
Glossary

Access Control

A process used to determine the operations NDS entries can perform on other entries and their attributes.

Access Control List (ACL)

An attribute that determines which operations trustee entries can do on the entry on which the ACL is stored.

Attribute

Information of a particular type about a Directory entry.

Authentication

The process by which users establishes their identities when accessing a network application service.

Back Link

A place holder that points to a server that holds an external reference.

Bindery Context

The name of the container entry(ies) where bindery services is set. Bindery-based clients and servers and NDS entries can access all the entries within containers where a bindery context is set.

Bindery Services

A service that allows entries in a container to be accessed both by NDS entries and bindery-based servers and clients.

Child

A partition or entry subordinate to another partition or entry in the Directory tree.

Client

A computer that can access certain services on behalf of a person or another computer.

Container Entry

An entry that can contain other entries.

Containment

The object classes that contain an entry of a given object class.

Context

An entry's location in the Directory tree as defined by the entry path in its Distinguished Name.

Convergence

The synchronization of replicas over time.

Directory Information Base (DIB)

A copy of the entry, value, partition, and block files for the Directory.

Directory Information Tree (DIT)

The logical structure of the Directory.

Distinguished Name (DN)

A name containing the name of each entry in the entry's path.

Effective Rights

The sum of all the rights a user has received to Directory entries.

Entry

Information in the Directory typically describing a network resource, a user, or a group of users.

External Reference

A place holder containing information about entries that a server does not hold.

Fragmentation

The process by which NDS request and reply messages are sent in several request/reply exchanges. Fragments of each request or reply message are sent in order and can be interleaved with other NDS messages.

Inheritance

The process by which rights granted at a container apply to all subordinate entries within the container and subsequent subordinate containers.

Leaf Entry

An entry that cannot contain other entries.

Loose Consistency

The concept that replicas may not be consistent over time; rather, they synchronize over time.

Master Replica

A replica that can be used to create child partitions. It can also be used to create, modify, and delete other replicas.

Metaschema

The rules determining the basic elements of the schema. For example, the meta-schema determines that containers can contain other objects.

Name Server

A network node that administers zero or more Directory replicas.

Name Service

A service that maps network names to addresses.

Name Space

A set of rules that defines how all network users and resources are named and identified.

Obituary

An attribute used to store old information during replica synchronization.

Object

A Directory entry, as seen by an end user.

Object Class

A definition of a type of object that can exist in the Directory tree. The schema defines valid object classes.

Parent

A partition or entry superior to another in the Directory tree.

Partition

A portion of the Directory tree making up a distinct unit of data for storing and replicating Directory information.

Primitives

An OS abstraction layer between NDS and the operating system services NDS uses,

such as thread support, memory allocation, and process support.

Private Key

This key is assigned to an object, which keeps it secret. Authentication depends on the private key's mathematical relation to the public key.

Property

An attribute as viewed by a user or client.

Public Key

This key is assigned to an object and can be published openly to anyone wanting to send a message to that object. Authentication depends on the public key's mathematical relation to the private key.

Read-Only Replica

A replica that responds to user requests but cannot be used by clients to create, modify, or delete entries; however, it synchronizes with the other replicas

Read/Write Replica

A replica that clients can use to create, modify, and delete entry entries.

Referral

A list of a given server's transport addresses.

Relative Distinguished Name (RDN)

The leafmost portion of an entry's name.

Replica

A single instance of a partition.

Resolving a Name

The process of matching an NDS name to an Entry ID.

Rights

The privileges granted in Access Control Lists for trustees to perform specific operations on a given entry.

Root

The most superior entry (and sometimes its partition) in the Directory tree. A *partition root* is the rootmost entry in a given partition.

Schema

The set of rules governing the Directory's structure, entries, object classes, and attributes.

Secret Key

A key used both to encrypt and decrypt a given message.

Security Equivalence

One entry's having the same rights as another entry in the Directory tree.

Siblings

Two or more objects that are contained under the same container object and thus appear in the same level in the Directory tree.

Subordinate

An entry or partition that is logically contained under another entry or partition in the Directory tree. Also referred to as a "child."

Subordinate Reference Replica

A replica that links a parent partition and a child partition. Each file server that contains a replica of the parent partition also contains a subordinate reference of every child partition that is not located physically on that server.

Subtree

Another word for *partition*

Super Class

An object class that defines specific subclasses within it.

Superior

An entry or partition that logically contains another entry or partition below it in the Directory tree. Also referred to as a "parent."

Synchronization

The propagation of Directory information from one replica to another so the information in each partition is consistent with the other.

Time Stamp

An attribute indicating the time a modification was made, the type of modification, and the replica making the modification.

Trustee

An entry granted a particular set of access privileges to another entry.

Typed Name

A name containing the entry's location in the hierarchy, as well as the type of each entry in the name.

Typeless Name

A name containing the entry's location in the hierarchy but not the type of each entry in the name.

Value

An instance of the kind of information specified by an attribute type.

X.500

An industry standard for directory services.

