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DSX Access Systems, Inc.

Communications Server

WinDSX Communications Server CS.exe

The Comm Server program is a multi-tasking, communication processing application that runs as a Process (or Service) and is located on the PC that has the physical or virtual connection to the DSX Controllers. The Comm Server has no user interface, it simply communicates with the DSX Controllers, downloading new data, uploading event history and logs all transactions to the hard disk. The Workstation program interrogates the Comm Server program through the network using the Comm Servers TCP/IP address. The Comm Server Program responds to the Workstation requests and routes all alarm, input/output control, and system events to the Workstation Program. The Workstation Program is the user interface for the Comm Server Program and provides full real time annunciation and control of all inputs, outputs, readers, override groups, maps and more.

If the Workstation Software is on the same PC as the Comm Server program, it still uses the IP address to talk to the Comm Server. WinDSX is loaded on to each PC that will run the program. The Workstation and DataBase programs on these networked PCs share the same data that is typically located on a network drive or resource. The Comm Server logs all event data to the history database located in the same directory and drive that contains the shared system data.

The Comm Server Program is started when the Workstation program is started on the PC that has been defined as the Comm Server. When the Workstation program is exited it automatically closes the Comm Server program. The DataBase program can optionally start Workstation that in turn will launch the Comm Server Program if this computer is defined as the Comm Server and the "Auto-Start Workstation" Feature is enabled. The Communications Server can also be run by itself and can be launched out of Windows Startup. The Comm Server can also be run in a visible mode displaying all activity.

The Comm Server Program can also be configured to run as a Service. This way the program will run once the Comm Server PC boots up without needing an operator logged into Windows. The software media contains the instructional document and the utilities to do this in the \docs or \utilities folder on the Software distribution media.

The operational diagram to the right shows the different Components and how they interact. The database shows it can be positioned on the Comm Server or on another File Server/SQL Server. The Workstation and DataBase programs can run on the Comm Server and/or on other client PCs. The Comm Server communicates with the field controllers and all other PCs communicate with the Comm Server.