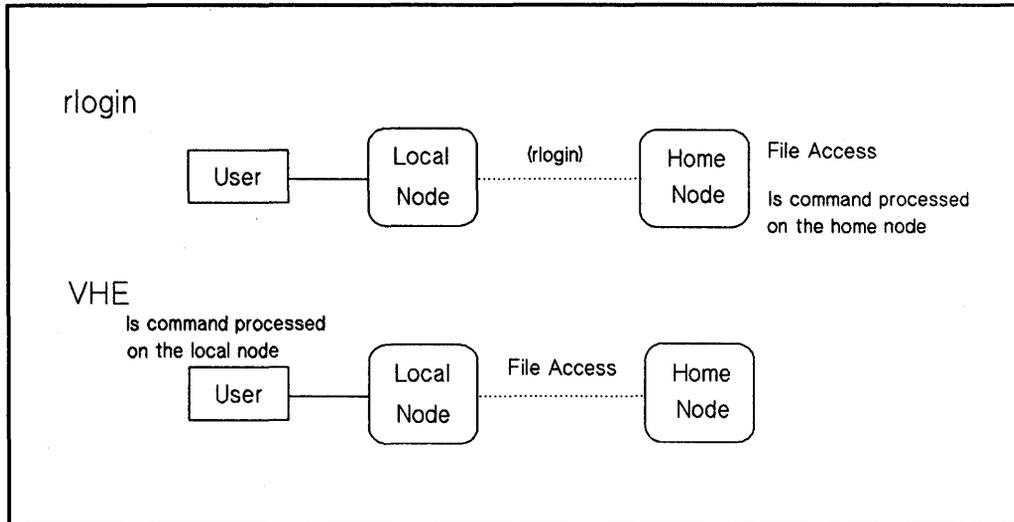


Figure 2-4. VHE vs. rlogin Performing ls Command

VHE Disadvantages

VHE has the following disadvantages:

- Though you can edit source code files originating from different types of computers on the network, you will not be able to execute object code files from a computer of a different architecture using VHE. For example, consider the following: You are currently working on an HP 9000 Series 300 and running VHE, and your home node is an HP 9000 Series 800 computer. If you try to execute an object code file on the HP 9000 Series 300 from the Series 800 computer it will not succeed. However, you can execute a script from the Series 800 computer.
- If you specify pathnames or hardware attributes in your node's `.profile` or `.login` files, you may have to modify these files to use VHE effectively. For example, the `.login` file needs to prompt for the terminal type if you plan to use VHE from more than one terminal or display type. If you do not already have this capability, then look in the sample `/etc/d.login` or `/etc/d.profile` files for samples of how to do this.
- When you are in your home environment, you may execute set-uid root programs that access files in your home directory. These files must allow access for the user "nobody." If this is not done, set-uid root programs will fail. The same applies for root access via set-uid. For example, your home directory is accessed via VHE and you execute set-uid to gain superuser privileges. If your shell happens to be ksh, your root ksh may hang if your `.history` file does not allow access for user "nobody."

How VHE Works

The following diagram illustrates the directory structure of nodes in a network using VHE.

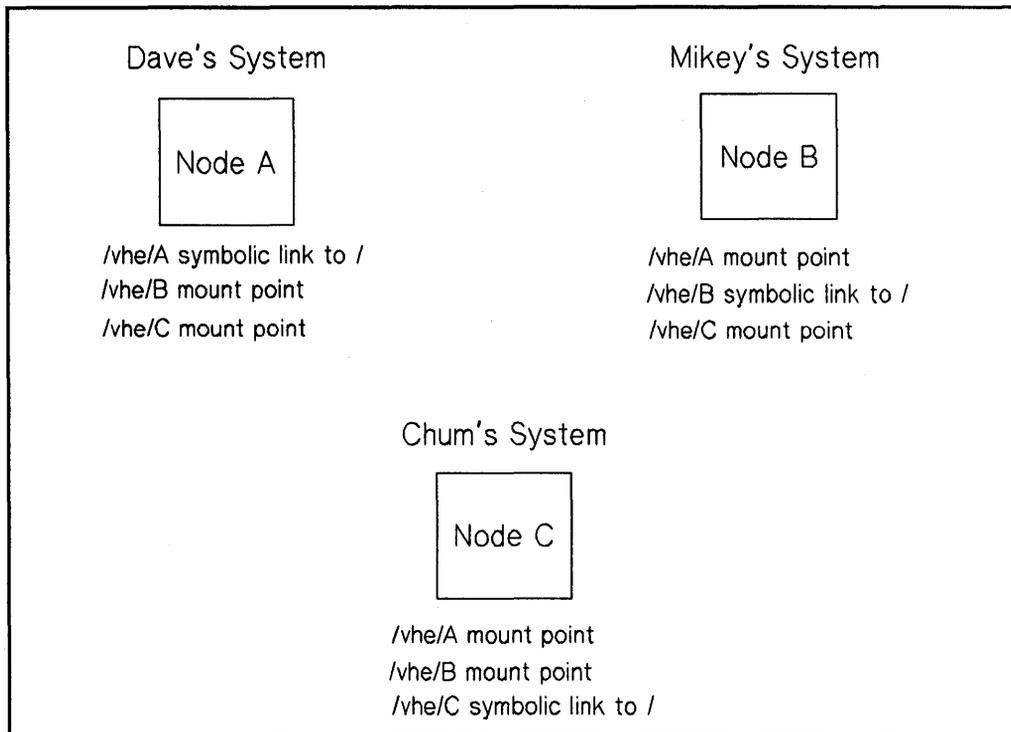


Figure 2-5. Directory Structures of Nodes Using VHE

Each node is connected to the others via NFS Services. In the picture, each node is a home node for a different user (Dave, Mikey and Chum). Each user has a customized work environment set up by the login process. Directories on each home node correspond to each of the remote nodes. For example, on node A there is a directory /vhe/B that corresponds to node B. Using these directories as mount points, a mount is done by each node to each remote node. (The definitions of mounts and mount points are included in the "Glossary." More detailed information is contained in the "NFS Configuration and Maintenance" chapter in the *Installing and Administering NFS Services* manual).

Using VHE gives each node access to file systems located on the remote nodes. To maintain consistency when you log into your home node, a symbolic link (a pointer) points to the host's root directory.

In a single node HP-UX configuration, the `/etc/passwd` file contains the directory that becomes the home directory for the user upon logging in. For use with VHE, `/etc/passwd` is edited such that all of the home directories are prefixed with a mount point or a symbolic link. When the login program performs a `cd` to the user's home directory, the `cd` and subsequent requests are made to the user's home node via NFS Services unless logging in on your home node.

Example Grouping

In the `/etc/passwd` file, the appropriate mount point or symbolic link is added to the beginning of the pathname of the home directory for each user. The example below shows how the lines in `/etc/passwd` would look for the users Dave, Mikey, and Chum as shown in Figure 2-5:

```
dave::117:100:Dave:/vhe/A/users/dave:/bin/csh
mikey::118:100:mikey Pom :/vhe/B/users/mikey:/bin/sh
chum::119:200:chum Pom:/vhe/C/users/chum:/bin/ksh
```

No matter which node Dave logs in on, his home directory is `/users/dave` on node A. When scripts such as `.login` or `.cshrc` are executed, they define the execution environment as customized by Dave. His files, shell variables and aliases are available just as if he had physically logged in on node A.

Because VHE is not a virtual terminal program, when Dave executes processes, they are executed on the node he is logged into. If he is on node B, processes are executed on node B, not his native host A. For example, consider the following. Dave is working at node B and his system administrator has configured VHE to be running. Dave enters the following command on node B:

```
cc testfile.c
```

The `cc` from node B's `/bin` directory is executed, but `testfile.c` is used from Dave's current working directory on node A.

Common Commands

This chapter describes how to access files using NFS. It also explains how to use common NFS and Network Information Service (NIS) commands.

Note All references to *servers* and *clients* apply to NFS servers and clients unless preceded by NIS.

Key Terms

Term	Definition
Client	Can be defined in two ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A node that requests data or services from other nodes (servers).- A process that requests other processes to perform operations. <p><i>Note:</i> An NFS client can also be configured as any combination of an NFS server, NIS client, or NIS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)</p>
Cluster	One or more workstations linked together with a local area network (LAN), but consisting of only one root file system. For more information on cluster concepts, see <i>Managing Clusters of HP9000 Computers: Sharing the HP-UX Filing System</i> .
Cluster Auxiliary Server	A cluster client with a disk drive that contains files shared by the other members of the cluster.
Cluster Client	A node in an HP-UX cluster that uses networking capabilities to share file systems, but does not have its root file system directly attached. For HP-UX 8.0, cluster clients can have locally mounted disks for local data storage.
Cluster Node (Cnode)	Any node operating in an HP-UX cluster environment, including cluster clients and cluster servers.
Cluster Root Server	The only node in an HP-UX cluster that has the root file system directly attached to it.
Context Dependent File (CDF)	A hidden directory that contains all the versions of a file needed by the different cnodes.
Export	To make a file system available to remote nodes via NFS.
File System	A directory structure used to organize files.

Term	Definition
Host	A node that has primary functions other than switching data for the network.
Internet Address	A four-byte quantity that is distinct from a link-level address and is the network address of a computer node. This address identifies both the specific network and the specific node on the network.
Key (NIS)	A string of characters (no imbedded blanks or tabs) that indexes the values within a map so the system can easily retrieve information. For example, in the <code>passwd.byname</code> map, the users' login names are the keys and the matching lines from <code>/etc/passwd</code> are the values.
Map (NIS)	A file consisting of logical records; a search key and related value form each record. NIS clients can request the value associated with any key within a map. NIS map is synonymous with NIS database .
Map Nickname (NIS)	A synonym for the NIS map name when using certain NIS commands.
Master Server (NIS)	The node on which one or more NIS maps are constructed from ASCII files. These maps are then copied to the NIS slave servers for the NIS clients to access.
Mount	To obtain access to a remote or local file system or directory (<code>import</code>).
Mount Point	The name of the directory on which a file system or part of a file system is mounted.
Network Information Service (NIS)	An optional network service composed of databases (maps) and processes that provide NIS clients access to the maps. The NIS service enables you to administer these databases from one node. NIS may or may not be active; check with your system administrator.

Term	Definition
NIS Client	<p>Can be defined in two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A node that requests data or services from NIS servers. - An NIS process that requests other NIS processes to perform operations. <p><i>Note:</i> An NIS client can also be configured as any combination of an NIS server, NFS client, or NFS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)</p>
NIS Database	See "Map (NIS)."
NIS Domain	A logical grouping of NIS maps (databases) stored in one location. NIS domains are specific to the NIS network service and are not associated with other network domains.
NIS Map	See "Map (NIS)."
NIS Password	<p>The password for a user's login ID that exists in the NIS passwd map. The password is the same one as the user password, but is administered through the NIS.</p> <p>You do not have to have a password to access the NIS databases.</p>
NIS Server	<p>Can be defined in two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A node that provides data (maps) or services to other nodes (NIS clients) on the network using NIS. - An NIS process that performs operations as requested by other NIS processes. <p><i>Note:</i> An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client. It can also be configured as an NFS server, NFS client, or both.</p>
Node	A computer system that is attached to or is part of a computer network.

3-4 Key Terms

Term	Definition
Server	<p>Can be defined in two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A node that provides data or services to other nodes (clients) on the network. - A process that performs operations as requested by other processes. <p><i>Note:</i> An NFS server can also be configured as any combination of an NFS client, NIS client, or NIS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)</p>
Value (NIS)	<p>A unit of information stored in NIS maps; each value has a corresponding key (index) so the system can easily retrieve it. For example, in the <code>passwd.byname</code> map, the users' login names are the keys and the matching lines from <code>/etc/passwd</code> are the values.</p>

NFS Commands

This section explains how to access files via NFS and how to use the following NFS commands. The parenthetical comments refer to the *HP-UX Reference* sections where you can go for more information about these commands:

- *rpcinfo*(1M)
- *rup*(1)
- *rusers*(1)
- *showmount*(1M)
- *on*(1)

NFS Remote File Access

NFS allows many users to share the same files. Since access techniques are transparent, remote file access remains similar to local file access.

The superuser must perform two actions before you can access remote files via NFS:

- On the server, export the file system (i.e., make it available) to the client.
- On the client, mount (import) the file system.

Access to remote files is the same as for local files. You need to include either the complete path name starting with slash (/) or the path name relative to the current directory.

Note

If operating in an HP-UX cluster environment and accessing a CDF (context dependent file) via an NFS mount, the CDF member is chosen based on the context of the NFS server, not the client node. Since this access method may return unexpected results, HP recommends you *do not* use CDFs with NFS.

EXAMPLE:

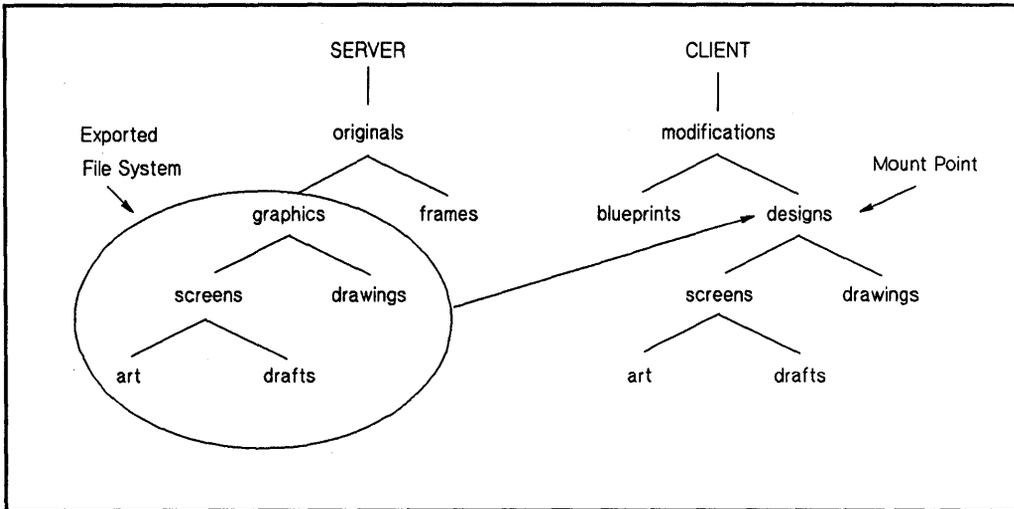


Figure 3-1. Using Commands with NFS Remote File Access

Example NFS Remote File Access	Example Entry
Edit the drafts file on the <i>server</i> .	server% <u>vi</u> <u>/originals/graphics/screens/drafts</u>
Edit the drafts file on the <i>client</i> .	client% <u>vi</u> <u>/modifications/designs/screens/drafts</u>
While in the frames directory, the <i>server</i> copies the art file from the screens directory.	server% <u>cp</u> <u>/originals/graphics/screens/art art</u>
While in the blueprints directory, the <i>client</i> copies the art file from the screens directory.	client% <u>cp</u> <u>/modifications/designs/screens/art art</u>
While in the screens directory, the <i>server</i> copies the art file to the frames directory.	server% <u>cp art /originals/frames</u>

Example NFS Remote File Access	Example Entry
While in the screens directory, the <i>client</i> copies the art file to the blueprints directory.	<code>client% cp art /modifications/blueprints</code>

rpcinfo

Execute `rpcinfo` to determine which remote programs are registered with a system's portmap daemon.

By providing a host name, you can list the registered RPC programs on a specific node. If you do not specify a host name, `rpcinfo` defaults to the local host.

Example Using -p Option

To list the program, version, port numbers, and the protocol, use the `-p` option.

When you execute:

```
rpcinfo -p node_7
```

The system responds:

```

program  vers  proto  port  nfs
100003   2     udp    2049
100004   2     udp    1028  ypserv
100004   2     tcp    1027  ypserv
100004   1     tcp    1027  ypserv
100007   2     tcp    1028  ypbind
100007   1     udp    1037  ypbind
100001   3     udp    1069  rstatd
100002   1     udp    1073  rusersd
100002   2     udp    1073  rusersd
100005   1     udp    1076  mountd
100008   1     udp    1078  walld
100012   1     udp    1080  sprayd

```

Example Using -u Option

To see if a particular remote program and version is available using UDP, use the `-u` option. See the following example:

When you execute:

```
rpcinfo -u node_2 mountd 1
```

The following system response indicates that the portmap daemon on node_2 knows about program 100005 and that it is available:

```
program 100005 version 1 ready and waiting
```

rup

Execute `rup` to list host information, including how long they have been running, how many users are logged on to them, and their load average. By providing a host name, you can list information about a specific host.

Example of Executing `rup`

When you execute:

```
rup node_1 node_2 node_3 node_4
```

The last three columns of the system response show the load averages for 1, 5, and 15 minute intervals:

```
node_1    up           15:53,    load average: 0.11, 0.17, 0
.15
node_2    up    2 days,    19:42,    load average: 0.00, 0.01, 0
.01
node_3    up    21 days,   11:34,    load average: 1.66, 1.68, 1
.60
node_4    up           19:24,    load average: 0.14, 0.18, 0
.14
```

Executing `rup` without providing a host name causes an RPC broadcast. The local node collects responses until the RPC times out (quits). This process generally takes about two minutes.

Example Using `-t` Option

To sort the display by “up time,” use the `-t` option.

When you execute:

```
rup -t
```

The system responds:

```
collecting responses...
node 7          up 21 days,    11:28,  load average: 1.16, 1.
42, 1.52
11.2.33.44     up 12 days,    22:15,  load average: 1.08, 0.
82, 0.57
node 8          up 7 days,     18:27,  load average: 0.12, 0.
09, 0.09
node 12         up 6 days,     21:20,  load average: 0.10, 0.
08, 0.09
55.6.77.88     up 3 days,     3 mins, load average: 0.00, 0.
01, 0.01
node 6          up 2 days,     22:49,  load average: 0.00, 0.
00, 0.02
99.0.11.22     up              18:14,  load average: 0.00, 0.
00, 0.05
33.4.55.66     up              0 min   load average: 0.14, 0.
04, 0.02
```

rusers

Execute **rusers** to list the host names and users logged in for all remote nodes. By providing a host name, you can list information about a specific remote node.

Executing **rusers** without providing a host name causes an RPC broadcast. The local node collects responses until the RPC times out (quits). This process generally takes about two minutes.

Example of Executing rusers

When you execute:

```
rusers
```

The system response displays the host name or internet address in the first column and the users in the second column:

```

77.8.99.00      root
node_6         user_4 user_3 user_8 user_11
node_3         u_2
node_1         u_7
11.2.33.44    root root
node_2         root u_5 root
node_16       test user
node_9        rootx root u_7 root
node_7        root

```

Example Using -l Option

You can list more extensive information by using the `-l` command: user, host, tty (terminal), login date and time, idle time (in minutes and seconds). In some cases, you can list the host that initiated the login session.

When you execute:

```

rusers -l node_8 node_4

```

The third and fourth columns of the system response show the login date and time followed by the idle time:

```

rootx      node_8:console      Apr 07 14:00      20:29
user_3     node_4:ttyp03          Apr 12 08:09      :23 (node_
5)
user 9     node_4:ttya00          Apr 08 09:24      10:42 (node_
9:0.0)

```

In this example, the second line represents an rlogin or telnet session initiated from node_5. The third line represents an hpterm session displayed on the 0.0 display of node_9.

showmount

Execute `showmount` to list all the clients that have remotely mounted a file system. By providing a host name, you can specify the host. If you do not specify a host name, `showmount` defaults to the local host. For example, you might want to determine which nodes have your file systems mounted.

Example Using -a Option

To print all remote mounts in a `client:directory` format, use the `-a` option. The directory listed is the root of the file system that was mounted.

When you execute:

```
showmount -a
```

The system response displays the client followed by the directory:

```
node_4:/tmp
node_7:/
node_2:/tmp
node_12:/usr/tmp/sys_rick
node_6:/tmp/y
node_8:/
```

Example Using -e Option

To print a list of exported file systems, use the `-e` option.

When you execute:

```
showmount -e node_7
```

The system responds:

```
export list for   node_7:
/                 node_31 node_32  node_1 node_6
/users/proj      node_8 node_12
```

3-14 NFS Commands

on

Use the `on` command to execute commands on a remote host. When executing the `on` command, you specify:

- A host on which to run the remote command.
- The command to run.
- Arguments for the command.

The `on` command then simulates your current environment on the server by passing your environment variables and information about your current working directory to the remote host. The `rex` daemon on the server mounts the file system that contains your current working directory if it is not already mounted on the server. After the environment is simulated, the command executes in the simulated environment on the remote host.

Note

Your environment is simulated on the remote host but not completely recreated. Execution of a given command on a remote host will not always produce the same results as the executing the command on your local computer. The simulated environment and the environment's limitations are discussed in the "Environment Simulation" in the *Installing and Administering NFS Services* manual.

The syntax of the `on` command is as follows:

```
on [-i | -n] [-d] host [ command [argument ] ....]
```

Host specifies the name of the host on which to execute *command*. There must be an entry for *host* in the local computer's host data base.

Command specifies the command to execute on *host*. If *command* is not specified, `on` will start a shell on *host*.

You may specify three options (`-i`, `-n`, `-d`). The `-i` option must be used when invoking interactive commands, the `-n` option must be used when running commands in the

background with job control, and the `-d` option is used when you wish to receive diagnostic messages.

Use of the `-d` option with either `-i` or `-n` is permitted. See the following examples:

```
on -i -d host
```

```
on -n -d host
```

You *cannot* use the `-i` and `-n` options at the same time.

The -i Option (Interactive Mode)

The `-i` option invokes the interactive mode. This option must be specified for all interactive commands (commands which expect to be communicating with a terminal). Examples of interactive commands are `vi`, `csh`, and `more`. If this option is specified with a non-interactive command such as `sort`, it will be executed as an interactive command, but there may be no difference in behavior.

Example:

```
on -i node_7 vi file
```

The -n Option (No Input Mode)

The `-n` option sends the remote program an end-of-file when the program reads from standard input instead of connecting the standard input (`stdin`) of the `on` command to the standard input (`stdin`) of the remote command. The `-n` option is necessary when running commands in the background with job control.

The -d Option (Debug Mode)

The `-d` option allows you to receive diagnostic messages during the start up of the `on` command. The messages may be useful in detecting configuration problems if the `on` command is failing while connecting to a given host.

Network Information Service Overview

The Network Information Service (NIS) is an optional network database service that enables NIS clients to access information from any correctly configured NIS server on the network. (NIS was formerly known as Yellow Pages (YP), which is a registered trademark of British Telecommunications.) One NIS master server can automatically propagate modifications across the network.

NIS Maps

The NIS system stores information in NIS maps (databases) that are consistent across the nodes. Each map has a unique, case-sensitive map name that is used for accessing maps.

Each map consists of keys (for indexing) and values (data). You can use NIS commands for querying for values associated with a particular key within a map and for retrieving key-value pairs within a map.

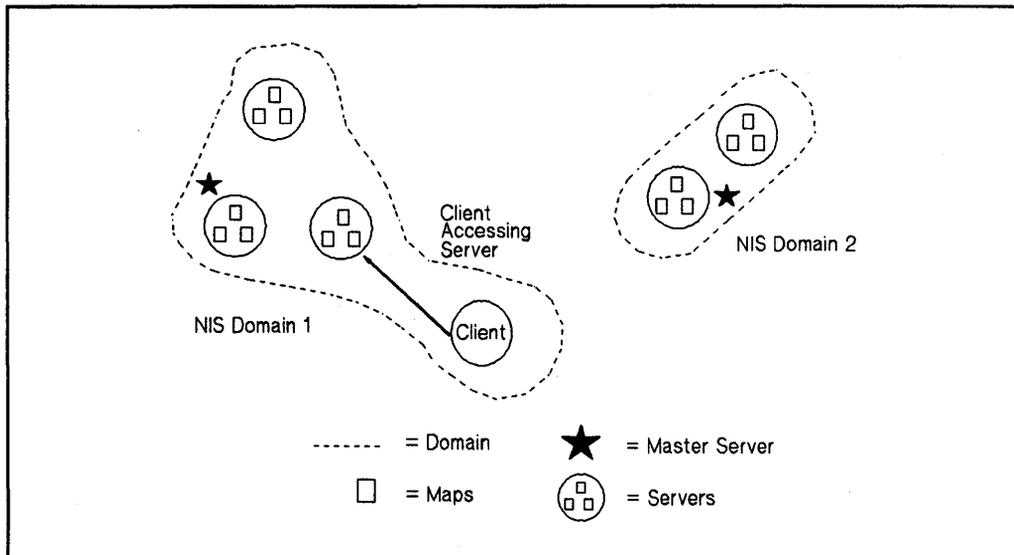


Figure 3-2. Overview of NIS

NIS Servers and NIS Clients

NIS servers store and provide access to the NIS maps (databases); **NIS clients** request data from the maps residing on NIS servers. Since different NIS servers have consistent NIS maps, responses are identical no matter which NIS server answers a request. When doing NIS client and server configurations, keep the following information in mind:

- An NIS client can also be configured as any combination of an NIS server, NFS client, or NFS server.
- An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client. It can also be configured as an NFS server, NFS client, or both.

NIS Domains

A **NIS domain** is a logical grouping of NIS maps; each NIS server contains a set of maps for at least one NIS domain.

NIS domains enable maps with the same names to exist on one LAN; the maps are made unique by belonging to separate NIS domains. With NIS domains, you need not worry about the maps interfering with each other because of the following:

- Each of the nodes within an NIS domain has the same NIS domain name.
- Maps using the same name in different NIS domains can have different contents.

NIS domains are implemented as subdirectories of `/usr/etc/yp` on the NIS servers only; the name of each subdirectory is the name of an NIS domain. For example, maps in the *research* NIS domain would be in `/usr/etc/yp/research`. (Note, NIS domain names are case sensitive.)

NIS Master and Slave Servers

Only two types of nodes have NIS databases: master servers and slave servers.

The **NIS master server** is the node on which all NIS maps within a particular NIS domain are created and modified. As modifications occur, the **NIS slave servers** copy the maps to ensure all NIS databases are alike; in turn, they provide resources to the NIS clients.

NIS clients can bind to either the NIS master server or to a slave server.

NIS Commands

Since NIS hides the details of how and where data is stored, you do not need to know all the configuration details to access information. You can, however, use the following commands to determine the location and content of NIS information. The parenthetical comment refers to the section in the *HP-UX Reference* where you can go for more information:

- *domainname*(1)
- *ypcat*(1)
- *ypmatch*(1)
- *yppasswd*(1)
- *ypwhich*(1)

domainname

Execute `domainname` to display the current NIS domain name:

```
domainname
```

For example, you might need to determine the current NIS domain name to define a `netgroup` in `/etc/netgroup`. (Netgroups are network-wide groups of nodes and users defined in `/etc/netgroup` on the master server.)

ypcat

Execute `ypcat` to list the contents of a specified NIS map. You can use either the map name or map nickname to specify the desired map.

Example of Executing ypcat

When you execute:

```
ypcat group.byname
```

(or)

```
ypcat group
```

The system response displays the group name, the group ID (GID), and the members of the group:

```
daemon::5:notes,anon,uucp
users::23>window,nowindow
other::1:root,daemon,uucp,who,date,doolley,sync
root::0:root
mail::6:root
sys::3:root,bin,sys,adm
rje::8:rje,shqer
bin::2:root,bin,daemon,lp
adm::4:root,adm,daemon
```

Example Using -x Option

To list the map nicknames applicable to the `ypcat` command, use the `-x` option.

When you execute:

```
ypcat -x
```

The system responds:

```
Use "passwd" for map "passwd.byname"
Use "group" for map "group.byname"
Use "networks" for map "networks.byaddr"
Use "hosts" for map "hosts.byaddr"
Use "protocols" for map "protocols.bynumber"
Use "services" for map "services.byname"
Use "aliases" for map "mail.aliases"
Use "ethers" for map "ethers.byname"
```

ypmatch

Execute `ypmatch` to print the data (values) associated with one or more keys in a specified NIS map. You can use either the map name or map nickname to specify the desired map.

To list the map nicknames applicable to the `ypmatch` command, use the `-x` option. For example, when you execute:

```
ypmatch my_node hosts.byname
```

The system response displays the internet address (value) associated with the `hosts.byname` map for the node `my_node`:

```
11.2.33.44 my_node
```

yppasswd

The NIS password is the password for a user's login ID that exists in the NIS passwd map. It is used as the user password, but is administered through NIS. Note, you are not required to have a password to access the NIS databases.

If you change your password with the passwd command, you will change only the entry in your local /etc/passwd file if the entry exists. If your password is not in the file, the following error message occurs when using passwd:

Permission denied.

If this error occurs, execute yppasswd.

NIS Password Guidelines

Execute yppasswd to change or install a password associated with a specified login name in the NIS passwd map.

The following list provides the requirements for creating and changing NIS passwords.

Note: These guidelines are different from those of the passwd command (refer to the “HP NFS Services vs. Local HP-UX” appendix in this manual):

- Only the owner or superuser can change an NIS password. The superuser must know the current NIS password to change another user's NIS password.
- Only the first eight characters of the NIS password are significant; the rest are truncated.
- An NIS password must contain at least five characters if it includes a combination of *either one* of the following:
 - Uppercase and lowercase letters.
 - Numeric and special characters.
- An NIS password must contain at least four characters if it includes a combination of uppercase letters, lowercase letters, and numeric characters.
- An NIS password must contain at least six characters if it includes only monospace letters.

NIS Password

Follow these steps to create or change your NIS password in the NIS passwd map:

1. Execute the `yppasswd` command.

```
yppasswd user_login_name
```

2. The system prompts you for the old NIS password even if one does not exist. If it exists, enter the old NIS password; otherwise, press **RETURN**.

Note

The NIS password may be different from the one in your local `/etc/passwd` file.

3. The system prompts you for the new NIS password twice to ensure you enter the correct response. Enter your new NIS password twice, pressing **RETURN** after each entry. The system now updates the master server passwd map.

Example of Executing `yppasswd`

When you execute:

```
yppasswd
```

The system responds:

```
Old NIS password:
```

```
New password:
```

```
Retype new password:
```

```
The NIS passwd has been changed on host_name, the master NIS  
passwd server.
```

ypwhich

Execute `ypwhich` to print the host name of the NIS server supplying NIS services to an NIS client.

To list all available maps and their NIS master server host names, use the `-m` option. You can use either the map name or map nickname to determine which NIS server is the master server for a specified NIS map.

To list the map nicknames applicable to the `ypwhich` command, use the `-x` option. For example, when you execute:

```
ypwhich -m
```

The system response displays the available maps and their NIS master server host names:

```
services.byname          node_1
rpc.bynumber             node_1
protocols.bynumber      node_1
protocols.byname        node_1
passwd.byuid             node_1
passwd.byname           node_1
networks.byname          node_1
networks.byaddr         node_1
netgroup.byuser          node_1
netgroup.byhost         node_1
netgroup                 node_1
hosts.byname             node_1
hosts.byaddr            node_1
group.byname             node_1
group.bygid             node_1
vhe_list                 node_1
ypservers                node_1
```

HP NFS Services vs. Local HP-UX

If you have applications running on HP-UX, they may behave differently over NFS Services. Use this appendix to understand the basic differences between NFS Services and local HP-UX operations.

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
Append Mode	
If two processes operating on different clients open the same file using <code>O_APPEND</code> , the write operation may not append data to the file.	If two processes open the same file using <code>O_APPEND</code> , the write operation should append information to the file.
chac1(1)	
You can only use the <code>-F</code> option. The other options of <code>chac1</code> are not supported over NFS.	You can use all options locally.
Device Files	
NFS does not support remote access to device files, but does support local access to device files via NFS.	HP-UX supports local access to device files.
File Locking	
NFS supports remote file locking for NFS reads and writes in advisory mode only.	HP-UX supports local file locking in advisory and enforcement modes.

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
getacl(2) system call	
Is not supported over NFS.	Is supported locally.
Group Membership	
A user may be a member of eight groups. If a user who is a member of more than eight groups attempts to access a file, the system accesses only the first eight groups for permission checking.	A user may be a member of up to 20 groups.
lseek(2)	
If two processes operating on different clients write to the same file, lseek with whence=SEEK_END may not set the file pointer to the desired location.	If two processes write to the same file, lseek with whence=SEEK_END should set the file pointer to the desired location.
mknod(1M) Command	
The mknod command will work only with named pipes over NFS.	You can use the mknod command locally for all file types.
Mount Points	
When operating in an HP-UX cluster environment, only file systems mounted on the cluster root server can contain mount points for NFS mounts. File systems mounted on cluster auxiliary servers cannot contain NFS mount points.	NFS mount points can exist on any mounted file system.
Named Pipes	
NFS named pipes cannot be used to communicate between machines in the same diskless cluster.	Named pipes can be used to communicate among clients in a diskless cluster.

A-2 HP NFS Services vs. Local HP-UX

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
Reading Directories	
You cannot use the read call to read a remote directory, rather you should use readdir.	You can use the read call to read a local directory. However, to do so can restrict migration of programs to future HP-UX versions.
setacl(2) system call	
Is not supported over NFS.	Is supported locally.
setaclentry(3) library routine	
Is not supported over NFS.	Is supported locally.
Superuser Permission	
<p>The superuser UID 0 is mapped to -2 by default.</p> <p>Anything requiring superuser permission may not work over NFS. For example, a superuser may not be able to perform the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link and unlink directories. - Alter directories such as /, /etc, and /bin. - Use chmod to set sticky or setuid bits. - Do a mknod of device files. 	Superuser has permission to perform any operation locally (by definition).

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
System Time	
<p>Commands that access clocks on different systems may not provide consistent times since system clocks differ.</p> <p>For example, if you give the <code>utime</code> command a NULL pointer for the times value, the following process occurs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The system sets the access time and modification time according to the client node clock. 2. It then sends these times over to the server which changes the inode to reflect the new access and modification times. 3. The server node identifies the change in the inode and thus, modifies the inode's status change time according to its own clock. <p>The result is a high probability of differing times between the server's access and modification times versus its status change time.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> If operating in an HP-UX cluster environment, all nodes in the cluster have the same time as the root server's clock. Therefore, clock skew problems exist only if the root server's clock is different from other NFS servers.</p>	<p>Commands that access clocks on the local system provide consistent times.</p>

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
Unlinking	
<p>The server does not keep state information and does not know if a process has a file open. See the following explanation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The server will unlink a file if it receives a request to do so; thus, subsequent requests for the file will result in an error. - If a process opens a file and then unlinks it, the client renames the file so it appears to be gone. When the process quits, the client then unlinks the renamed file. - If the unlink request comes from a different node than from where the open request came from, the file is deleted. 	<p>If you open a local file and unlink it before you close the file, the file descriptor for the open file will still be valid to access the file.</p>
yppasswd(1) Command vs. passwd(1) Command	
<p>This command does not have a <i>password aging</i> feature.</p> <p>The superuser must know the current password to change another user's password. The password must contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least five characters if it includes special characters and any combination of lowercase letters, uppercase letters, and numbers. Also, any combination that includes numbers, lowercase letters, and uppercase letters. 	<p>This command has a <i>password aging</i> feature.</p> <p>Superuser does not have to know the password to change another user's password. The following rules apply to the password:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each password must have six or more characters: at least two alpha characters and at least one numeric or special character.

HP NFS Services Networking Operation	Local HP-UX Operation
yppasswd(1) Command vs. passwd(1) Command (continued)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least six characters if it includes lowercase letters and numbers, uppercase letters and numbers, or a combination of lowercase and uppercase letters. - At least seven characters if it includes all lowercase letters or all uppercase letters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each password must differ from the user's login name and any reverse or circular shift of that name. - New passwords must differ from the old by at least three characters.
pathconf/fpathconf	
<p>The following variables for the pathconf/fpathconf system calls are not supported over NFS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_CHOWN_RESTRICTED</u> variable <u>_PC_LINK_MAX</u> variable <u>_PC_NAME_MAX</u> variable <u>_PC_NO_TRUNC</u> variable <u>_PC_PATH_MAX</u> variable <p>The following variables for the pathconf/fpathconf system calls return local information over NFS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_MAX_CANON</u> variable <u>_PC_MAX_INPUT</u> variable <u>_PC_VDISABLE</u> variable <p>The following variable for the pathconf/fpathconf systems calls is supported over NFS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_PIPE_BUF</u> variable 	<p>All variables are supported locally for the pathconf/fpathconf system calls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_CHOWN_RESTRICTED</u> variable <u>_PC_LINK_MAX</u> variable <u>_PC_NAME_MAX</u> variable <u>_PC_NO_TRUNC</u> variable <u>_PC_PATH_MAX</u> variable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_MAX_CANON</u> variable <u>_PC_MAX_INPUT</u> variable <u>_PC_VDISABLE</u> variable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>_PC_PIPE_BUF</u> variable

Moving from RFA to NFS

Remote File Access (RFA), one of the Network Services, has been discontinued. When you used networks consisting of all HP systems, RFA provided distributed file access among HP 9000 computers. In order to maintain distributed file access, you must move to NFS Services.

Why Move to NFS Services?

Using NFS Services in place of the RFA service has several advantages:

- NFS works with other vendors' equipment and other operating systems.
- NFS is a defacto industry standard.
- NFS allows transparent file access.
- NFS with the Network Information Service (NIS) provides centrally administered databases.

Use this appendix to translate your RFA applications to NFS applications.

Similarities

HP NFS Services and RFA have the following similarities:

- No remote device access.
- Not all UNIX[®] semantics are fully supported.

Differences

Refer to the following table for a list of differences between HP NFS and RFA.

NFS Services	RFA (Discontinued)
You can run <code>setuid</code> programs accessing data on remote file systems.	You cannot run <code>setuid</code> programs accessing data on remote file systems.
NFS operates in a heterogeneous operating system environment.	RFA operates on HP-UX operating systems only.
Only the superuser can perform remote NFS mounts.	All users can establish access to remote file systems.
You can centrally administer your databases using NIS.	You have no centrally administered database.
All users with read access to the mount point can read the remote file system.	Only users performing <code>netunam</code> can access the remote file systems.
Read and write file caching occurs on the clients; read caching occurs on the servers.	Read and write file caching occurs on the servers; caching does not occur on the clients.
The servers are stateless (do not remember client activities) and therefore, can be rebooted without interfering with client activities. (The client can resume access to the server when it is rebooted.)	The servers have state and therefore, remember the activities in which the client is involved.
One mount gives you access to only one file system.	One <code>netunam</code> gives you access to all file systems under the root directory.

B-2 Why Move to NFS Services?

Changing Scripts from RFA to NFS

Changing RFA scripts to NFS requires only minor changes. You can change both shell scripts that accept different path names and those that use hard-coded path names.

Shell Scripts that Accept Different Paths

Shell scripts that accept different paths require the following modifications:

- You must perform a remote mount of a file system or directory in *one* of the following ways:
 - As part of the script.
 - Before executing the script.

Since superuser must execute mounts, the script must be `setuid root` if the mount is performed as part of the script.

Caution Having `setuid root` scripts is a potential security problem.

If the script's owner does not have superuser permissions, the superuser can configure `/etc/checklist` to automatically mount the remote file systems at boot time. This process allows users to execute scripts without checking to see if the remote file system is accessible.

- Remove all calls to `netunam` from the script. Removing these calls prevents `netunam` failures from causing the scripts to fail.

Shell Scripts with Hard-Coded Paths

You can handle shell scripts with hard-coded path names in two ways:

- Change the path name in the script to correspond to the NFS mount point.
- Create a path name for the NFS mount point which corresponds to the path name in the script.

To mount the remote file system either as part of the script or automatically via `/etc/checklist`, you must modify the shell scripts as described in the previous section, "Shell Scripts that Accept Different Paths."

Change Pathnames

Change the path name in the script to correspond to the NFS mount point.

EXAMPLE: The script has a hard-coded path name of `/net/systemB/project`. Mount the remote directory `/project` on `/user/project` as follows:

```
mount systemB:/project /user/project
```

Now change the script to use the path name `/user/project` in place of `/net/systemB/project`.

Create New Pathnames

Create a path name for the NFS mount point that corresponds to the path name in the script.

EXAMPLE: The script has a hard-coded path name of `/net/systemB/project` which accesses the remote directory `/project`. To keep the path name the same:

1. Remove the network special file `/net/systemB`.
2. Create the directories `/net/systemB` and `/net/systemB/project`:

```
mount systemB:/project /net/systemB/project
```

Note

For RFA, access to the remote system occurred via a network special file. Creating an NFS mount point with the same name as the network special file for the remote system could cause confusion. Problems will not occur if you remove the network special file.

All remote access will then be via mount points that have the same names as the network special files that were removed.

Glossary

Alias

A term for referencing alternate networks, hosts, and protocols names.

ARPA

Advanced Research Projects Agency

A U.S. government agency that was instrumental in developing and using the original ARPA Services networking standards.

Bind

Process by which a client locates and directs all requests for data to a specific server.

Process of establishing the address of a socket that allows other sockets to connect to it or to send data to it.

CDF (Context Dependent File)

A hidden directory that contains all the versions of a file needed by the different cnodes.

Client

A node that requests data or services from other nodes (servers).

A process that requests other processes to perform operations.

Note: An NFS client can also be configured as any combination of an NFS server, NIS client, or NIS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)

Clock Skew

A difference in clock times between systems.

Cluster

One or more workstations linked together with a local area network (LAN), but consisting of only one root file system.

Cluster Auxiliary Server

A cluster client with a disk drive that contains files shared by the other members of the cluster.

Cluster Client

A node in an HP-UX cluster that uses networking capabilities to share file systems,, but does not have its root file system directly attached. For HP-UX 8.0,, cluster clients can have locally mounted disks for local data storage.

Cluster Root Server

The only node in an HP-UX cluster that has the root file system directly attached to it.

Cnode (Cluster Node)

Any node operating in an HP-UX cluster environment, including diskless nodes, auxiliary servers, and the root server.

Daemon

Background programs that are always running, waiting for a request to perform a task.

Escape Sequence (NIS)

Characters used within files to force inclusion and exclusion of data from NIS databases. The escape sequences are as follows:

- + (plus)
- - (minus)
- +@netgroup_name
- -@netgroup_name

Export

To make a file system available to remote nodes via NFS.

2 Glossary

External Data Representation (XDR)

A protocol that translates machine-dependent data formats (i.e., internal representations) to a universal format used by other network hosts using XDR.

File System

A directory structure used to organize files.

GID

A value that identifies a group in HP-UX.

Global (NIS)

A means of access in which the system always reads NIS maps rather than the local ASCII files.

Hard Mount

A mount that causes NFS to retry a remote file system request until it succeeds, you interrupt it (default option), or you reboot the system.

Home Node

A term used in Virtual Home Environment (VHE) to refer to the machine on which a user's home directory physically resides.

Host

A node that has primary functions other than switching data for the network.

Host Node

A term used in Virtual Home Environment (VHE) to refer to the node a user is logged in to. This node environment is set up from the configuration files found on the user's home node.

Import

To obtain access to a remote file system from an outside source; to mount.

Internet Address

A four-byte quantity that is distinct from a link-level address and is the network address of a computer node. This address identifies both the specific network and the specific host on the network.

Interrupt-able Mount

A mount that allows you to interrupt an NFS request by pressing an interrupt key. (Though the interrupt key is not standardized, common ones include **CTRL** - **C** and **BREAK**.)

Key (NIS)

A string of characters (no imbedded blanks or tabs) that indexes the values within an NIS map so the system can easily retrieve information. For example, in the `passwd.byname` map, the users' login names are the keys and the matching lines from `/etc/passwd` are the values.

Local (NIS)

A means of access in which the system first reads the local ASCII file. If it encounters an escape sequence, it then accesses the NIS databases.

Map (NIS)

A file consisting of logical records; a search key and related value form each record. NIS clients can request the value associated with any key within a map.

NIS map is synonymous with **NIS database**.

Map Nickname (NIS)

A synonym for the NIS map name when using certain NIS commands.

Master Server (NIS)

The node on which one or more NIS maps are constructed from ASCII files. These maps are then copied to the NIS slave servers for the NIS clients to access.

Mount

To obtain access to a remote or local file system or directory (import).

4 Glossary

Mount Point

The name of the directory on which a file system is mounted.

Netgroup

A network-wide group of nodes and users defined in `/etc/netgroup`.

NFS

Network File System.

Network Information Service (NIS)

An optional network service composed of databases (maps) and processes that provide NIS clients access to the maps. The NIS service enables you to administer these databases from one node.

NIS may or may not be active; check with your system administrator.

Network Lock Manager

A facility for locking files and synchronizing access to shared files.

Network Status Monitor

A daemon running on all network computers to maintain stateful locking service within NFS. It also allows applications to monitor the status of other computers.

NIS Client

A node that requests data or services from NIS servers.

An NIS process that requests other NIS processes to perform operations.

Note: An NIS client can also be configured as any combination of an NIS server, NFS client, or NFS server. (An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.)

NIS Database

See Map (NIS).

NIS Domain

A logical grouping of NIS maps (databases) stored in one location. NIS domains are specific to the NIS network service and are not associated with other network domains.

NIS Map

See Map (NIS).

NIS Password

The password for a user's login ID that exists in the NIS password map. The NIS password is the same one as the user password, but is administered through the NIS.

You do not have to have an NIS password to access the NIS databases.

NIS Server

A node that provides data (maps) or services to other nodes (NIS clients) on the network using NIS.

An NIS process that performs operations as requested by other NIS processes.

Note: An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client. It can also be configured as an NFS server, NFS client, or both.

Node

A computer system that is attached to or is part of a computer network.

Propagate

To copy maps (data) from one NIS server to another.

Protocol

The rules and steps by which servers and clients exchange data and control information.

Remote Execution Facility (REX)

A facility which allows a user to execute commands on a remote node.

6 Glossary

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

A call made by clients either to access server information or to request action from servers.

Remote Procedure Call Protocol Compiler (RPCGEN)

A remote procedure call compiler used to help programmers write RPC applications by automatically generating necessary programs and code fragments.

Server

A node that provides data or services to other nodes (clients) on the network.

A process that performs operations as requested by other processes.

Note: An NFS server can also be configured as any combination of an NFS client, NIS client, or NIS server. An NIS server must also be configured as an NIS client.

Slave Server (NIS)

A node that copies NIS maps from the NIS master server and then provides NIS clients access to these maps.

Soft Mount

An optional mount that causes access to remote file systems to abort requests after one NFS attempt.

Stateless Server

Servers do not maintain (preserve) information relating to each file being served. Each file request moves across the network with the parameters attached to it locally (e.g., read and write privileges).

Steady State

Servers maintain (preserve) information relating to each file being served.

For NIS, the information contained in an NIS map is consistent among all NIS servers within a given NIS domain (i.e., is not in the process of being updated).

UID

A value that identifies a user in HP-UX.

Unmount

To remove access rights to a file system or disk that was mounted via the mount command.

Update

The HP-UX command that installs software onto the system.

Value (NIS)

A unit of information stored in NIS maps; each value has a corresponding key (index) so the system can easily retrieve it. For example, in the `passwd.byname` map, the users' login names are the keys and the matching lines from `/etc/passwd` are the values.

VHE

See Virtual Home Environment.

Virtual Home Environment (VHE)

A network service that allows users to log in at host nodes and utilize their home nodes' execution environments.

XDR

See External Data Representation.

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Arranged alphabetically by country

1

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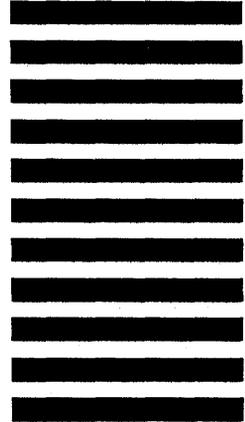
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