

WEBINAR SERIES · 2026 – A YEAR OF CHANGE

MakeNotesFaster=1

HCL Notes client performance on 14.5.1 FP1

Performance drives user experience. User experience drives productivity.

HOST, SPEAKER AND SUPPORT



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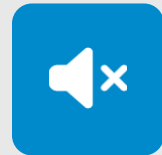
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BEFORE WE START

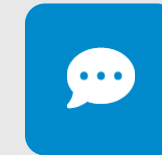
Before we **start**

A few housekeeping notes so you get the most out of the next 45/60 minutes.



All attendee lines are muted

This is to prevent interruptions during the presentation.



Please submit questions via Chat or Q&A

We pick them up during the webinar, or in the Q&A after the presentation.



The webinar is being recorded

Afterwards we send you a mail with access to the recording and the slides.



Share your feedback with us

Please let us know what we can do better.

AGENDA

Why it matters, and nine things that decide how fast Notes **feels**

- 1 Why performance matters
- 2 ODS
- 3 notes.ini
- 4 Desktop and bookmarks
- 5 Connection documents
- 6 Account documents
- 7 Location documents
- 8 cache.ndk
- 9 File system
- 10 Antivirus exclusions

SCOPE

What this session covers

IN SCOPE

- ✓ The HCL Notes Standard client on Windows, 14.5.1 FP1
- ✓ Local configuration, local files, local housekeeping
- ✓ What an administrator can deploy and verify centrally

OUT OF SCOPE

- ✗ Domino server tuning
- ✗ Nomad Web and Nomad Mobile
- ✗ macOS clients
- ✗ Application and database design

01

Why performance matters

Before the parameters: why a slow client is a business problem, not a taste question.

Performance, experience, productivity

Users do not experience milliseconds. They experience whether the solution gets out of their way.

PERFORMANCE

Startup time, time to open an application, time for a view to appear, time for a search to return.



USER EXPERIENCE

Whether the client feels reliable and predictable, or whether the user learns to expect a wait.



PRODUCTIVITY

Work done, tickets not raised, and a platform people trust instead of work around.

TAKEAWAY Client performance is a user experience metric. User experience is a business metric.

What slow actually costs

Measured last week in a customer project: 16,000 users, professional services industry. Current hardware, no antivirus exclusions configured. After upgrading from 9.0.1 to 14.0 FP5, with no significant performance optimizations in place.

COLD START

2+ min

healthy: < 10 seconds

WARM START

35–40 s

healthy: up to 5 seconds

CLIENT UPGRADE

22 min

healthy: 4 to 8 minutes

These are real numbers from current hardware. Bad configuration, not old laptops, is what produces them.

TAKEAWAY 30 seconds twice a day across 1,000 users is 17 hours of waiting per working day.

02

ODS

Most of what you know about ODS was true. It stopped being true in 12.0.2.

What ODS is, and why it decides startup time

ODS, On Disk Structure, is the physical structure of the database file itself, the container rather than the content. Every Notes and Domino release has an ODS level it works with natively.

THE MECHANISM

- A Notes client cannot natively open a database at an older ODS
- So it converts the file upwards in memory, one level at a time, until it reaches the ODS it works with natively
- Only then does it open the database
- That work happens on every open, not once

WHAT THAT COSTS IN PRACTICE

```
names.nsf    ODS 20
  ↓ 41 ↓ 43 ↓ 48 ↓ 51 ↓ 52 ↓ 55
client 14.5.1 FP1 opens it
```

A names.nsf left at ODS 20 on a 14.5.1 FP1 client means at least **60 seconds** of startup for that one file alone. And names.nsf is read at every single client start.

TAKEAWAY An old ODS is not cosmetic. The client pays the conversion on every open.

ODS 55 is the default since 12.0.2

Eleven formats since Notes 1. One of them is where your local databases belong.

ODS	INTRODUCED WITH
11	Notes 1
16	Notes 2
17	Notes 3
20	Notes 4
41	Notes/Domino 5
43	Notes/Domino 6 and 7
48	Notes/Domino 8.0
51	Notes/Domino 8.5
52	Notes/Domino 9.0.1
53	Notes/Domino 10
55	Notes/Domino 12 CURRENT DEFAULT AND MAXIMUM

Automatic ODS upgrade since **12.0.2**

Upgrading a Notes client upgrades the databases in its data directory to ODS 55, and supersedes the client notes.ini settings that used to control this.

WHAT THAT MEANS

- Client only. Domino servers never auto-upgrade their ODS
- Behaviour is unchanged in 14, 14.5 and 14.5.1
- No notes.ini entry is needed for it. Existing local databases are converted, and new ones are created at 55
- The old one-time-pass parameters no longer earn their place

BUDGET THE ONE-TIME COST

- Copy-style compact plus a full view rebuild at first open
- Free disk space for roughly twice the largest local NSF
- The first start after the upgrade is the slowest one the user will see. Tell them in advance
- Do not run it over a redirected, roaming or network data directory. More on that in the file system section

The ODS entries in your notes.ini

PARAMETER	VERDICT	WHY
CREATE_R8 / R85 / R9 / R10_DATABASES	Remove	Each one pins new and copy-style-compacted databases to an ODS below 55
CREATE_R12_DATABASES=1	Keep	Not required on 12.0.2 and later, but worth keeping for an explicit, readable configuration, and so that no older CREATE_R* entry can win
NSF_UpdateODS=1	Remove	Superseded since 12.0.2. The automatic upgrade already does this, and does it better
NSF_AlwaysUpdateODS=1	Remove	Redundant. This has been the default behaviour since 12.0.2
NSF_AlwaysUpdateODS=0	Remove	Blocks the automatic upgrade. Keep it only as a deliberate, temporary decision

TAKEAWAY Remove the parameter, and remove the policy that re-pushes it.

03

notes.ini

A file that gets appended to for twenty years and read by nobody.

Entries that should not have survived

Nothing in this list is a harmless leftover.

DELETE EVERY ONE OF THESE

```
; ODS, covered on the previous slides
```

```
CREATE_R*_DATABASES
```

```
NSF_UpdateODS
```

```
NSF_AlwaysUpdateODS
```

```
; ports and protocols
```

```
DISABLEDPORTS
```

```
LAN0      LAN1      SPX
```

```
COM1      COM2      COM3
```

```
COM4      COM5      COM6
```

```
TCPIP_*
```

```
; written by the client itself
```

```
DELEGATED_MAIL_FILE*
```

```
DELEGATED_NEWMAIL_SEQNUM*
```

PORTS: ONE PORT, NO EXCUSE

Ports=TCPIP

TCPIP=TCP,0,15,0,,12288 default

TCPIP=TCP,0,15,0,,12320 compression only

TCPIP=TCP,0,15,0,,45056 encryption only

TCPIP=TCP,0,15,0,,45088 compression + encryption

DELEGATED ENTRIES: ORDER MATTERS

- 1 Set `DEBUG_DISABLE_AUTO_REFRESH_DELEGATED_INBOX=1`
- 2 Then remove every `DELEGATED_MAIL_FILE*` and `DELEGATED_NEWMAIL_SEQNUM*` entry. In the other order you clean up against an active producer

The client writes a pair whenever a user opens someone else's calendar or mail file in general, then keeps opening those mail files during startup and regularly while in use.

Two structural rules for the file

Neither is exotic. Both are produced by scripts that append to a file instead of managing it.

1 · THE [NOTES] SECTION BELONGS IN LINE 1, EXACTLY ONCE 2 · THE FILE ENDS WITH A BLANK LINE

```
[Notes]
Directory=C:\Users\...\Data
KeyFilename=user.id
```

```
Directory=C:\Users\...\Data
[Notes]
[Notes]
```

The section must not appear twice, and not anywhere else in the file. Typical cause: a script that appends a template INI to an existing file. Worst case, the client behaves like a fresh install and the setup assistant starts.

```
1 [Notes]
2 MailServer=CN=srv01/O=acme
3 DisableLogging=1
4 
```

↑ line 4 is empty. That is the closing line break.

Without it, anything appended merges into the last existing line, and that line is then not used at all. Affects every form of append: script, redirect, deployment tool.

Character encoding

notes.ini belongs to the Notes world, which uses LMBCS internally. An external text editor knows nothing about that.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN THE FILE

The section is no longer recognised	i»¿[Notes]
Paths and ID files are not found	ä → Ã ü → Ã¼
The client writes the value back	The mangled string becomes the real value

A client misbehaves, you open notes.ini, and the content is not what anyone wrote.

THE PRACTICAL RULE

Do not edit notes.ini manually.

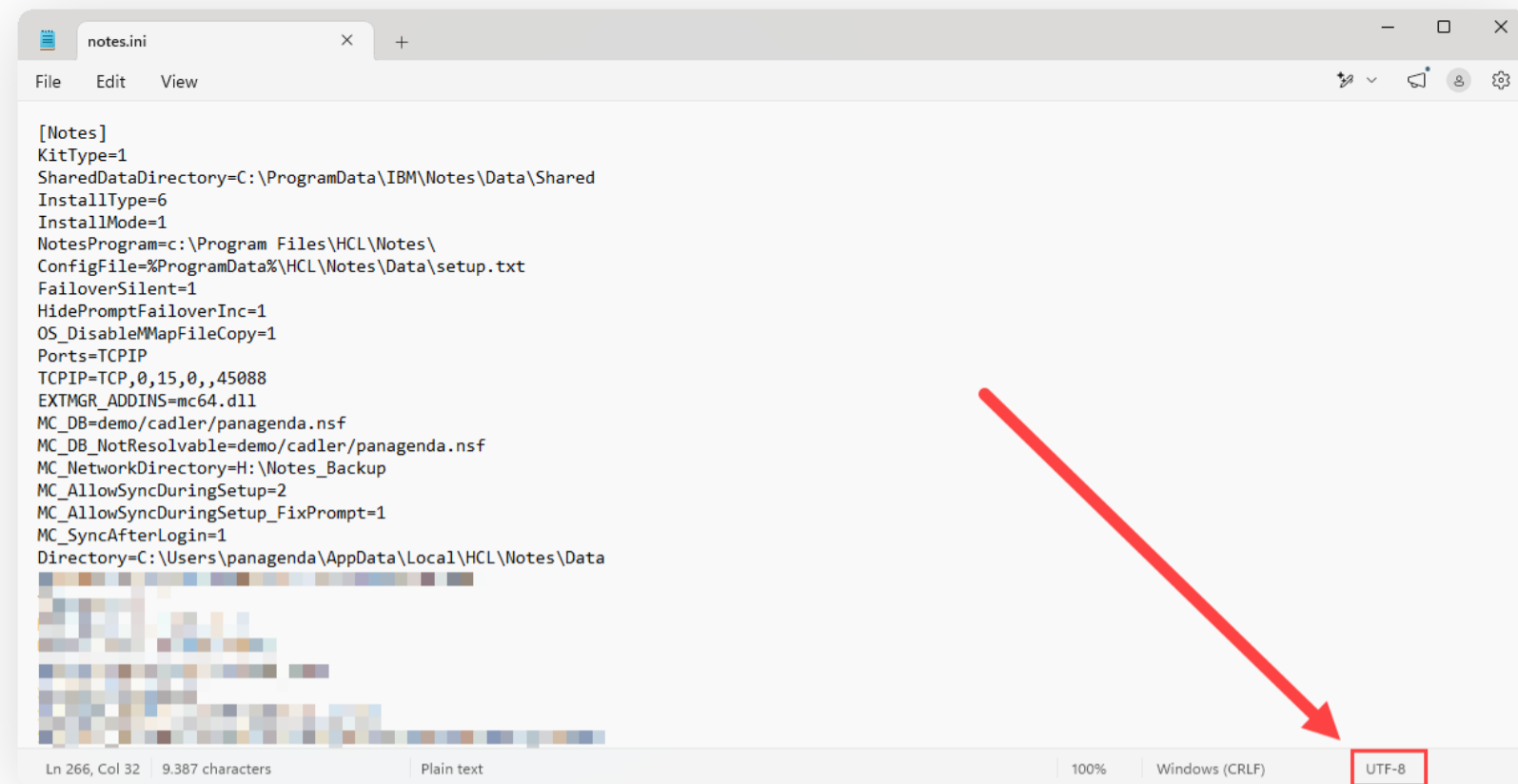
- Notes uses LMBCS, the Lotus Multi-Byte Character Set, as its native character set. A modern editor cannot identify it
- Set parameters through the client, through policies, or through MarvelClient, so they are handled in the Notes context
- If it is unavoidable, watch the encoding. Editors save the file differently than Notes expects

If you really have to edit it by hand

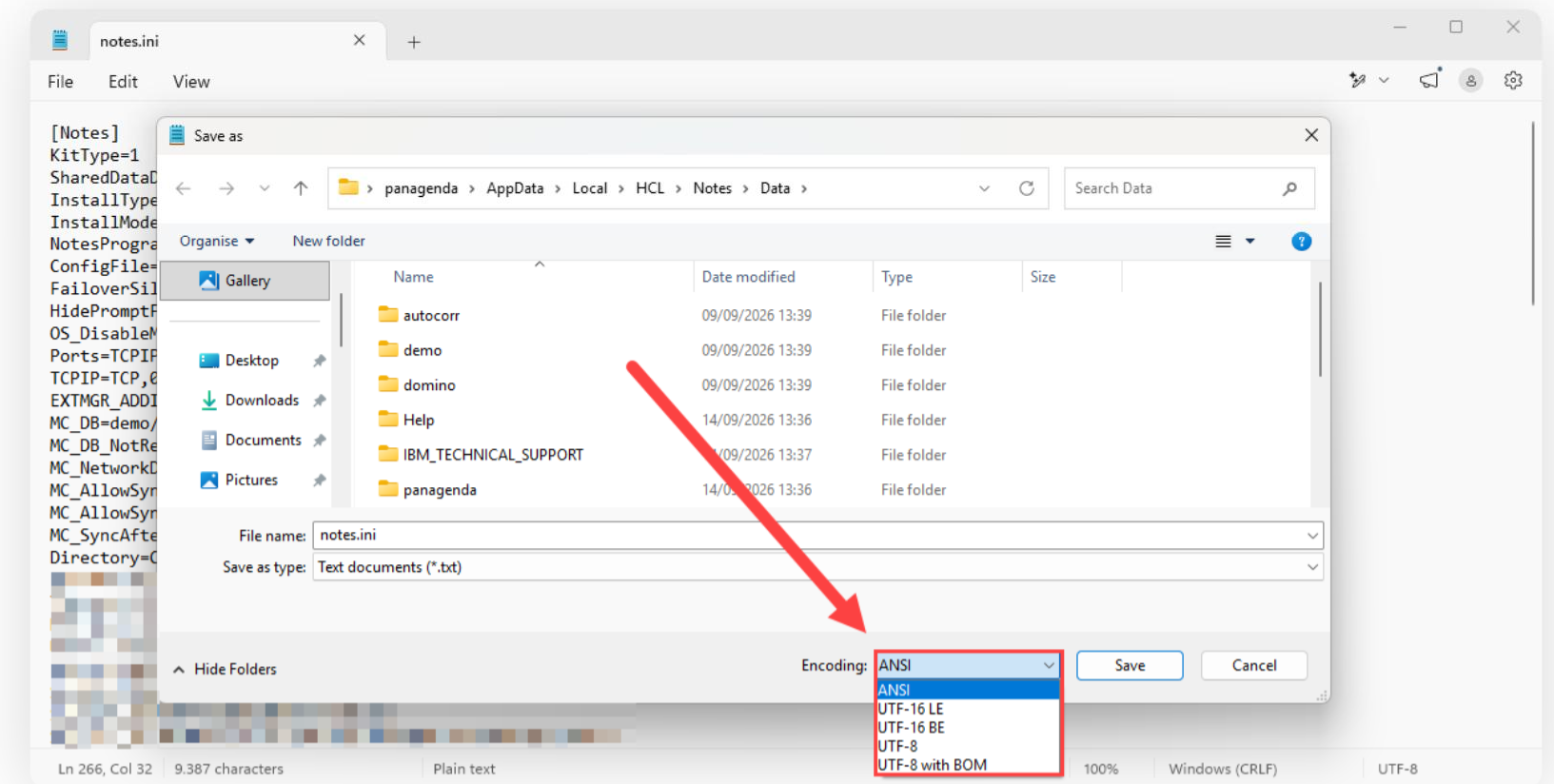
IF TIME

Local ANSI is the safest practical choice with common Windows editors.
That does not make notes.ini an ANSI file.

1 · CHECK THE STATUS BAR



2 · FILE, SAVE AS, ENCODING: ANSI



An editor offers a local Windows code page because that is the most compatible interpretation available to it, not because it understands the file. Do not assume UTF-8 is a safe replacement, and close the client before you edit.

TAKEAWAY Best option: let Notes manage it. Unavoidable: local ANSI, not UTF-8.

04

Desktop and bookmarks

The workspace is not decoration. It is a work queue the client walks through.

Desktop icons and unread counts

With icons on the workspace and unread counts enabled, the client performs network operations for them. The more icons on the page it displays, the more potential transactions.

WHAT IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING

- It applies either way: the configured start page, or the last used workspace page the client restores
- These transactions are deliberately small and fast, so no, not every icon automatically creates a performance problem
- But network operations are taking place, and that belongs in any honest look at startup performance
- Depending on the environment, it can make sense to control or standardise the workspace through a client management solution

WHY "AND BOOKMARKS"

Most Notes bookmarks are relational. They carry the Replica ID, so they use the connection information of the matching desktop icon. Maintaining the desktop matters even for users who work almost entirely through bookmarks.

Maintain the desktop, and let bookmarks point at the desktop icons.

Relational bookmarks are the ones you want. Hinted and absolute bookmarks are better avoided.

Icons pointing at servers that are gone

A user's desktop should hold only icons that still work and that the user can actually reach. A dead server does not fail fast, it fails by timeout.

EVERY ICON HAS TO SATISFY ALL THREE

- ✓ The server still exists
- ✓ The application is still there
- ✓ The user still has access to it

The third one is the one that rots quietly. A user changes role or department, is removed from a group, and loses access to every application whose ACL is built on that group. The icon stays.

WHAT THE LEFTOVERS COST

- ✗ Unnecessary network waits and timeouts, especially when the workspace is refreshed
- ✗ Startup far slower for some users than others on identical hardware
- ✗ Strictly worse off VPN, in home office and in remote networks in general

An organized desktop is a fast desktop.

TAKEAWAY A dead icon does not cost milliseconds. It costs a full timeout, every refresh.

Clusters: the top of the stack

When replicas are stacked into one icon, the top of the stack is the server the client uses. Get it wrong and, best case, everything simply stays slow. Worst case the client waits out a timeout before it fails over.

CLUSTER USED FOR FAILOVER

One member is the primary server, the other mainly a fallback. Users should work against their preferred server whenever it is available, not sit on the fallback because an old stack order says so.

CLUSTER USED FOR LOAD BALANCING

Two members, half the users normally on A and half on B. Which member is preferred has to be defined per user or per group.

After a failover users sit on the other member. Unless the configuration brings them back once their own server returns, the balancing drifts and nobody notices.

MarvelClient can define the preferred cluster member per user and keep it at the top of the stack. FailoverSilent=1 only removes the failover prompt, not the timeout before it.

TAKEAWAY The cluster partner of choice always belongs at the top of the stack.

05–07

Connection, account and location documents

Three document types in the local address book, one shared failure mode.

Connection documents

With reliable DNS the client does not need them at all. Where they are still required, they have to be correct.

RELIABLE DNS? · YES

Delete all connection documents.

Name resolution is the network's job. One fewer local lookup table to rot.

RELIABLE DNS? · NO

- Remove every document whose server no longer exists
- Raise unnecessarily low priorities to normal. A low priority document is only consulted after other paths have failed, so the client has to sit through those timeouts first, and we do not want timeouts
- Use the FQDN as the destination, never an IP address
- Maintain what remains. Do not just put up with it

TAKEAWAY With reliable DNS, none at all. Without it, FQDNs and normal priority.

Account documents

Targets that are no longer reachable are still contacted. The client finds out by timeout.

STAYS

- ✓ Accounts that are genuinely still addressed by this user
- ✓ Directory accounts that resolve names for a service in use today

Symptom to look for: delays in name resolution and addressing that clear the moment the timeout expires.

GOES

- ✗ LDAP accounts pointing at directories that were switched off
- ✗ IMAP, POP and SMTP accounts from migrations that finished years ago
- ✗ Anything nobody can name a current purpose for

TAKEAWAY If in doubt, an empty view beats unnecessary account documents.

Location documents

Multiple location documents are a leftover from offline and modem operation.

TYPICAL

- ✗ Online
- ✗ Office (Network)
- ✗ Travel (Modem)
- ✗ Island (Disconnected)
- ✗ Offline
- ✗ Home (Network)
- ✗ ...

TARGET STATE

- ✓ One location document, normally Online, that loads and reliably connects to the server
- ✓ Home and mail server, mail file, directory and proxy settings defined centrally
- ✓ Users should not be able to change it where the organization needs a standard
- ✓ The local address book belongs to the user, so ACLs alone will not hold. Enforce the configuration at every client start instead

Developers and administrators are out of scope. They know why they run several. Any other exception should be justified first.

TAKEAWAY For a normal user: one location document. Developers and admins are the exception.

08

cache.ndk

A design cache, not a junk file.

Three files, three very different costs

The standard support ritual deletes all three. Only one of them is cheap to lose.

FILE	WHAT IT HOLDS	WHAT DELETING IT COSTS THE USER
cache.ndk	Design notes cached from server replicas: forms, subforms, views, navigators, script libraries, shared resources	A cold cache, nothing else
desktop8.ndk	The workspace: one entry per database used, per-replica design element lists, pointers to private design elements	All workspace tabs and icons, and a lot more, rebuilt by hand
bookmark.nsf	Bookmarks, workspace pages, icons, personal customizations such as view column order	Bookmarks, every personal UI customization, and a lot more

HCL's Notes documentation still refers to desktop6.ndk. In a 14.5.1 data directory the file is desktop8.ndk (of course).

Myths about deleting cache.ndk

Without a warm cache, every design element a user touches costs one or more round trips to the server. The cost is latency bound, not bandwidth bound.

CLAIM

VERDICT

cache.ndk should be deleted regularly

Myth. A diagnostic step, valid once. Not a maintenance task

A big cache.ndk is a problem in itself

Mostly myth. Size is a symptom. Investigate the applications behind it

Cache corruption is a common root cause

It happens, and far less often than it is blamed

TAKEAWAY Deleting cache.ndk buys a cold cache and a burst of server round trips.

Quota instead of deletion

The cache is quota limited, 30 MB by default. A client that constantly hits the quota is thrashing: evict, re-fetch, evict, re-fetch.

1 · FIND OUT WHETHER ANYONE IS HITTING IT

```
log.nsf: search for Cache.NDK + disk quota
Unable to write to database - database
...\Cache.NDK would exceed its disk
quota of 30720 KB by 2 MB
```

2 · RAISE IT, DO NOT SHRINK IT

```
; deploy by desktop policy or MarvelClient
UserSetCacheQuota=1
UserCacheQuotaSize=153600 ; KB = 150 MB
```

Editing the ini alone does not resize an existing file. Delete the current cache.ndk once afterwards so it is recreated under the new ceiling.

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

- 1 Infrastructure first: data directory on local SSD, excluded from AV and EDR, out of profile sync and OneDrive Known Folder Move
 - 2 Then the quota. High enough that healthy clients never reach it
 - 3 Then the one-time delete, so the new ceiling actually applies
- ✗ Do not delete cache.ndk on a schedule or at login
 - ✗ Do not set the quota small to save disk. That maximizes eviction

Targeted purge

Every cached design element carries the Notes URL of the replica it came from. So you can clear exactly one application.

- 1 Read the replica ID of the affected database from the Information tab of Database Properties
- 2 Open cache.ndk: File, Open, HCL Notes Application, look in On My Computer, file name cache.ndk
- 3 In the ByURL or ByURLCat view, select the documents whose Notes URL matches that replica ID and delete them
- 4 Close the database

WHY BOTHER

One application misbehaves for one user. Blanket deletion costs that user a cold cache for everything they touch, and destroys the evidence for every other application at the same time.

Replace blanket deletion with this in the service desk playbook. Same fix, far less collateral damage.

cache.ndk cannot be compacted. Compacting the workspace shrinks desktop8.ndk; the cache stays at its size.

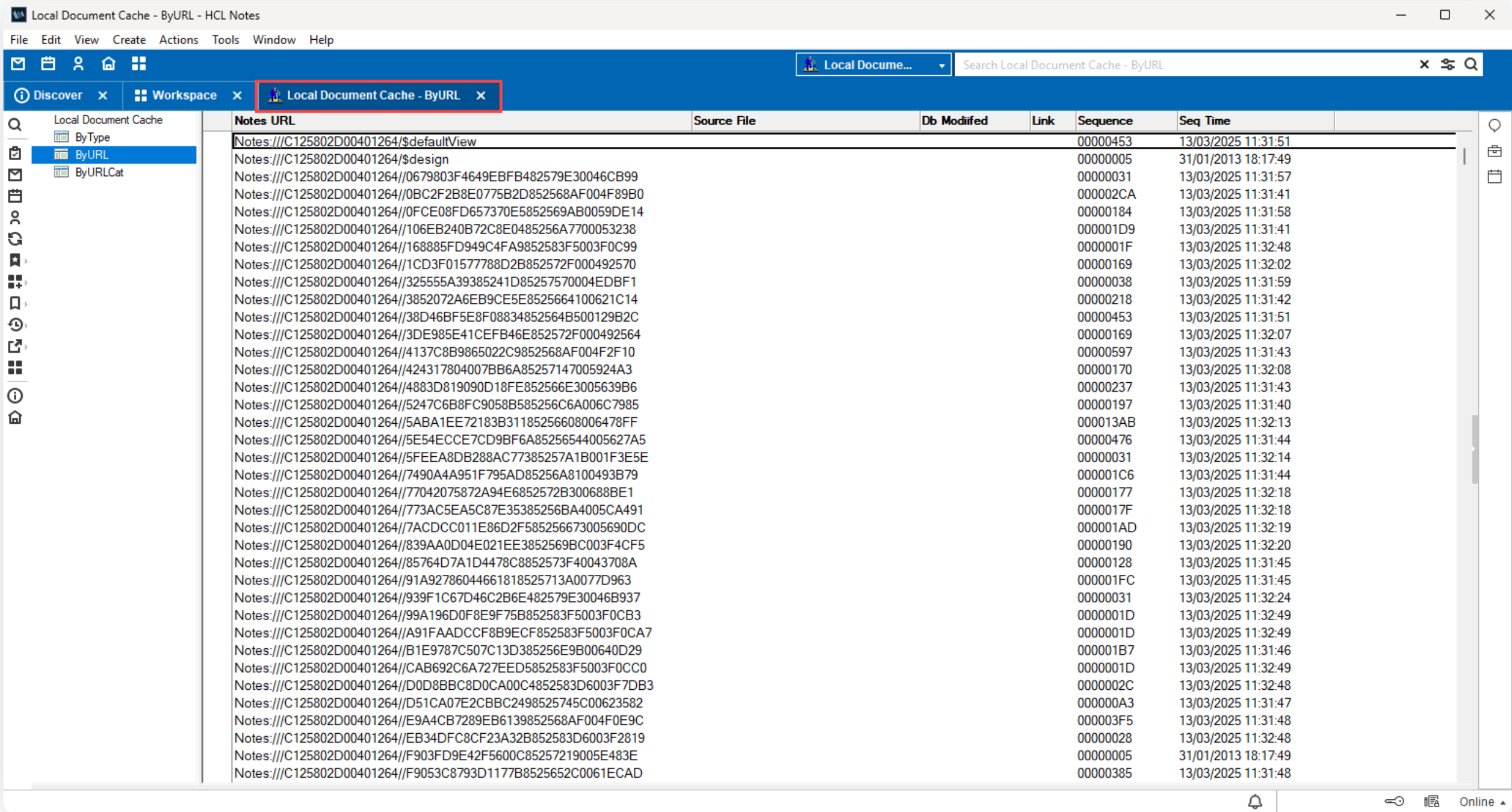
Looking inside the cache

Every cached element carries the Notes URL of the replica it came from.

HOW TO OPEN IT

File, Open, HCL Notes Application.
Set "Look in" to On My Computer
and type cache.ndk.

Three views: ByType, ByURL and
ByURLCat. The leading part of each
Notes URL is the replica ID, so you
can see at a glance which
application the cached elements
belong to.



09

File system

Local files, local disk, and the housekeeping nobody does for them.

Never on a network share

Program directory, shared data directory and above all the data directory belong on local, directly attached storage.

INCLUDES THE VARIANTS PEOPLE OVERLOOK

- ✗ Mapped drive, UNC path, DFS namespace, home drive, NAS
- ✗ Windows folder redirection of the profile or of Documents
- ✗ Roaming profiles that copy the data directory at logon and logoff
- ✗ OneDrive Known Folder Move or any sync client whose scope covers the data directory
- ✗ Non-persistent VDI where the local disk is a remote volume in disguise

WHAT IT PRODUCES

- Slow startup and slow view opening. Reads that cost microseconds locally cost milliseconds over SMB, thousands of times per session
- Corruption after network glitches, VPN drops, Wi-Fi roaming or share failover
- Non-reproducible crashes that stop the day the data directory moves local
- Logon and logoff storms when roaming profiles copy multi-GB replicas twice per session

TAKEAWAY If the data directory sits on a network path, fix that before anything else.

The three default paths

HCL Notes 14.5.1 multi-user install on Windows. These are also exactly the three paths your antivirus exclusions are documented against.

```
; program directory  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes  
  
; shared data directory  
C:\ProgramData\HCL\Notes\Data\shared  
  
; data directory, per user  
C:\Users\%USERNAME%\AppData\Local\HCL\Notes\Data
```

WHY DEFAULTS HELP

- Security software exclusions are documented against these paths. A custom path means every policy has to be hand maintained, and any miss turns into on-access scanning of every NSF read
- Installer, fix pack and provisioning logic is regression tested against the defaults
- HCL support and panagenda support both start from the assumption of default paths. Divergence costs days per ticket
- %LocalAppData% is deliberately not part of the roaming profile and not in scope of Known Folder Move

One local replica per replica ID

In one data directory, each replica ID must exist exactly once. File > Application > New Copy creates a new ID. A Windows copy does not.

WHERE DUPLICATES COME FROM

- ✗ mail.nsf next to mail_old.nsf or mail (1).nsf
- ✗ Restore of a single NSF beside the still existing original
- ✗ Roaming profile or sync client duplicating the file under a second name
- ✗ Data directory merges during 32-bit to 64-bit or IBM to HCL migrations
- ✗ I made a backup before we upgraded

WHAT GOES WRONG

- ✗ Replication runs against the wrong file, so the user's changes appear to vanish
- ✗ Both files replicate in the same cycle, producing avoidable save conflicts
- ✗ Unread marks and folder membership drift apart
- ✗ Inflated replication times and network volume

```
:: local maintenance, Notes closed  
:: or use MarvelClient Basic  
ncompact.exe -b -i
```

TAKEAWAY Renaming the surplus file does not help. The replica ID travels with it.

Plugins and workspace cleanup

IF TIME

Two one-off cleanups with a measurable startup gain and no functional change for the user.

PLUGIN AND FRAMEWORK CLEANUP

Superseded plugin and feature versions accumulate in the client framework folder as fix packs and hot fixes are applied. Removing them frees disk space and can shorten startup. On clients with a long upgrade history the saving is substantial.

WORKSPACE CLEANUP

The Data\workspace folder grows over years of fix packs and collects stale Eclipse state that nothing needs any more. Cleanup removes exactly that, and keeps the user's settings.

Both run automatically as part of a MarvelClient Upgrade, or manually per client with the free MarvelClient Support Helper.



GET IT

10

Antivirus exclusions

Not about switching protection off. About not scanning the same files thousands of times.

Microsoft Defender as our example

Everything in this section is generally applicable to antivirus and endpoint security solutions. The concrete examples use Defender.

WHY DEFENDER

It is very common in our customers' environments, and its modern security and scanning activity can have a particularly noticeable impact on Notes client performance.

WHAT CARRIES OVER

The mechanism, the shape of the exclusion set and the arguments for a security team transfer to whatever you run. The syntax does not, so check your own vendor's documentation.

TAKEAWAY The product is the example. The principle applies to any endpoint security solution.

Why the scanner hits Notes so hard

Several thousand small program, plug-in and workspace files, read and written continuously. Every one of those operations is additionally evaluated by the AV engine.

PERFORMANCE

Latency per file operation, multiplied by thousands of accesses per start. The count hurts, not the file size.

STABILITY

A scanner works at a very low level and can lock or quarantine a file. If that hits a file Notes is using, the operation fails, up to a crash.

DETECTION VALUE

NSF and DAOS content is proprietary and compressed at OS level, so a file scanner evaluates it only to a limited degree. Inspection needs ICAP.

Prove it rather than assert it. Defender's own performance analyzer writes an ETL trace and then names the top scanned processes, before any exclusion exists.

```
# PowerShell, started elevated. Record a cold start
New-MpPerformanceRecording -RecordTo "C:\Temp\Notes-Client-Start-Cold.etl"
# Then read the top offenders
Get-MpPerformanceReport -Path "C:\Temp\Notes-Client-Start-Cold.etl" -TopProcesses 10
```

The exclusion set for 14.5.1 FP1

Three defined directories and the Notes-owned binaries. No extensions, no parent directories, no foreign processes.

PATH EXCLUSIONS

```
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes  
C:\ProgramData\HCL\Notes\Data  
C:\Users\*\AppData\Local\HCL\Notes\Data
```

Single-user installs use a different data path. Read it from notes.ini rather than assuming the default.

PROCESS EXCLUSIONS, FULL PATHS ONLY

```
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\notes.exe  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\nlnotes.exe  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\ntaskldr.exe  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\nsd.exe  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\ntmulti.exe  
C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\framework\rcp\eclipse  
  \plugins\*\win32\x86_64\notes2.exe
```

Optional where present: nminder.exe, nnotesmm.exe, designer.exe, admin.exe.

TAKEAWAY Path exclusions are not enough. Notes works outside its own directories too.

Three traps that make an exclusion do nothing

Each of these produces an exclusion list that looks correct in the console and has no effect on the client.

1 · ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES

```
%LOCALAPPDATA%\HCL\Notes\Data
```

The Defender service runs as LocalSystem, so user-scoped variables resolve to system locations. Use `C:\Users\*\...` instead.

2 · IMAGE NAMES

```
nlnotes.exe
```

An image name matches a same-named binary anywhere on the device. Full paths bind the exclusion to the binary in the write-protected program directory.

3 · A PINNED BUILD FOLDER

```
...\com.ibm.rcp.base_20250617  
\...
```

The notes2.exe path carries the plug-in build level and changes with every fix pack. Pinning it lapses silently. Use the wildcard.

One more: a folder exclusion covers every subfolder except reparse point subfolders. Check for junctions inside the Notes data tree, since profile containers and folder redirection create them, and add an explicit entry for each.

Copy and paste, for one reference client

PowerShell, started elevated. For the fleet, deploy through Intune or Group Policy instead.

```
# Paths
Add-MpPreference -ExclusionPath @(
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes'
    'C:\ProgramData\HCL\Notes\Data'
    'C:\Users\*\AppData\Local\HCL\Notes\Data'
)
# Processes, full paths only, wildcard for the version-dependent notes2.exe
Add-MpPreference -ExclusionProcess @(
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\notes.exe'
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\nlnotes.exe'
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\ntaskldr.exe'
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\nsd.exe'
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\ntmulti.exe'
    'C:\Program Files\HCL\Notes\framework\rcp\eclipse\plugins\*\win32\x86_64\notes2.exe'
)
# Optional, add only where the file exists: nminder.exe, nnotesmm.exe, designer.exe, admin.exe
# Verify on the client itself, not in the management console
Get-MpPreference | Select-Object -ExpandProperty ExclusionPath
Get-MpPreference | Select-Object -ExpandProperty ExclusionProcess
```

Making the case to your security team

IF TIME

You are not asking anyone to switch protection off. You are asking for a narrow, documented, auditable scope, and that is a conversation that usually goes well.

ALL OF THIS STAYS ON

- ✓ Scheduled and on-demand scans
- ✓ Behaviour monitoring and EDR. Excluded files can still raise EDR alerts and behavioural detections
- ✓ Real-time protection the moment any process other than Notes opens a file Notes stored
- ✓ Everything outside the three directories and the named binaries

AND YOU GAIN A BETTER-DEFINED ESTATE

- ✓ A scope a security team can actually audit: three directories, a handful of signed binaries in a write-protected program directory
- ✓ A documented reason per entry, with the version it was verified against, and a review date
- ✓ Full paths rather than image names, so the trade you do make is bound to exactly those binaries
- ✓ And if the per-user data directory is the sticking point, a contextual exclusion scoped to the Notes processes is the documented middle ground

TAKEAWAY A narrow, documented exclusion set is a security decision, not a security hole.

SUMMARY

The Monday morning checklist

- 1 Get the data directory off every network path, redirection and sync scope
- 2 Verify AV exclusions for the three Notes paths and the Notes binaries. Full paths, wildcard for notes2.exe
- 3 Install 14.5.1 FP1 and re-verify the exclusions afterwards
- 4 Remove icons, bookmarks and replicator entries pointing at servers that no longer exist
- 5 Clean the matching connection and account documents. FQDNs, not IP addresses
- 6 Clean notes.ini: legacy ports, DELEGATED_*, the obsolete ODS parameters, and the policy that re-pushes them
- 7 Stop deleting cache.ndk. Check log.nsf for the quota message first, then raise the quota
- 8 One local replica per replica ID, and a scheduled local compact
- 9 One location document, defined centrally and enforced at client start
- 10 Measure before and after. Two stopwatch numbers close a ticket credibly

IN ONE SENTENCE

Good client performance is not one magic setting, like `MakeNotesFaster=1`

It comes from keeping the whole client environment clean, simple, current and correctly configured, and from verifying that it stayed that way.

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Questions?



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Serie: 2026 – Ein Jahr im Wandel

Sie fragen. Ihre Domino- Landschaft antwortet.

20. Oktober 2026 | 10am CEST | 5am EDT



Franz Walder
Produktmanager
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2026 – A YEAR OF CHANGE

Thank you



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