

# ZENWORKS AND CONNECTION USAGE

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The following is a summary of the ZENworks client's usage of connections to NDS. It is based on the default settings of the client and that the workstation has been imported into NDS.

## Step #:

1. PC boots up to a login prompt.
2. Workstation object creates 2 authenticated service connections (a.k.a. monitored connections) as follows:

Connection 1: the workstation object connects to the Read/Write replica of the partition where the user exists. It will remain an unlicensed connection.

Connection 2: the workstation object uses this connection to read and process policy packages that are associated to it directly or indirectly. Most of the time it will use an unlicensed connection.

Scenario's where it will turn into a licensed connection:

- a. During initial authentication for about 30 seconds to read associated policy packages.
- b. NAL refresh process runs (timed, manual, or startup)
- c. NAL application "pre-installs" associated to a workstation object
- d. Any need for file system access (ex. Printer or Inventory policies, Custom Action)
- e. To access any NDS attribute stored in a streams file

3. User logs in.
4. User object creates 2 authenticated service connections as follows:

Connection 3: the user object connects to the Read/Write replica of the partition where the user exists. It remains an unlicensed connection. It is used for auto-reconnect, advanced error-checking, and auditing functions, and to check for concurrent connection limitations as follows:

- a. DS reads the *Login Maximum Simultaneous* attribute of the user object to see if it is populated.
- b. If it is not, it will continue on to establish another connection. If it is, it then checks the user's current connection usage in two ways:

- DS checks the number of *Network Address* attributes of the user object.
- DS checks the connection table to see how many authenticated connections exist.

- c. If the user has not used up all concurrent connections, login proceeds. If the user has, a message will appear stating they are logged into too many workstations.

**\*Note:** Read the DS bug referenced at the end of this document.

Connection 4: the user object is authenticated to the user's server for resources (mapped drives, captured printers, etc.) It is a licensed connection.

**Summary:** You will see a total of 4 connections for the user and workstation object. The user object will use 1 licensed and 1 unlicensed connection. The workstation object will use 1 unlicensed connection and 1 connection that switches between licensed and unlicensed.

**Terms:**

*Licensed Connection:* The user or workstation object is using a connection that uses a NetWare license.

*Unlicensed Connection:* The user or workstation object is using a connection that does NOT use a NetWare license.

**Notes:**

- You can view these connections at the server's Monitor Console screen underneath the Connection Information (v4.11) or Connections (v5.0) menu option.
- In the Monitor Console, an asterisk (\*) marks a connection that is **not** using a license.

**DS Bug:**

There is a known bug where a user may still be unable to login on a second machine even though the user is logged in at one workstation only and the concurrent connection limit is set to 2.

Fix: DS v6.03 (v4.11) or SP2 (v5.0)

Workaround until you fix it: Use the formula  $(2n)-1$  to set the concurrent connection of the user, where n is the number of concurrent connections you desire.

See Novell Knowledgebase TID # [2943257](#)

**References:**

Novell Knowledgebase TID #'s: [2943964](#), [2937479](#), [2913388](#), [2916684](#), [2943257](#)