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## NiagaraAX Kiosk Mode

Kiosk mode provides a way to run a NiagaraAX application so that it fulfills many of the needs of a stand-alone operator workstation as well as many needs of a touchscreen interface. While Kiosk mode is not limited to touchscreen applications, it does provide advantages that make it well suited for use in a touchscreen application.

**Note:** *With the 2013 Security Upgrades (see NiagaraAX 2013 Security Updates) the Auto Login Password property is added. You must enter a value for this property to use the auto login feature after implementing the 2013 Security Upgrades. If you upgrade and do not specify this password, the login screen appears on startup.*

The following sections describe the Kiosk mode in terms of:

- [Getting started with Kiosk Mode](#)
- [Types of Kiosk mode features](#)
- [Types of Kiosk Service properties](#)

## Getting started with Kiosk Mode

In order to run a station in Kiosk Mode, you need to add the Kiosk Service to the station and then restart the station in from the Console (Niagara Command Line). There are various ways to do this. The following procedure describes one way.

### Running a station in Kiosk Mode

To run a station in Kiosk Mode, do the following:

Step 1 From WorkbenchAX, save your current station (config.bog) and stop the station if it is running.

Step 2 In the nav tree, under the config.bog **Services** node add the KioskService to your station:

**MyHost > My File System > Sys Home > Stations > YourStationName > Config.bog > Services**

**Note:** *The KioskService is in the “workbench” palette.*

Step 3 Double-click on the newly added KioskService component, set the Enabled property to `true`, then click the **Save** button.

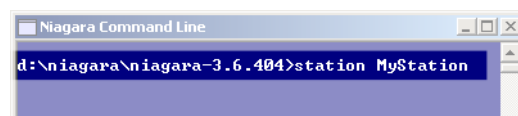
Step 4 Start the station console from a Windows® shortcut or from a command line:

- **start > Current Niagara Installation Directory > Console**



- `C:\Niagara\Niagar-3.x\bin\console.exe`

Step 5 From the console (**Niagara Command Line**) window, type: `station <your station name>`.




The station starts in Kiosk Mode.

**Note:** *To stop the station, type quit from the console window.*

## Types of Kiosk mode features

Kiosk mode features include:

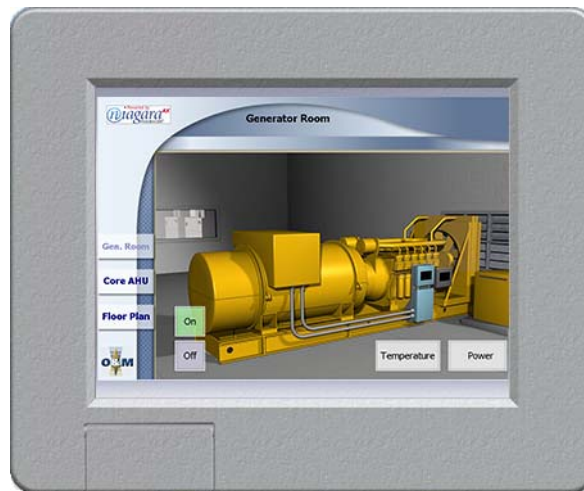
- **Kiosk service**  
The KioskService component  is located in the workbench palette. To set a station to Kiosk mode, add the service to the station's "Services" folder (Config > Services), set the enabled property to "true" and restart the station from the console (**Niagara Command Line**) window. Refer to ["Getting started with Kiosk Mode"](#) and ["Types of Kiosk Service properties"](#) for details.
- **Kiosk Login**  
When the KioskService component is added to a station and the station is restarted from the console window, a full-screen Kiosk workbench opens and displays a login page, as shown below:

**Figure 5-1** Example Kiosk login screen "Splash" page



If the login is unsuccessful, a "Login Unsuccessful" message appears for 10 seconds, and then goes away. If the login is successful, then a full screen workbench displays, as shown below:

**Figure 5-2** Touchscreen Application Using Kiosk Mode



When logging in:

- The Kiosk workbench profile is determined by the user's Kiosk Profile
- The Kiosk user is automatically logged into the local station through a Fox connection
- The Kiosk user's home page displays initially

On logout the splash screen is displayed.

- **Limited access to host platform**  
The Kiosk service runs a workbench in the local station. This means that workbench can potentially be used to access the components in the local VM without security restrictions. To prevent this, normal access is done through a standard fox session. Any local ORDs that are not accessed through a fox session are not available in a kiosk workbench. In addition, the following conditions apply to Kiosk mode:

- The nav tree does not show any local nodes that are not under a fox session. This includes the "My Modules", "My File System", "Station", and "History" nodes.
- Hyperlinking to an ORD that is not under a fox session displays an Unresolved Exception message. The "Details" message displays "Local access denied in kiosk mode".
- Since multiple users might be sharing the same machine to login, kiosk mode does not save or use cached credentials.
- **Kiosk profiles**  
Kiosk profiles work like Web profiles work with the WebService. The UserService "User Manager" (default view) has a "Kiosk Profile" property that you can configure in the Edit dialog box.

**Figure 5-3** Kiosk Profile property options



Preconfigured profiles, such as the following, are available:

- **Basic Kiosk Profile**  
This profile is designed for normal operators to use a workbench in kiosk mode. It displays a read-only locator bar as a "bread crumb trail" and provides Back, Forward, and Logoff buttons. This profile disables:
  - all side bars
  - the entire menu
  - the entire toolbar
  - all non-admin views
- **Default Kiosk Profile**  
This is the default workbench profile used in Kiosk mode. It supports all the features of a normal desktop workbench profile except for:
  - **File>Close** command
  - **File>Exit** command
  - **Tools>Credentials Manager**
- **Handheld Kiosk Profile**  
This profile provides a reduced display that is designed to help handheld users view and navigate the application.
- **Kiosk splash screen**  
The kiosk splash screen can be configured in two ways:
  - *For developers*  
The public javax.baja.workbench.kiosk.BKioskSplash API is available to create "pluggable" kiosk splash screens. This mechanism is intended for appliance developers.
  - **DefaultKioskSplash**  
If using the DefaultKioskSplash, then you can use the "Splash Image" property for changing the image that displays on the default splash screen.
- **Alternative navigation**  
Instead of using the "pathbar", Kiosk mode users have forward, back, and logoff buttons available directly on the screen. The pathbar displays as location information, not as a control.
- **Auto Logoff**  
The KioskService has an Auto Logoff feature that works like the standard workbench feature that is configured in General Options and Web Profile Auto Logoff properties. In these cases, if Auto Logoff is enabled and there is no user activity after the configured period, then the Kiosk workbench is automatically logged off and returns to the splash screen.
- **Auto Login**  
If the Kiosk Service Auto Login Username is set to a valid username, then on startup, the Kiosk splash screen is skipped and the specified user is automatically logged in using that user's:
  - kiosk profile
  - permissions
  - nav file

**Note:** In Auto Login mode, the "Logoff" command is disabled.

When hyperlinking to a new station in Kiosk mode, workbench automatically tries to log into the station using the original credentials that were entered on the splash screen. For example if user logs in as "guest" on splash, then hyperlinks to "ip:foobar|fox:" Workbench automatically tries to log in to "foobar" using "guest". If the auto-login fails then the normal challenge is displayed.

## Types of Kiosk Service properties

- **Status**  
This display-only property gives an indication of the status of the Kiosk service.
- **Fault Cause**  
This display-only property indicates what type of error is causing a fault.
- **Enabled**  
This property allows you to select "true" or "false" to enable or disable the service, respectively.
- **Splash**  
This property provides two options that allow you to choose from any pre-designed splash screens that you have developed. Splash screens are grouped by application (appliance) and groups are selected using the first property (default is "workbench"). The second property allows you to select a splash screen from those that are available in the selected group.
- **Splash Image**  
This property allows you to designate an image to display in your splash screen when you are using the `DefaultKioskSplash` option.
- **Splash Fill**  
This property provides options for adding an image or colors to your splash screen background area (fill).
- **Auto Login Username**  
This is the username that is used for any "auto" login attempt.
- **Auto Login Password (added with 2013 Security Upgrades)**  
This is the password that is used for any "auto" login attempt. See also, [Note](#) on page 1.
- **Auto Logoff Enabled**  
This field allows you to enable or disable the Auto Logoff feature by selecting "true" or "false", respectively.
- **Auto Logoff Period**  
This field allows you to set, in hours, minutes, and seconds, the desired "inactive" period before a user is logged off automatically. The time is valid only when the Auto Logoff Enabled property is set to "true".

## Document change log

Updates (changes/additions) to this *Engineering Note: NiagaraAX Kiosk Mode* document are listed below.

- Updated: May 23, 2013  
Added **Auto Login Password** property and note about using it. See: [Types of Kiosk Service properties](#) and edited [Types of Kiosk mode features](#) section.
- Updated: October 25, 2011  
Added section: [Getting started with Kiosk Mode](#) and edited [Types of Kiosk mode features](#) section.
- Publication: December 3, 2007  
Initial publication.