



Animal Intelligence Software, Inc.
3505 NW Anderson Hill Road, suite 204
Silverdale, Washington 98383
(360) 692-7736 FAX (360) 692-2629

Synchronizing Workstation Time With Server Time

Introduction

Many of the entries made in Animal Intelligence™ are time sensitive, so it is important that all workstations on your network show the same time. It is easy to set the time on each workstation on your network to the server's time; this document tells you how.

Since every network is different, and different schemes for managing the users on a network are appropriate for different situations, these instructions do not provide detailed implementation instructions. If you do not know how to perform the tasks described, consult your network vendor for help.

On Windows NT/2000 networks

Setting this up in a Windows NT network involves a couple of options. Depending on your installation, you will use one of the following two techniques:

1. You can modify a logon batch file on the server, and add the command:

```
net time \\<servername> /set /yes
```

This will synchronize the workstation when each user logs on.

In the User Manager administrative applet, set each user's profile to point to the logon.bat file on the server as its logon batch file. As each user restarts his or her workstation, the workstation's time will be synchronized.

2. You can create a small batch file on each workstation with the same command listed above, then put a shortcut to that batch file in the workstation's STARTUP folder. Each time the workstation starts, this file will run and the workstation's clock will synchronize with the server.

On Novell NetWare networks

NetWare makes this simple, if you are using the Novell Client for NetWare. In the advanced settings of the workstation's Novell Client for NetWare properties sheet, you can set "Set station time" to ON (it's set that way by default); this makes the workstation synchronize with the NetWare server each time you log on.

We do not know of a workable solution if you are not using the Microsoft Client for NetWare, since the NET TIME command seems to be ignored for NetWare networks.

The information in this document is intended solely for use by Animal Intelligence Software, Inc. clients. Any other use is strictly prohibited.

Note for 24-hour clinics

If you are administrating a busy 24-hour clinic where the workstations are in use 24/7 and hence are seldom restarted, the workstation clocks will, over a period of days, drift away from the server's time. Depending on the workstation, this drift can be faster or slower. You can prevent this by running the batch files indicated above on a regular basis from the Windows Task Scheduler, an applet supplied with all versions of Windows. Simply include your timeset.bat file in the scheduler and have it run on a consistent basis. On NetWare networks, the server synchronization can be set to run every so often from the Novell Client for NetWare properties sheet.