



## Using NetWISP with maximal local storage

Some users require to operate NetWISP with a minimum network loading by keeping all files on a local workstation. This technical note covers the setup required to achieve this. This note applies to NetWISP Versions 2.0 and 3.0.

### Background

NetWISP's loader (ZFL.EXE or ZFL3.EXE) sets up a workstation initially by copying files from the NetWISP folder on the server into a working folder, usually on the C: drive of the workstation. The first time the program is used, all required files are copied and various registry settings are made. On subsequent occasions, only revised/updated files (from the \Progfiles and \System folders) plus all files from the \Data folder) are uploaded. However, as these data amount to up to 20 Mb of network traffic, some users require to minimise the load time by reducing the number of files uploaded.

The minimal transfer configuration is achieved by maximising the storage of files locally on the workstation. This reduces the network traffic in total to a few hundred bytes at startup and shutdown of the NetWISP session. These data represent the login and logout transfers related to the licensing of NetWISP. The remainder of this technical note explains how this can be set up. However, there are a number of downsides to this configuration :

1. The workstation needs to be initially set up anyway. This can be achieved using, for example, a CD-ROM.
2. Any changes to the centrally managed data is not visible to all users. i.e., foods/recipes entered by the supervisory user will not be visible to other users.
3. Any updates/service packs for the main executables are not automatically deployed to workstations, as is the case with the normal setup.

### Initial setup of a workstation

If possible, this should be done via the network, using the ZFL loader. Using this method ensures that (a) all required files are present and (b) the registry is correctly set up. However, if the bandwidth is limited, you should set up a workstation connected to the server by a fast LAN, use the loader to set up the C:\NetWISP folder on that workstation, then copy the entire contents of the C:\NetWISP folder and its sub-folders to a CD-ROM.

You can then take the CD-ROM to any workstation which requires to run NetWISP and copy the contents into the C: drive. Note that some transfers via CD-ROM leave all files set as read-only. Therefore you should (in Windows Explorer) select all files in the C:\NetWISP folder and set their read-only attribute OFF.

If you were to simply run the NetWISP software by double-clicking on the WISP32.EXE or WISP33.EXE program at this stage, it would not work. This is because the required registry settings are not present. You would be presented with a screen which asked for your serial number and activation code. i.e., NetWISP assumes that it is being installed as a stand-alone WISP.

To ensure that the correct settings appear in the registry, you will now need to start the ZFL loader on the server temporarily. You will not be doing a full load, but just enough to get the registry correctly set up. Set up an icon temporarily that points to the ZFL loader on the server. Note that in the shortcut you will need to set the working folder (target) as the NetWISP folder on the server. Start the ZFL loader. Select the **Options** tab. On this tab, ensure that the correct paths are shown for the **Program files in...**, which should point to the \progfiles folder on the server, and the **Login file in...**, which should point to the \login folder. Set the **Working** folder to C:\NetWISP. The **User files in** item relates to where the user data is preserved at the end of each NetWISP session. This can either be a folder on the local PC, or a floppy disk, or some user space on a network server. We suggest that this is set to **C:\Netfiles** which can be created to hold these data.

Click **Save options** then **Continue** once the options have been set. On the main screen of the loader, you will now need to click **Start**. Once the process has started and files are (slowly) beginning to be transferred, you can click **Pause**, then on the message box which appears, click **Abort**. Note



that when you click Pause, there will inevitably be a delay before anything happens, as the program will continue to the end of the current file. If this is a big file, it may take several minutes on a slow link.

From this point on (assuming that the ZFL loader has now set up the registry keys) you will not need to load anything from the server.

### **Running NetWISP**

Firstly, remove the icon which was a shortcut to ZFL. You will need a new shortcut from the desktop which invokes the local WISP32.EXE (for NetWISP V2.0) or WISP33.EXE (for NetWISP V3.0). So, create a new shortcut. This needs to have the command line (target) of :

#### **C:\NetWISP\WISP32.EXE 1**

Note that there is a space between the EXE and the 1, and that if you are running NetWISP 3.0, you should replace WISP32.EXE with WISP33.EXE.

It also needs to have the Start In: item set to the C:\NetWISP folder and the Window should be set to Maximised.

Invoking this shortcut will now start NetWISP without performing any load from the server. However, once a password has been entered, the program will access the server to perform a login. For this to succeed, the user must have full access rights to the server NetWISP32\login folder only. (i.e., for the other folders in NetWISP, read-only access is OK.)

When the program is exited, a second network access is performed to log the user out. Both of these processes will retry a number of times, if the link is busy. If you see a message indicating that all retries have been used, you can click Retry again until the program logs out successfully. This is important because if no logout is performed, a user name is held in NetWISP's list and this uses up one of the user 'slots'. Over a period of time, this can mean that users cannot log in to NetWISP and the user list needs to be cleaned out using the DVIEW.EXE program in the NetWISP server. You should mention this point to the users – always ensure that NetWISP is closed down correctly. Don't switch off the PC or abandon the process. If you do, not only will there be a use of a slot, but you may find that the user data has not been correctly stored.