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ABS Tech Note: SNA•ps01 Version Compatibility (5/92)

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TOPIC -----

This technical note describes the compatibility between the 1.0 and 1.1 releases of SNA•ps.

DISCUSSION -----

Introduction

Improvements in SNA•ps 1.1 have forced some incompatibilities with SNA•ps 1.0. The result is that when the client machine and the gateway machine are running different versions of SNA•ps (1.0 vs. 1.1), the client machine will not be able to access certain resources on the gateway machine.

Which Versions of Which Files?

In order for SNA•ps clients to access gateway services (that is, connecting, displaying, starting/stopping gateways, and so on), the SNA•ps Access extension on the client machine and the SNA•ps Gateway extension on the gateway machine must be the same version. If the SNA•ps Access extension on the client machine and the SNA•ps Gateway extension on the gateway machine have different versions, these gateway services are not accessible.

There have been three versions of SNA•ps 3270 to date: 1.0.1 (first release), 1.0.2 (maintenance release), and 1.1 (released with SNA•ps 1.1). However, from a compatibility viewpoint, what is important is not the version of SNA•ps 3270, but rather the version of the SNA•ps Access extension (which is installed with the SNA•ps 3270 application). The version of SNA•ps Access must match the version of the SNA•ps Gateway for the connection to be successful.

Similarly, SNA•ps Admin will not be able to start, stop, or display a gateway if the SNA•ps Access on the client machine is a different version from the gateway.

The following paragraphs and figures detail what happens from the client application's perspective under different version scenarios.

SNA•ps Admin Details

There are basically four scenarios:

- 1.0 client and 1.0 gateway
- 1.0 client and 1.1 gateway
- 1.1 client and 1.0 gateway
- 1.1 client and 1.1 gateway.

In the two scenarios where the versions match, everything works correctly.

In the scenario where the client machine is SNA•ps Admin 1.0 and SNA•ps Access 1.0 but the gateway machine is a SNA•ps Gateway 1.1, the following occurs. The 1.1 gateway is visible in the Network Gateway Status window, and can even be started and stopped. However, if you attempt to display a 1.1 gateway's resources, an alert is displayed informing you that the version of the SNA•ps Access extension is lower than that of the gateway.

In the scenario where the client machine is SNA•ps Admin 1.1 and SNA•ps Access 1.1 but the gateway machine is a SNA•ps Gateway 1.0, the 1.0 gateway is grayed out in the Network Gateway Status window, thereby preventing you from starting, stopping, or displaying resources on the back-level gateway.

Figure 1 shows the compatibility matrix for SNA•ps Admin and the SNA•ps Gateway.

		SNA•ps Gateway Version	
		1.0	1.1
SNA•ps Admin and SNA•ps Access Version	1.0	OK to start, stop, and display 1.0 gateways	OK to start and stop 1.1 gateways.Alert if attempt to display 1.1 gateways
	1.1	1.0 gateways grayed out in status window	OK to start, stop, and display 1.1 gateways

Figure 1. Compatibility Matrix for SNA•ps Admin and SNA•ps Gateway

SNA•ps 3270 Details

Again, there are basically four scenarios:

- 1.0 client and 1.0 gateway
- 1.0 client and 1.1 gateway
- 1.1 client and 1.0 gateway
- 1.1 client and 1.1 gateway

As mentioned in the introduction, it is the version of SNA•ps Access on the client machine, not SNA•ps 3270, that mainly determines the behavior here.

In the two scenarios where the version match, everything works correctly.

In the scenario where the client machine is SNA•ps 3270 1.0.x and SNA•ps Access 1.0 but the gateway machine is a SNA•ps Gateway 1.1, the gateway is visible in SNA•ps 3270's connection dialog, but the Pools and Sessions associated with the gateway will not be visible. SNA•ps 3270 will be able to start the gateway if it is stopped, but the Pools and Sessions will still not be visible. In SNA•ps 3270 1.0.1 the list of Pools or Session is simply empty; in 1.0.2 and later an alert is first displayed informing you that the versions are different.

In the scenario where the client machine is SNA•ps 3270 1.1 and SNA•ps Access 1.1 but the gateway machine is a SNA•ps Gateway 1.0, when you select the gateway in the connection dialog an alert is displayed informing you that the gateway is of a back-level version.

Figure 2 shows the compatibility matrix for SNA•ps 3270 and the SNA•ps Gateway.

		SNA•ps Gateway Version	
		1.0	1.1
SNA•ps 3270 1.0.x and SNA•ps Access Version	1.0	OK to connect to and start 1.0 gateways	OK to start a 1.1 gateway, but Pools and Sessions not shown
	1.1	Alert displayed if attempt to select a 1.0 gateway	OK to connect to and start a 1.1 gateway

Figure 2. Compatibility Matrix for SNA•ps 3270 and SNA•ps Gateway

Third-party APPC Clients

For the case of third-party APPC client software it is required that the version of SNA•ps Access running on the client machine and the version of the SNA•ps Gateway running on the server machine MUST be the same (that is, both 1.0 or both 1.1). Any applications that worked with SNA•ps 1.0 will continue to work with SNA•ps 1.1 as long as the client machine and the gateway machine are both running the same version of SNA•ps.

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