

Net-COPS: Network Users Access Control

Net-COPS is a protection system that enables you to control the network access of your software application. Net-COPS controls the number of simultaneous network users, number of verified users, the expiry date and more, by simply issuing a Network Activation Access Code to the LAN network system administrator.

During Net-COPS installation, the original CD-ROM must be in a local drive. Net-COPS reports a unique network identification number that the LAN network system administrator must contact and dictate to publisher, to receive the Network Activation Access Code (NAAC), in return.

Entering NAAC shall enable the network protection for a specified number of users, and the protected application installed shall no longer require the CD-ROM presence a local drive.

After Net-COPS protected software application has been installed, a security Network installation shall be performed to specify the security level of the protected application (number of users, expiry date etc.).

When the number of registered users is equal to the number of licenses assigned, no more registrations will be allowed. A message will inform new users that more licenses must be purchased.

If this occurs, the LAN network system administrator should call the publisher and get a new access code granting more network licenses.

For every change that must occur, like changing the number of licenses, or increasing the number of simultaneous users, a network configuration utility must be used. To perform the upgrade, Net-COPS requires the original CD-ROM to be in a local drive, just like the first installation.

Net-COPS comes with a software utility named MakeCode, which is the publisher's code generator that can create the activation codes for the network configuration. These codes determine the maximum number of simultaneous users.

MakeCode contains:

- The Maximum User Count Key Feature, which is an operational parameter that reports the total maximum number of users allowed to access and run the program. In conjunction with Verify User Names, it could be either specific users, or a simultaneous user counter.
- The Verify User Names Key Feature, which is an operational parameter that controls network users allowed to access and run the program. When this option is enabled, only users with identified and recognized user names will be able to run the application.
- The Time Expiry Key Feature, which is an operational parameter that controls the time duration within which the program may be accessed via network. When this option is enabled, the installation will expire at the specified interval, thereby requiring the system operator to run a maintenance utility at regular intervals. This ensures that the original CD-ROM is present.

In case that the application supports a stand-alone run, using CD-ROM or DVD-ROM, Net-COPS can be combined to CD-COPS or DVD-COPS, respectively. Two versions of protected files must be created:

- The first version (single user) will contain files protected with CD-COPS or DVD-COPS.
- The second version (network) will contain files protected with Net-COPS.

Then, two installation scripts should be made, one for the single user and one for the network.

Alternatively, a single installation script could be used, asking whether you want to install the stand-alone or the network version.

The single-user version (stand-alone version) will operate the protected application like any other typical CD-COPS or DVD-COPS protected application. Every time the application executes the original disc must be inserted in the local drive. No telephone calls to the publisher are needed to get an activation code for the title.

Network users (network version) will have to call the publisher once, during the installation of the network version, to get a Network Activation Access Code that will allow a number of users to operate the application. Net-COPS is purchased separately from CD-COPS.

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