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Nasi/NCS Overview

Nasi and NCS are software products that allow a user on a PC workstation to access asynchronous connections on a remote server for dial-in or dial-out purposes.

Nasi refers to the software product that executes on the workstation and establishes connections to one or more remote servers.

NCS is a software product that executes on a remote server that accepts connections from **Nasi** workstations and transfers those connections to asynchronous connections on the server.

The Systems Administrator can use **Nasi/NCS** to centralize and control all asynchronous connections to or from a site.

Nasi Mapping Utility Overview

The **Nasi Mapping Utility** allows the user to define how Communications Ports (COM Ports) are to be mapped for possible redirection to **Nasi**. Mapping of COM ports can be defined so that a specific COM port will be mapped to a specific **Nasi** port, to any **Nasi** port, to be **unmapped** ,to be **dynamic**, or other possible combinations.

Nasi Redirector Overview

The **Nasi Redirector** is an application that stays resident at all times when WINDOWS is active. The application will trap all calls to the COM ports, make a determination if the port is to be redirected, and then directs that COM port to the proper connection (either local or remote). The **Nasi Redirector** can also prompt the user for Security (if not previously entered) or display a Dialog Box if the COM port was defined as **dynamic**.

Nasi Mapping Utility Main Display

The **Nasi Mapping Utility Main Display** displays a combination of mapping and status. When the user first invokes the Nasi Mapping Utility, all COM ports indicate a **dynamic** mapping (default). As the mapping is changed, the Main Display indicates those changes.

The following is a description of the ICONs that are displayed under the Status entry of the Main Display.



All Services ICON. If a port is not in use and can be used as either a local connection to the local COM port or a remote connection to a Nasi/NCS port, the **All Services ICON** is displayed.



Nasi Only ICON. If a port can not be used by the local COM port, but is available for a remote connection to a Nasi/NCS port, the **Nasi Only ICON** is displayed.



Not Available ICON. If a port can not be used for either local connections or remote connections to Nasi/NCS, the **Not Available ICON** is displayed. Normally a port is in this condition if the Operating System is using this COM port for the mouse. Ports in this state can not be mapped to Nasi/NCS or assigned to the local COM port.



Nasi Not Available ICON. If Nasi Redirection is Disabled, the **Nasi Not Available ICON** is displayed. Mapping can still be performed, but redirection to Nasi/NCS will not occur until Nasi Redirection is Enabled.



Active Server ICON. If an application is presently connected to Nasi/NCS, the Main Display indicates the **Active Server ICON** for that COM port.

LOCAL



Local Usage ICON. If the COM port is active and currently directed to the local COM port, the **Local Usage ICON** is displayed.

When the **Active Server** or **Local Usage ICON** is displayed for a COM port, the present port connection information is displayed for that port in the **Intensity** color.

When the **All Services**, **Nasi Only**, or **Nasi Not Available ICON** is displayed for a COM port, mapping information is displayed for that COM port in the **Normal Text** color.

Set Security

Security is required by **Nasi/NCS** to determine which services are available for the user. The Systems Administrator configures **NCS** to assign services (NCS COM ports) to be accessed by different users.

The following information must be provided by the user to acquire services.

User Name
Password
Session Name

The **User Name** and **Password** must be the same as the **User Name** and **Password** that the Systems Administrator that entered into **NCS** for service access. In many cases, it will be the same as the users Netware **Login Name** and **Password**.

The **Session Name** can be any name that the user chooses and will be used for the dial-in capability allowing for **port sharing**.

The **Security** Dialog Box is displayed any time the user invokes the **Nasi Mapping Utility** and security was not previously entered during the present WINDOWS session. Security may also be invoked when using an application that is being redirected to Nasi.

The **Public Session** checkbox is used only for dial in capability. If this box is not checked, then the session is private and only users that dial in with the same User Name and Password that was previously entered will be able to connect to your application. If the **Public Session** is checked, then any dial-in NCS user can connect to your application.

Security can also be set Manually so that the user will never be prompted for Security. **This is not recommended since it could cause a Security breach.** The following describes the manual setting of security.

Edit the [NASI] section of the **NCS.INI** file in the Win2NCS directory.

UserName = A 1 to 48 character user name.
Password = A 1 to 24 character password.
SessionName = A 1 to 16 character session name.

A single **asterisk (*)** must be placed in the password entry for a NULL password.

If all three entries are present in the **NCS.INI** file, security will not be prompted and the Security option in the Win2NCS mapping utility will be **grayed**. The user can at any time remove the Password entry in the **NCS.INI** to reenable Security prompting.

Map Communications Ports

This selection allows the user to map or unmap COM ports to **Nasi** services. Selecting this **Map Communication Ports** selection will cause the utility to acquire all services that are associated with the previously entered Security. The **Nasi** services and available COM ports are then displayed in a Dialog Box allowing the user to create the associations.

Press the Help push button in the **Map Communications Ports** Dialog Box for more information concerning this selection.

Define Server Restrictions

This option allows the user to decrease the required search time when searching for services.

Normally all NCS Servers are searched when the user selects the **Map Communications Ports** option in the Win2NCS mapping utility or perform a **dynamic** or **<any>** search when using a communications package.

However, the user can select this option to define a **Restricted Server List** that will be used when any of the previous types of searches are performed. The **Restricted Server List** defines a filter that will be used for those search operations. A maximum of **20 Restricted Servers** can be defined for this filtering effect. Searches will only occur on servers defined in the **Restricted Server List**.

When no servers are defined in the Restricted Server List, all servers are searched for services.

Servers can be **added** to the **Restricted Server List** by any of the following ways.

Double Click on an Available Server.

Single Click on an Available Server and Click on the Add push button.

Manually enter a server name in the Restricted Server edit box and press RETURN.

Servers can be **removed** from the **Restricted Server List** in the following ways.

Double Click on a Restricted Server entry.

Single Click on a Restricted Server entry and Click on the Delete push button.

Restricted Servers can be either **Absolute Server Names** and/or **Wild Card Names**. **Wild Card Names** can be added to the **Restricted Server List** by using the **Restricted Server edit box**. The following wild cards are available.

(*) **Asterisk** can be used as the last character of the name to indicate that any character will match from the position of the asterisk to the end of the name.

(?) **Question Mark** can be used at any position in the name to create an unconditional match.

The following is an example of restricted servers.

SALES?

NY-*

MIKE1

Searches will occur for servers called SALES plus one character, all NY- servers from 3 to 8 characters in length, and server MIKE1.

When Nasi Redirection is taking place and the mapping for that COM port is to an **Absolute Server Name**, the **Restricted Server List** is **always ignored** and a connection is attempted to the defined server.

When Nasi Redirection is taking place and the mapping for that COM port is for a **Wild Card Server**, by default the **Restricted Server List** is **ignored**. However, if the user wishes to enable the **Restricted Server List** for **Wild Card** Server searches, the user can check the **Restrict All Wild Card Servers** check box in this option.

Example:

Restricted Server List

NY-*

MIKE1
MIKE2

Mapping for the COM port

MIKE*

Results:

Default - **Restrict All Wild Card Servers is Not Checked.**

All servers starting with **MIKE** will be searched for a Nasi Service.

Restrict All Wild Card Servers is Checked.

Only servers **MIKE1** and **MIKE2** will be searched for Nasi Services.

Enable/Disable Nasi Redirection

This selection is a toggle that either indicates to **Disable Nasi Redirection** or **Enable Nasi Redirection**. When WINDOWS is invoked, Nasi Redirection is enabled.

When Nasi Redirection is enabled and the user executes a communications package, the selected COM port will be directed according to the mapping that was previously defined in the Win2NCS mapping utility.

If Nasi Redirection is enabled, the screen background color is dark blue (default) and red (default) if Nasi Redirection is disabled.

At anytime, except if the Nasi Redirector is active redirecting COM ports to Nasi, the user can **Disable Nasi Redirection** by selecting this option. When **Nasi Redirection** is **Disabled**, the **Nasi Redirector** is completely removed from the WINDOWS operating system.

The **Enable/Disable Nasi Redirection** option is grayed if the Nasi Redirector is active redirecting COM ports to Nasi.

Global Mapping Options

The **Global Mapping Options** allows the user to set options that relate to all COM ports when being redirected. The following options can be changed.

Hardware Flow Control:

This option allows the user to decide whether the hardware flow control should be enabled by calls from the application (**On Demand**) or to be permanently enabled. (**Always**). The default is **On Demand**. Hardware flow control is the flow control between the NCS port and the modem. With hardware flow control enabled, the baud rate of the port can normally be set to a higher rate than the modem baud rate without the fear of lost data. With hardware flow control disabled, data can be lost if the transmitting port has a higher baud rate than the modem. Some applications do not support hardware flow control or only support either software or hardware flow control, but not both simultaneously. If a user experiences data loss, slow file transfers, or disconnects during file transfers, setting this option to **Always** may solve that problem.

Mode Of Operation:

This option allows the user to select either a **Non Blocking** or **Blocking** mode of operation. The **Non Blocking** mode of operation is the preferred mode because it can work better with the WINDOWS operating system. However, if the user is experiencing problems with losing data, slow file transfer rates, or disconnects, the **Blocking** mode of operating may solve the problem.

Redirector Informational Messages:

If this option is enabled, informational messages such as **Acquiring Nasi Services**, **Searching For Nasi Service**, and **Connection Status** are displayed during the connection phase of the redirection process. If this option is disabled, these messages are not displayed.

Informational Messages Notification Time:

This option is only valid if the **Redirector Informational Messages** option is enabled. The user can enter the number of seconds that the connection status will be displayed on the screen during a successful connection. A **Zero** indicates that the connection status will not be displayed.

Notify Interval Time:

This option allows the user to indicate the number of minutes that a **Notify Process** will wait prior to checking for the defined Nasi Service. See the topic [Unavailable Nasi Service Message Box](#) for more information concerning the **Notify** capability.

Query Service Timeout:

This option allows the user to set the maximum time that either the Win2NCS mapping utility or the Nasi Redirector will wait when trying to find Nasi Services on any of the NCS Servers. As a default, the time is set to 60 seconds which is normally be sufficient to find all Nasi Services on the network. However, if a NCS server is broadcasting into the network but filtering on a router does not allow Nasi to connect or send packets to that NCS server, the Win2NCS mapping utility or Nasi Redirector will wait for the default 60 seconds before searching the next NCS Server.

This option allows the user to reduce that search time to as little as 4 seconds.

Select Colors

This option allows the user to define colors for the **Nasi Mapping** Utility and/or **Nasi Redirector** that are different or the same as the WINDOWS desktop colors.

The default colors are as follows.

Enabled Nasi Mapping Utility - Dark Blue

Disabled Nasi Mapping Utility - Red

Nasi Redirector - Green

Colors for each of the above capabilities can be changed with the **Select Colors** option to any one of nine alternate colors or to the Desktop colors.

In some cases it may be necessary to use the Alternate colors instead of the Desktop colors because the Desktop colors may not display the Intensity color properly.

Press the **Help** push button in the Color Selection Dialog Box for information for defining the default alternate colors.

Set Maximum Ports

This option allows the user set the maximum number of ports that will be displayed and available for mapping. However, even though from two to eight COM ports can be displayed and mapped, the application may be limited to which COM ports can be accessed. Consult your applications user manual to determine how to access COM ports above the normal default four COM ports.

Save Window Coordinates

If this selection is checked, the **Nasi Mapping Utility** Window Coordinates are saved on exit.

Also at any time the user can check this selection to save the present Window Coordinates and then uncheck this selection. Checking of this selection causes an immediate save.

Always Acquire Nasi Services

If this selection is checked, each time the user selects the **Map Communications Ports** option, a **Nasi** service list will be acquired from **NCS**.

If this selection is not checked, only the first time that the user selects **Map Communication Ports**, a service list be acquired from **NCS**. If the users network is slow, it may be advantageous to uncheck this selection.

Nasi Services Dialog Box

The **Nasi Services** dialog box appears if a user has a COM port mapped to **dynamic** and that port is selected by a communications program causing Nasi Redirection to take place. The user can select any of the available Nasi services by either double clicking on the Nasi service in the list box or clicking the OK button.

If the user checks **Save On Connect**, that information will be saved for the next connection to that port if the connection process was successful. The next time that port is used, the Nasi Redirector will connect directly to the selected Nasi service.

Unavailable Nasi Service Message Box

This message box appears whenever a requested Nasi Service is either in use or was not found. If the user selects the **OK** push button, the Nasi Redirector will return a status back to the calling application indicating that the COM port is not available.

If the user selects the **Dynamic** push button, the Nasi Redirector will display the **Nasi Services Dialog Box** allowing the user to select another Nasi Service.

If the user selects the **Notify** push button, the Nasi Redirector will spawn a process that will wake up at a specific interval to check if the Nasi Service is available. If the Nasi Service is not available, the spawned process will wait until the next interval to check for the Nasi Service again. If the spawned process finds that the Nasi Service is available, it will display a message box on the screen notifying the user of the available service.

The user can have a maximum of 4 Notify processes running simultaneously and will not be prompted with the **Notify** push button if 4 notify processes are running or if the user has a previously spawned process that is waiting on that particular Nasi Service.

Notify processes are invoked as **ICONIZED** and at any time can be either **MAXIMIZED** or **CLOSED** if the user wishes to terminate the **Notify** for that specific Nasi Service.

Questions and Answers

Question: The Nasi Redirector will not direct my applications COM port to Nasi/NCS. I do not see any informational messages from the Nasi Redirector when I invoke my application. What is wrong?

Answer: First make sure that Nasi Redirection is enabled by invoking the Win2NCS Nasi Mapping Utility. If the screen color is the disabled color (default RED), Nasi Redirection is not enabled. Select the menu item to Enable Nasi Redirection and the screen color will turn to the enabled color (default BLUE). If Nasi Redirection was enabled, then check to make sure that the COM port is either mapped dynamically or has been mapped to a Nasi Service. If that appears OK, then make sure that the Redirector Informational Messages are enabled in the Global Mapping Options of the Win2NCS utility (Nasi Redirection could be taking place without you knowing it).

Question: When I use the Win2NCS Mapping Utility or execute an application that communicates to a COM port that has been set to dynamic redirection, I do not see any services. Why?

Answer: First check with the Systems Administrator to make sure that the User Name and Password that you are using has been assigned services by your NCS server. Your Netware login name and password may not be assigned any services and you may have to use another User Name and Password to acquire services.

Question: When I use the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, I can see several services available. However, when my application connects to a COM port with dynamic redirection, no services are displayed. Why?

Answer: The Mapping Utility displays all services associated with the user whether the services are busy or not. This allows the user to map any service for possible future use. However, the Nasi Redirector will only display services that are presently not being used by someone else. In this case, probably all the services are in use by others.

Question: How do I indicate that I would like to use Nasi Redirection from my application?

Answer: You do not indicate anything different than if you were communicating to a local COM port. If you previously selected the local COM port to communicate to a local modem, the Nasi Redirector will relate that information to the NCS server.

Question: If I have a Nasi Option in my application, should I select that option to use the Nasi redirector?

Answer: No. Normally, if an application has a Nasi Option, that option will communicate with a DOS TSR version of Nasi. The Nasi Redirector is a complete WINDOWS program.

Question: I have heard that the Nasi DLL uses a large amount of fixed memory and this has a serious impact on WINDOWS causing out of memory errors. Is this true?

Answer: Normally the approximately 185 KB of fixed memory used by the Nasi and Network DLLs would have a very adverse impact on WINDOWS. However, with special handling by the Nasi Redirector, those DLLs are loaded above the 1 megabyte area dramatically reducing any potential problems.

Question: I selected 8 maximum ports to use with the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, but my application will not allow me to use more than 4 COM ports. Does this feature work?

Answer: The Nasi Redirector will always redirect eight ports no matter how many ports are selected in the Win2NCS Mapping Utility. This feature is for display and mapping purposes only. By default, all eight COM ports are set to dynamic. Even before you bring up the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, an communications application will bring up the **Nasi Services** dialog box if any COM port is selected from 1 through 8. However, many applications do not support more than 4 COM ports (COM1 through COM4). Contact the supplier of your application to see if more than 4 COM ports can be selected.

Question: Should I ever disable Nasi Redirection?

Answer: Normally Nasi Redirection can always be left enabled. However, if an application is having problems communicating with a local port, Nasi Redirection can be disabled to make sure that the Nasi Redirector is not causing the problem. When the Nasi Redirector is disabled, all hooks from the operating system have been removed and the system is the same as it was prior to installing the Nasi Redirector. Normally it is not necessary to disable Nasi Redirection when not being used. The part of the Nasi Redirector that monitors the COM API is fairly small and contains mostly discardable or moveable code and data. Only when Nasi Redirection is active is a large amount of code and data residing in memory. When the last redirected connection is closed, the memory requirement again is small.

Question: Last week, the **Map Communications Ports** option was fast. This week it is slow and displays a **Searching Server** message for quite a while. Why?

Answer: Normally this is caused by a NCS Server that is broadcasting into your network but will not allow Nasi to contact that server. Ask the System Administrator to put a filter on the router for that server to stop the broadcasts into your network.

Question: Last week I was using the Nasi Redirector and everything worked OK. Then today when I tried to use the Nasi Redirector, all I see is the hour glass and WINDOWS appears to be hung. After 30 or 40 seconds I then reboot the operating system. What is wrong?

Answer: A series of events must have taken place. First you probably disabled the **Informational Messages** option in the **Global Mapping Options** of the Win2NCS Mapping Utility. Then you probably had mapped your COM port to **Any** service or some **wild card** service. This would work well if your service is on one of first NCS servers that Nasi contacts for services but if several other NCS servers are contacted prior to your server (especially if the other NCS services are on a router), then it will appear that the Nasi Redirector has hung the system. If new NCS servers were added to your network recently or a Server is broadcasting into your network that will not allow Nasi to contact, the problem can be explained. **Informational Messages** should normally not be disabled. It would probably be better to set the number of seconds to 0 in the **Informational Messages Notification Time** edit box.

Question: I do not want Nasi Redirection to be automatically invoked anymore. What do I do?

Answer: Remove the ATTNASI.EXE plus path from the WIN.INI file in the load or run entry.

Question: I work at a large site that has many NCS servers. I have 4 services available to me on two different NCS servers out of a total of 20 NCS servers. I map my COM ports to select any available service, but most of the time it takes a long time to acquire a service when using Nasi Redirection. Can I make this process faster?

Answer: Because the Nasi Redirector does not know on which server your services reside, it must contact each of the servers to request services information. If your servers are some of the last servers to be contacted, the wait can be quite long especially if some of the servers are on routers. However, this performance problem can be solved by using the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, selecting the **Map Port Manually** option from the Main Menu or selecting the **Manual Entry** radio button in the **Map Communications Ports** dialog box. Once you have selected the manual option, you can use a wild card to specify the Server Name. As an example, if your NCS servers are called SALES1 and SALES2, you can enter **SALES?** or **SALES*** for the server name. If there are only two NCS servers with the SALES name on your network, then those servers will be contacted immediately. Even if several other SALES servers exist on the network, it will still be faster because the Nasi Redirector needs to contact fewer servers to find your service.

Question: When acquiring services, will performance increase if I use wild cards when entering the General Name and/or Specific Name?

Answer: No. Using a wild card with the General Name and/or Specific Name allows filtering but will not increase performance because the Nasi Redirector still needs to contact all NCS servers to request service

information.

Question: When using the Win2NCS Mapping Utility or being redirected by the Nasi Redirector, sometimes I am prompted by the Nasi Security and other times I am not. What determines whether I am prompted or not?

Answer: The first time you use either the Win2NCS Mapping Utility or Nasi Redirector after WINDOWS is invoked, you will be prompted for security. When you use the Nasi Redirector and select the **Cancel** button in the **Nasi Services** Dialog Box, you will be prompted for security the next time you use the Nasi Redirector. If an error occurs during Nasi Redirection such as **Service Not Found or Service In Use**, you will be prompted for security the next time you use the Nasi Redirector.

When being prompted for security, a RETURN is all that is required to accept the previously entered security information.

Question: When using the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, the **Disable Nasi Redirection** option is **grayed**. Why can I not disable Nasi Redirection?

Answer: When the **Disable Nasi Redirection** option is **grayed**, this indicates that an application is presently using Nasi Redirection, therefore it cannot be disabled. You can see which COM port is in use by examining the main menu for the **Active Server ICON**. The COM port that has the **Active Server ICON** is the Active port.

Question: When using the Win2NCS Mapping Utility, the **Map Communication Ports** option is **grayed**. How do I make this option available?

Answer: The **Map Communications Ports** option is **grayed** if the user canceled the Security information. Use the **Set Nasi Security** option to enter correct information. Nasi services cannot be acquired without the security information.

Question: When using the Nasi Redirector, I cannot switch to another application when either informational messages or a dialog box is displayed. Is there a way to allow me to switch to another application?

Answer: No. In this release, the COM initialization must be completed prior to switching to another process. Future releases of the Nasi Redirector will attempt to solve this issue.

Question: Can I use the Win2NCS Mapping Utility to change the mapping of a COM port even though it is presently **Redirected and Active**?

Answer: Yes. Mapping can be performed at any time regardless of the state of the connection. However, the mapping will only apply to the next time the COM port is used and will not cause the present connection to be redirected.

Question: I use a remote control program that communicates from a client PC to a host PC. Because my host PC will accept dial-in calls from the client PC, I assumed that I should define the NCS port as a dial-in port to accept connections to the host. When I made the NCS port a dial-in port, the client PC would not communicate with the host PC. However, after agonizing over the problem, I decided to define the NCS port as a dial-out port and everything worked beautifully. Do I have a problem with the dial-in port?

Answer: No. The problem is in understanding what a dial-in port can be used for. The purpose of a dial-in port is to allow for port sharing when multiple hosts may be waiting on the same port for a dial-in call. When a call occurs to a dial-in port, NCS prompts the user for a User Name and Password. If this is successful, then NCS will display a list of hosts that are waiting on that port and requests the user to select which host to connect to. When the user selects a host, the connection is made to the host PC.

Your problem probably occurred because the client PC did not know about the prompts and messages that was occurring from NCS and therefore became confused and eventually broke the connection. A dial-in port can only work if the client PC has an interactive screen that allows the user to answer the questions posed by NCS

or if the client PC has a script language that can answer the questions posed by NCS. Therefore, a dial-out port would normally be required as a service for host PCs.

Question: Will the Nasi Redirector work with all WINDOWS communications programs?

Answer: No. Although most WINDOWS communications programs will work with the Nasi Redirector, some will not because they do not call the WINDOWS communications API.

Question: Can DOS communications programs use the Nasi Redirector?

Answer: No.

Map Communications Ports Information

This selection allows the user to **map**, **unmap**, or make **dynamic** any of the available COM ports.

This Dialog Box has the following three boxes.

COM Port Mapping Group Box - Allows the user to select a COM port to be **mapped**, **unmapped**, or made **dynamic**. The user selects the COM port by clicking the proper radio button.

Select By Group Box - Allows the user to define how **Available Services** information is to be displayed in the list box to the right. The following options are available.

Unique Name

Specific Name

General Name

Server Name

Manual Entry

Available Services List Box - Allows the user to make an association between **Nasi** and the selected COM port. The user can either double click the list box selection or press the **Map** push button to make the association.

At any time the user can click the **Map** push button to map the selected COM port, the **UnMap** push button to unmap the selected COM port, or the **Dynamic** push button to make the selected COM port dynamic.

If the user clicks the **Manual Entry** radio button in the **Select By** group box, a Dialog Box appears to allow the user to select Nasi associations manually. Click the **Help** button in the Dialog Box for more information on the **Manual Entry** option.

Map Ports Manually

This option allows the user to completely define how the mapping will be performed. The user can define the **Server Name**, **General Name**, and **Specific Name** in a fashion that allows the user to use wild cards and/or absolute names for each entry.

This capability can be selected from the **Main Menu** or the **Map Communications Ports** Dialog Box.

If selected from the **Map Communications Ports** Dialog Box, the names in each of the entries is taken from the list box selection in the **Map Communication Ports** Dialog Box.

The following wild cards can be used in the entries.

*** (asterisk)**

If alone in an entry, the **asterisk** defines any name. If at the end of any entry, the **asterisk** defines any name that will match the characters previous to the **asterisk**. Characters from the position of the **asterisk** to the end of the name are ignored..

? (question mark)

A **question mark** causes an unconditional match of a character position.

Example:

Specific Name = MI??1* will match with any **Specific Name** that has MI in the 1st two positions, a 1 in the 5th position and will ignore the remaining positions.

Color Information

The default alternate colors can be defined by the user by making an entry in the NCS.INI file. To change the colors for Alternate Color 1 to white background, black text, and red intensity, the user would add the following entry in the [Nasi] section of the NCS.INI file.

AltColor1=255,255,255;0,0,0;255,0,0

Alternate Color 9 would have the keyword AltColor9.

The format for the keywords is as follows.

AltColorx = Background Color; Text Color; Intensity Color

Colors are RGB colors that can be acquired from the Control Panel (**Color ICON**) when defining custom colors.

Unmapped refers to COM ports that are not directed to **Nasi**. If a COM port is **unmapped**, an application that is using that COM port is unconditionally directed to the local COM port.

Dynamic mapping refers to COM ports that can be redirected at the time that the user is using a Communications package. At that time, a Dialog Box appears allowing the user to select how the redirection is to be performed.

Port Sharing is the ability of **NCS** to allow several users to wait on a dial-in on the same port simultaneously. The **Session Name** of each user is displayed to the caller allowing the caller to direct the connection to the correct workstation.

Unmap refers to COM ports that are not directed to **Nasi**. If a COM port is **unmapped**, an application that is using that COM port is unconditionally directed to the local COM port.

Map refers to COM ports that will be directed to **Nasi**. If a COM port is **mapped**, an application that is using that COM port is either unconditionally directed to a **Nasi** port or allows the user to select the proper connection .

A **Unique Name** refers to a unique combination of **Server Name**, **General Name**, and **Specific Name** that occurs only once within the network. If this option is selected, the mapping always causes a connection to be made to that unique connection.

A **Specific Name** is a name that refers to the port name on a server. Several servers could have the same **Specific Name**. If this option is selected, the mapping is to any service that is assigned throughout the network that uses that **Specific Name**.

A **General Name** refers to a group that serves several **Specific Names**. If this option is selected, the mapping is to any service that is assigned throughout the network that uses that **General Name**.

A **Server Name** refers to a specific NCS server that can define several **General Names** that can each serve several **Specific Names**. If this option is selected, the mapping is to any assigned service that resides on the selected server.

Manual Entry allows the user to make selections manually instead of using the list box.

