Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV 5.00

# Installation & System Management: Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV

Microsoft Dynamics

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This manual is part of a comprehensive set of documentation and Help materials for Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV. It describes how to install and maintain Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV, which handles the exchange of documents between Dynamics NAV and external services, such as a CRM product. We recommend, however, that the installation and customization process is carried out with the assistance of a Microsoft Certified Business Solutions Partner representative.

The Microsoft Dynamics NAV manuals use certain symbols and typographical conventions. In the list below, you can see how various elements of the program are distinguished by special typefaces and symbols:

| Appearance | Element |
|---|---|
| CTRL | Keys on the keyboard. They are written in small capitals. |
| **Address** | Field names. They appear in medium bold and start with a capital letter. |
| ***Department*** | Names of windows, tables, boxes and tabs. They appear in medium bold italics and start with a capital letter. |
| *Hansen* | Text that you must enter, for example: "...enter Yes in this field." It is written in italics. |
| `fin.flf` | File names. They are written with the Courier font and lowercase letters. |
| ⬆ ⬇ ▼ ✳ ▸ ... | The special symbols that can be seen in the windows on the screen. |

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# Chapter 1

# Getting Started with the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV

This chapter describes Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV and explains the installation and maintenance procedures. You can also read how to run more than one NAV Application Server at a time.

The chapter contains the following sections:

- Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Installing the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Maintaining the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Running More Than One Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Authentication and the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Service Packs and Security Updates

## 1.1 Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

NAV Application Server is a middle-tier server, which executes business logic without user intervention. With NAV Application Server, it is possible to communicate with external services.

NAV Application Server acts as a client towards a database server and can act as a server for other services.

When you start NAV Application Server, it opens a predefined database and executes C/AL™ code in a predefined codeunit.

To understand more about how NAV Application Server communicates with external services, see the *Development Guide for Communication Components* (online Help).

### No User Interface

NAV Application Server runs without displaying anything on-screen and therefore requires no user interaction. This means, of course, that the user will not get any error messages. Instead, these are logged in the Event Viewer. However, the user can interact with NAV Application Server through the NAV Application Server Manager.

For information about message logging, see page 24.
For information about the NAV Application Server Manager, see page 21.

# 1.2 Installing the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

We provide a Windows Installer package. You use the setup program to install, maintain and remove a NAV Application Server. Windows Installer registers NAV Application Server as a service as well as an event source. When the installation has finished, you have the option to start up NAV Application Server through the NAV Application Server Manager.

Cancelling the Installation

You can cancel the installation at any time. Windows Installer will then restore your computer to the state it was in before the installation process began.

## Preconditions and System Requirements

License Files

Before you start the installation process, you need to be aware of certain preconditions and system requirements. Once these are met, the installation can start.

A precondition for running a NAV Application Server is that you have a valid license file installed on your computer, which contains the NAV Application Server granule. For information about license files, see chapter 1 in the manual *Installation & System Management: C/SIDE Database Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV*.

Make sure that Microsoft Windows XP or Windows Vista is installed on the computer on which you will be running NAV Application Server. If this is not the case, you must install the correct operating system before installing NAV Application Server. The computer must have at least 64 MB RAM.

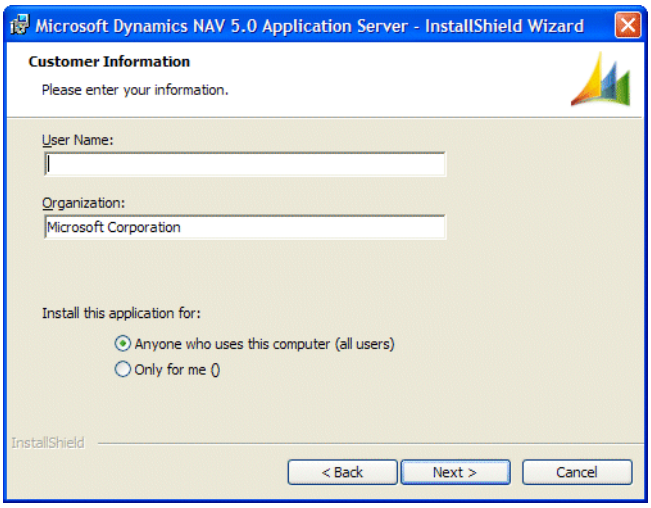
## Starting the Installation

When you start the setup program, Windows Installer checks whether a NAV Application Server is already installed. If it finds an existing installation, the ***Program Maintenance*** window appears. For more information about this window, see page 8.

If a NAV Application Server is not already installed, the setup program will continue, and the installation wizard starts. The installation wizard will guide you through the installation process.

Customer Information

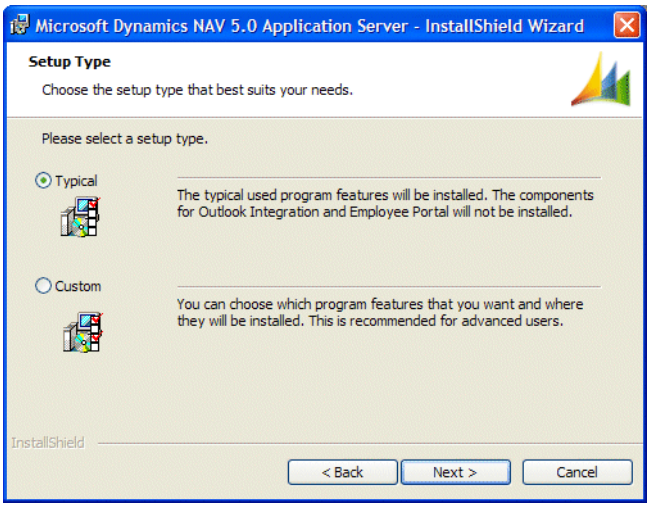
The ***Customer Information*** window :




Your name and the name of your organization appears automatically in this window. You can also specify to whom this installation belongs. You can select the person who installed it or any user who logs onto this computer. This determines who is allowed to modify or uninstall it. It does not determine who is able to use the program from this computer.

Selecting the Installation Type

Click Next. The ***Setup Type*** window appears:

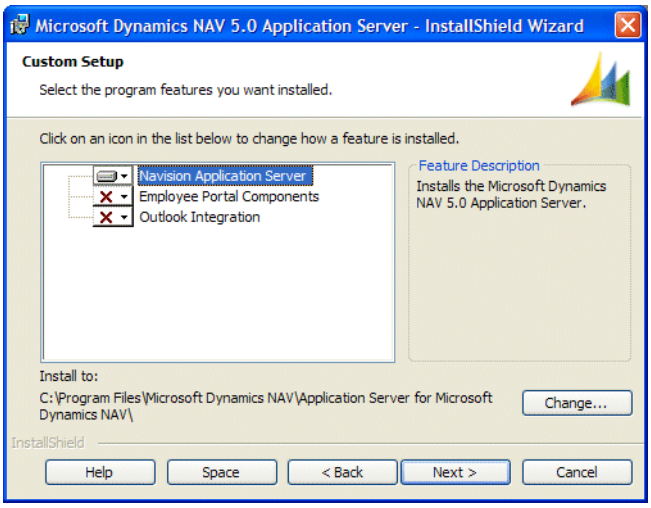



In the ***Setup Type*** window, you can select a typical installation or a custom installation.

- Select Typical to install all NAV Application Server settings.
- Select Custom to choose your own settings. Furthermore, you can change the default destination for the NAV Application Server program files. The custom setup type also enables you to select Commerce Portal connectivity components. For information about these components, see the manual *Installation & System Management: Commerce Gateway for Microsoft Dynamics NAV 5.0*.

Customized Installation

If you select Custom, the ***Custom Setup*** window appears:



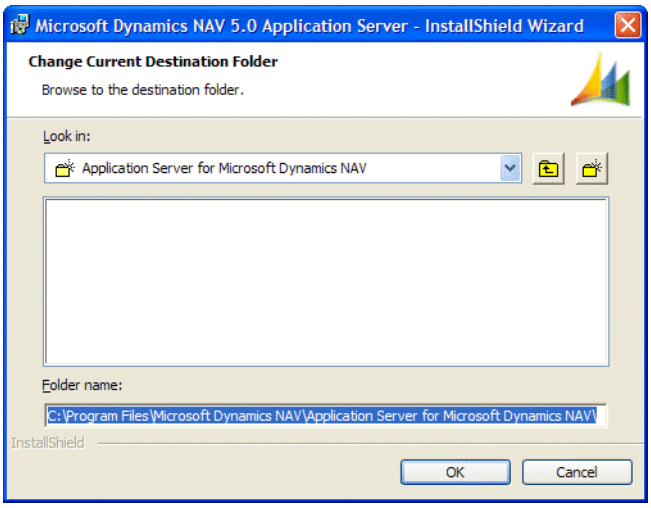

This is where you select the features that you want to install. The window is divided into three sections:

- A feature selection area.
- A feature description area that displays a short description of a feature when you select it. It also displays an estimate of how much disk space the feature requires.
- An installation destination folder that tells you where the feature will be installed. If you want to install, for example, NAV Application Server in a different folder, click Change.

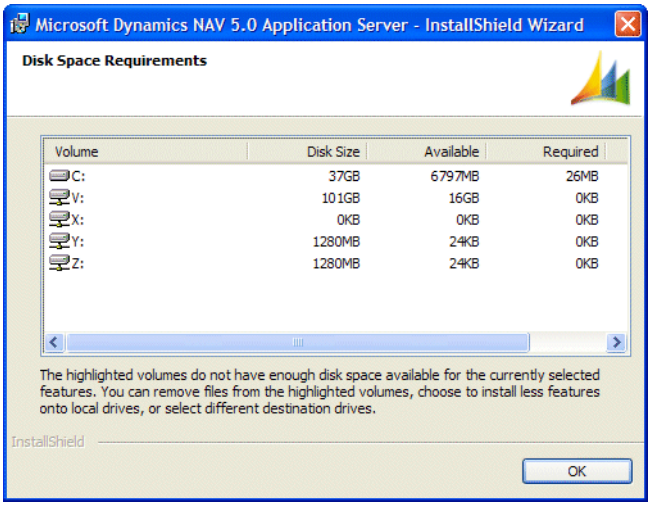
**Note**

Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) are installed by default. These operating system components facilitate access to data in a Dynamics NAV database with third-party tools. The components are primarily used with the SQL Server Option for Microsoft Dynamics NAV.

If you click Change, the ***Change Current Destination Folder*** window appears:

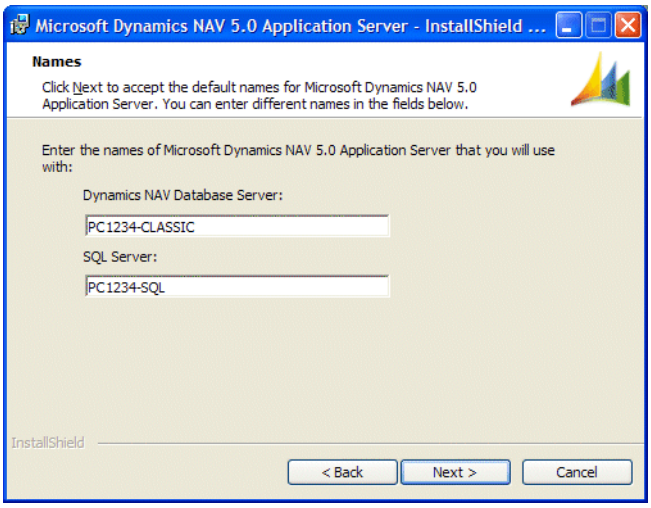



If you click Space in the ***Custom Setup*** window, the following window appears, which informs you of how much space is available on the various drives to which you have access:



Naming the NAV Application Server

Click Next in the ***Custom Setup*** window. The ***Names*** window now appears:




You can either accept the default names shown for NAV Application Server – for use with C/SIDE Database Server and SQL Server – or you can enter different names. By default, the installation program will select the name that your computer has in the network. If the name you select already exists, a window appears asking you to rename the server.

If you selected Typical in the ***Setup Type*** window, the installation uses your computer name as the server name. If this name already exists, it will add *#1* at the end of the computer name. If this name also exists, it will try with *#2*, and so on. For example, if the computer name is *MyComputer515* and this server name already exists, the installation will try *MyComputer515#1*.

When you click Next, the installation is ready to begin. Click Install in the ***Ready to Install the Program*** window. When the installation is finished, a window appears informing you that the installation has been completed successfully:

Installation Complete

In the Installation Complete window, you can choose to finish the installation or finish the installation and continue with the customization of NAV Application Server. To customize NAV Application Server, place a check mark in the **Start Microsoft Dynamics NAV 5.0 Application Server Manager** field and click Finish. See page 21 for information about the NAV Application Server Manager.

## 1.3 Maintaining the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

**Attention**

We recommend that you make a backup of any license files, databases and database backups that are stored locally before repairing or removing the server installation.

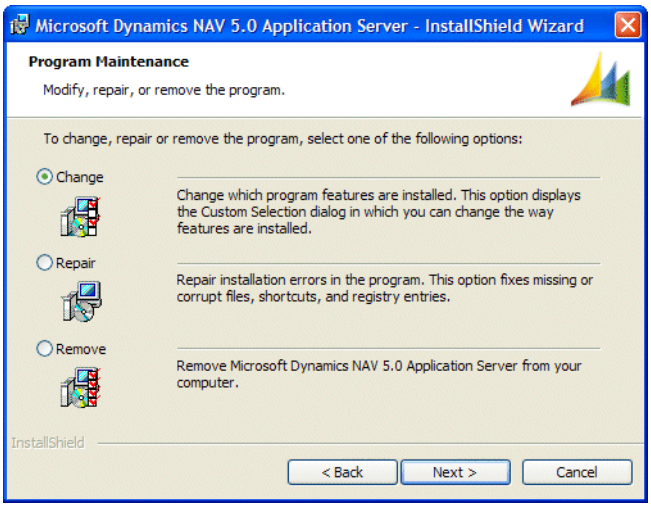
You can use Windows Installer to repair and remove a NAV Application Server. To do so, follow this procedure:

1 Open the Control Panel and double-click the Add/Remove Programs icon.

2 Select NAV Application Server.

3 Click Change. The Installation Wizard opens.

4 Click Next. The ***Program Maintenance*** window appears:




In this window, you can choose to repair or remove NAV Application Server.

Repairing the Installation

If you select *Repair*, the ***Ready to Repair the Program*** window opens. Click Install to fix any installation errors such as missing or corrupt files. Windows Installer will protect any license files and database backups. It will therefore not overwrite these files if you have to repair the installation. When NAV Application Server has been repaired, the ***Installation Complete*** window appears.

Removing the Installation

If you select *Remove*, a ***Ready to Remove the Program*** window appears. Click Remove to uninstall the product.

You can cancel the removal process at any time. If you do so, Windows Installer returns the computer to the state it was in before you started the removal process.

When you remove NAV Application Server, everything will be removed except any license files (`.flf` except for `cronus.flf`), database files (`.fdb`) and database backup files (`.fbk`) that are stored locally. If you want to remove these files, you will have to do so manually.

When NAV Application Server has been removed, a window appears to inform you that it has been removed successfully.

### Losing the Server Connection

If NAV Application Server for some reason loses its connection to C/SIDE Database Server, either accidently (for instance, due to network problems) or due to maintenance (for example, the shutting down of a database server), the lost connection will not cause NAV Application Server to stop. Instead, NAV Application Server will attempt to connect to the server at regular intervals.

## 1.4 Running More Than One Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

You can run more than one NAV Application Server with the same database or with different databases. However, Windows Installer can only install one NAV Application Server on each computer. This is because Windows Installer checks for other NAV Application Server installations when installing. In other words, only one installation can be completed with the Windows Installer. To install more than one NAV Application Server, you must copy all the files that belong to the previously installed NAV Application Server to the folder where you want to store the second instance of NAV Application Server.

After copying the files, you must use the Microsoft DOS command line to install NAV Application Server as a service and set the necessary parameters.

## 1.5 Authentication and the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

The user cannot use database authentication when logging on to NAV Application Server. The user will always be logged on to NAV Application Server as the current Windows user, using Windows authentication. When NAV Application Server is running as a service, the user's account can be specified in the ***Services*** window, which you access by clicking Control Panel, Administrative Tools, Services.

To be allowed to gain access to or modify a database, the user has to be added to the ***Windows Logins*** window in the Dynamics NAV client. To open this window, click Tools, Security, Windows Logins.

For more information about security issues, see the manual *Installation & System Management: C/SIDE Database Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV*.

## 1.6 Service Packs and Security Updates

The installation is not complete until you have installed the latest service packs and applied the latest security updates to your system. Keeping your system up-to-date by installing the latest service packs is one of most important things you can do in managing the security of your system.

You should visit Microsoft Update and install all the relevant updates on every computer in your Dynamics NAV installation. We also recommend that you enable Automatic Updates on each computer so that they can receive security & critical updates automatically.

# Chapter 2

# Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV Setup

This chapter describes how to set up and manage the Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV. There is also a description of how to log messages.

The chapter contains the following sections:

- Setup Properties for Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV
- Setting NAV Application Server Properties
- Managing NAV Application Server
- Message Logging

## 2.1 Setup Properties for Application Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV

When starting up NAV Application Server, you must provide start up parameters to control how you want NAV Application Server to work. The following table lists the properties that you can set at start up:


| Property | See page |
|---|---|
| Application Server Name | 14 |
| Server Name | 15 |
| Database | 15 |
| Company | 16 |
| Startup Parameter | 16 |
| NAS Debug | 17 |
| Breakpoints | 17 |
| Object Cache | 18 |
| Net Type | 18 |
| Install as Service | 19 |
| Uninstall as Service | 19 |


### Application Server Name - Name of NAV Application Server

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| appservername | Specifies which NAV Application Server is starting up. | Command line: `appservername=<appservername>` | AppServer | NAV Application Server name |

You use the *appservername* program property to specify the name of a NAV Application Server. You only have to set the properties for a NAV Application Server once. The program remembers the information the next time you run it.

**Example**

Run a NAV Application Server from the command line:

```
>nas appservername=nas1, servername=srv1, company="Cronus
International Ltd.", startupparameter=p
```

NAV Application Server with the name *nas1* starts running. When stopped and restarted, you only need to type in the following:

```
>nas appservername=nas1
```

### Server Name - Choosing the Database Server

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| servername | Specifies which server to connect to. | Command line: `servername=<servername>` | None | Database server name |

You use this program property to specify the database server that NAV Application Server will connect to. A NAV Application Server that uses C/SIDE Database Server works without a specified database server name (that is, it can run directly on the database). However, if a NAV Application Server uses SQL Server, you must specify the server name.

You can set up the connection to the database server on the command line by entering the name of the server after `servername=`.

### Database - Selecting a Database File

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| database | Specifies which database to open. A C/SIDE Database Server can only have one database open at a time. | Command line: `database=<databasename>` In a client/server installation, this only works in combination with `servername=` | None | Name of database (including path if database is not located in Microsoft Dynamics™ NAV folder). |

You use the database program property to make NAV Application Server start up with a particular database open.

If NAV Application Server is running with C/SIDE Database Server and the database server name is specified, then this property is not used, or it will be overruled by the server name property. If the database server name is unspecified, then you must specify the database name in order for NAV Application Server to start up. C/SIDE Database Server can only work with one database at a time. If you specify another database, then the program generates an error message.

When running NAV Application Server with SQL Server, you must specify both properties.

On the command line that starts NAV Application Server, type the name of the database immediately after `database=`.

### Company - Selecting a Company

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| company | Specifies which company to open. | Command line: `company=<companyname>` | CRONUS International Ltd. | Company name |

You use this program property to specify which company will automatically open when NAV Application Server starts running. You must specify this property to enable NAV Application Server to start up.

### Startup Parameter - Starting the Application Server

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| startupparameter | Starts up NAV Application Server. | Command line: `startupparameter=<parameter>` | Has no value | Text selected by the user. |

This parameter is passed to the codeunit trigger, which is always executed when NAV Application Server starts up (codeunit 1, trigger 99). The parameter is in the form of a string that has a maximum length of 1024 characters. This trigger is not defined in the standard application. Interpretation of the string is the responsibility of the C/AL programmer. If you do not supply the parameter, the NAV Application Server startup procedure fails.

## NAS Debug - Activating the Dynamics NAV Debugger

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| nas debug | Activates the Dynamics NAV Debugger. | Command line: `nas debug` | Has no value. | Has no value. |

To activate the debugger from NAV Application Server, you include the `debug` parameter at start-up:

**Example**

```
nas debug,startupparameter="test",servername=PC0123
```

If you deactivate the debugger, you cannot activate it again unless you terminate NAV Application Server and then start it up with the `debug` parameter.

**Note**

To be able to activate the debugger, you must ensure that there is a developer license file in the NAV Application Server installation folder.

## Breakpoints - Using Another Breakpoint File

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| breakpoints | Breakpoints can be saved to a file or loaded from a file. | Command line: `breakpoints=C:\filename.xml` | Has no value. | Has no value. |

You can start NAV Application Server with a `breakpoints` parameter to enable you to specify a particular file for saving and loading breakpoints.

**Example**

```
NAS.EXE breakpoints=C:\MyBreakpoints.xml
```

### Object Cache - Improving Response Time

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| objectcache (KB) (clients only) | Makes the program run faster. | Command line: `objectcache=<cachesize>` | 8,000 KB | More than 0 KB and less than 1,000,000 KB. |

The Object Cache property increases the speed of NAV Application Server. Objects, such as codeunits and tables that are used on the NAV Application Server computer, are stored in the object cache. This means that the NAV Application Server computer only needs to retrieve these objects once from the server, and then they will be stored in the object cache. The NAV Application Server computer must therefore have enough memory to store the objects while NAV Application Server is using them.

### NetType - Selecting a Net Type

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| nettype | Permits choice of network protocol. | Command line: `nettype=<nettype>` | TCPS | TCPS Netb, TCP |

To use NAV Application Server in a network, you must select the network protocol that is used for communication between C/SIDE Database Server, NAV Application Server and the clients. There are three possible values, `nettype=tcps` (for TCPS) `nettype=tcp` (for TCP/IP) or `nettype=netb` (for NetBIOS).

You must enter the same value on all the client computers and NAV Application Servers in the network as well as on C/SIDE Database Server. On NAV Application Server, enter the net type you have selected on the command line after the start command. When running NAV Application Server with SQL Server, you must use the network protocol TCP.

### Install as Service

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| installasservice | Installs the server as a service on your PC. | Command line: `installasservice` | NT Authority\Network Service | Has no value. |

You can install NAV Application Server as a service on your computer. When NAV Application Server is installed as a service, it starts every time you start Windows – without the user having to log on to the system. To install NAV Application Server as a service, enter the following after the command prompt:

```
nas installasservice
```

Do not use the equal sign with this property.

The NAV Application Server service runs as the NT Authority\Network Service account by default and this allows it to access the C/SIDE Database Server for Microsoft Dynamics NAV if they are both installed on the same computer. However, on a network you must ensure that the NAV Application Server service is running as a Windows domain account that is recognized by the C/SIDE Database Server if you want it to have access to the database server. This account should not be an administrator either in the domain or on any local computer.

NAV Application Server will not start up automatically after the installation. You must start it using the NAV Application Server Manager.

### Uninstall as Service

| Program Property | Purpose | Where Specified | Default Value | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| uninstallasservice | Uninstalls the server as a service on your PC. | Command line: `uninstallasservice` | Has no value. | Has no value. |

If you want to uninstall NAV Application Server as a service, enter the following after the command prompt:

```
nas uninstallasservice
```

Do not use the equal sign with this property.

## 2.2 Setting NAV Application Server Properties

As explained in the previous section, you can customize the system setup by changing the settings of the various NAV Application Server properties.

When you run NAV Application Server from the command line, you can specify the program properties in any order on the command line. Enter the properties after NAV Application Server's start command, separated by commas. The name of each property is followed by an equal sign (=) and the value to which the property is to be set, for example:

```
database=database.fdb,company=cronus
```

This does not apply, however, to the two server properties:

`installasservice` and `uninstallasservice`.

For these properties, enter the parameter on the command line as follows:

```
installasservice
```

When you run NAV Application Server as a service, you can set properties in the NAV Application Server Manager. For information about this, see page 21.

Startup

If you installed NAV Application Server as a service and you set the *Startup Type* option to automatic, NAV Application Server will automatically start up every time you start the computer.

# 2.3 Managing NAV Application Server

When you set up NAV Application Server to run as a service, you can use the Microsoft Management Console to change its properties.

**Note**

If you run NAV Application Server from a command line, you must reconfigure it from the command line.

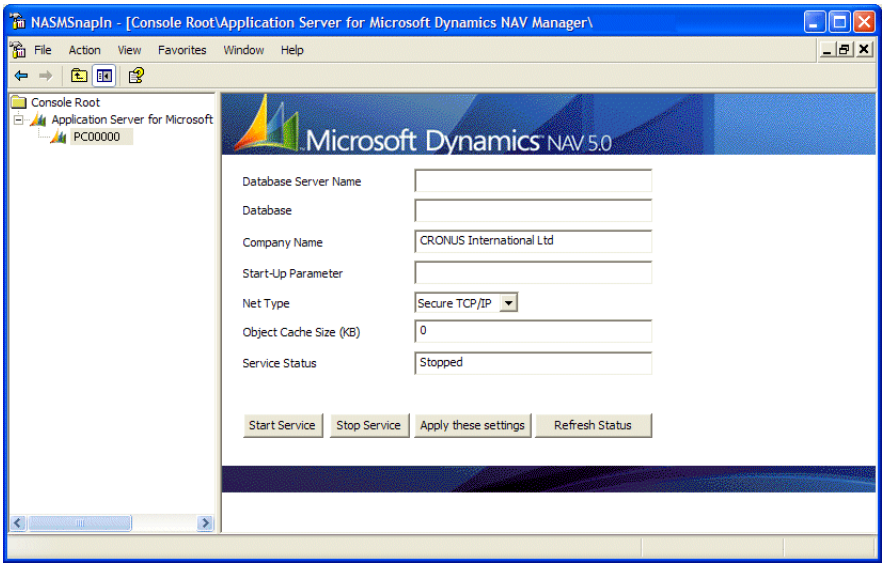
## NAV Application Server Manager

The NAV Application Server Manager is a Microsoft Management Console snap-in that does the actual managing of NAV Application Server. With the NAV Application Server Manager, you can see which NAV Application Server properties you have set on the command line. You can also add and reconfigure NAV Application Server. You can start the NAV Application Server Manager immediately after the installation of NAV Application Server is complete. See page 7 for information.

The NAV Application Server Manager interacts with NAV Application Server and requires that the latter is installed. The NAV Application Server Manager accesses NAV Application Server properties through the Registry. If any changes are made to the properties, the NAV Application Server Manager notifies NAV Application Server so that it can respond accordingly.

You can change the properties at runtime, and they will be effective immediately. If NAV Application Server is not running, the properties will take effect the next time you start up NAV Application Server.

The following window displays the NAV Application Server Manager:




The ***Dynamics NAV Application Server Manager*** window consists of two panes - the left-hand and right-hand panes. The left-hand pane displays the actual contents of the Manager, that is, an overview of the NAV Application Servers that have been added to the view.

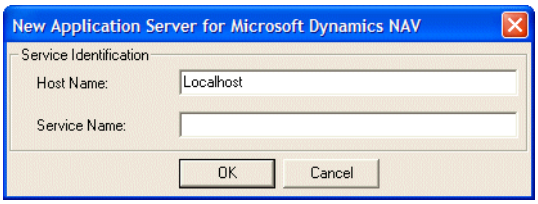
### Adding NAV Application Servers

You can add as many NAV Application Servers to the NAV Application Server Manager as you want. They will be listed under the NAV Application Server node as shown in the previous picture.

To add a NAV Application Server, follow this procedure:

1 Right-click the NAV Application Server node.

2 Click New, Application Server, and the following window appears:




3 Enter the name of the NAV Application Server that you want to add and the name of its host machine. The default value that is entered in the Host Machine field is *localhost*.

### Properties

In the right-hand pane of the ***NAV Application Server Manager*** window, you can define or change the properties of NAV Application Server. To see the configuration settings for a specific NAV Application Server, you click the NAV Application Server that you want to see the properties for on the left-hand pane of the NAV Application Server Manager. On the right-hand pane of the window, the properties are displayed.

The *Property* column displays the properties that apply to NAV Application Server.

The *Value* column displays the current values of the NAV Application Server that you have chosen in the left-hand pane. In this column, you can enter new values.

You can also see the status of NAV Application Server, that is, whether it is running or not. The **Service Status** field can have one of the following values: *Stopped*, *Start pending*, *Stop pending* or *Running*. You have the option to start or stop the NAV Application Server as a service.

When you have made your changes to the configuration (by editing the values) and confirmed the changes by clicking Apply These Settings, the NAV Application Server Manager does the following:

- It changes the properties for NAV Application Server and places them in the Registry.
- If NAV Application Server is running, the NAV Application Server Manager notifies NAV Application Server that changes have been added to the Registry. The changes take effect immediately. If NAV Application Server is not running, the changes will only take effect when you restart NAV Application Server.

If the configuration change fails, NAV Application Server shuts down, and the program reacts in the following way:

- The value in the **Service Status** field changes to *Stopped*. An error message is then logged in the Event Viewer.

## 2.4 Message Logging

When you run NAV Application Server as a service, it runs without displaying anything on-screen and requires no user interaction. In short, this means that there is no user interface. Consequently, the user is not able to see events or error messages on-screen. Instead, these messages are logged in the Event Viewer. When you run NAV Application Server from the command line, you can see messages on-screen. Read more about this in the following section.

### Error and Event Logging

There are slight differences with the error and event logging when you run NAV Application Server as a service and when you run it from the Microsoft DOS command line. The reason for the differences is that in the former there is no user interface, while in the latter the console user interface is used.

### NAV Application Server Running as a Service

When you run NAV Application Server as a service, events and error messages are written to the Event Viewer. The NAV Application Server is registered as an event source, so you can filter the messages in the log.

### NAV Application Server Running from the Microsoft DOS Command Line

When NAV Application Server is started from a command line, all events and error messages are, by default, displayed on the command line. Alternatively, they can be written to a file in the following way:

```
nas {property settings} > file name
```

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