



Netfabb Application Server

Documentation, November 2019

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1. Overview and Architecture

Primer

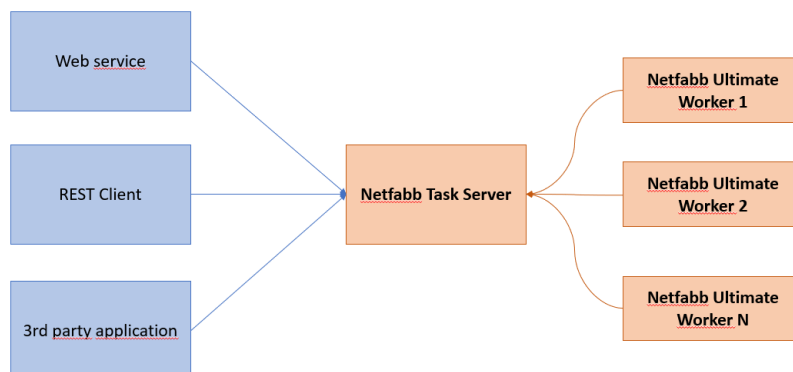
Netfabb Application Server is an Open Source project. Its homepage is here:

<https://github.com/Autodesk/NetfabbApplicationServer>

The software is a Server tool for Netfabb Desktop software, that allows an easy task scheduling and distributed automated data processing. Netfabb Application Server also serves as a reference implementation to demonstrate the capabilities of Netfabb's integrated network APIs.

Task Handler











The task handler part of the application server acts as a message handler that queues task requests from various clients, queues them in an internal database and dispatches them to running netfabb Ultimate instances that can handle the tasks via LUA script and post the results to the clients.



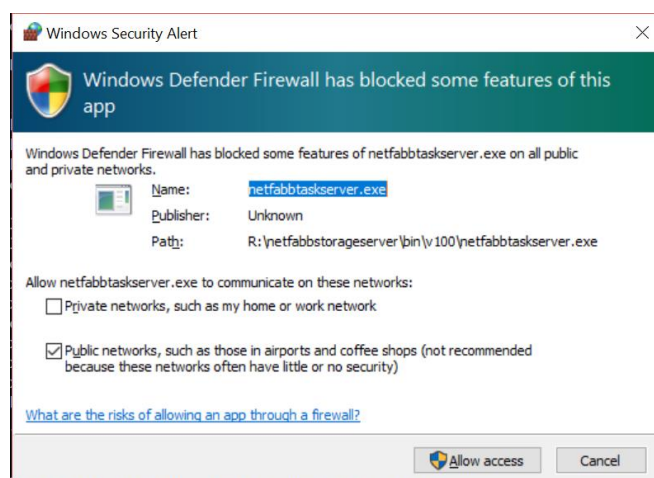
The current implementation is a minimal example implementation and will get further refinements in the future.

2. Installation

The current installation package is very lightweight and comes with a SQLite database.

	data	23.11.2018 09:40	File folder	
	Documentation	23.11.2018 09:40	File folder	
	Examples	23.11.2018 09:40	File folder	
	logs	23.11.2018 09:40	File folder	
	example.crt	20.11.2018 14:23	Security Certificate	2 KB
	example.key	20.11.2018 14:23	KEY File	2 KB
	netfabbapplicationserver.db	23.11.2018 07:14	Data Base File	178 KB
	NetfabbApplicationServer.exe	23.11.2018 02:11	Application	13.653 KB
	netfabbapplicationserver.xml	22.11.2018 13:10	XML Document	1 KB
	setup_firewall_rules.bat	22.11.2018 13:10	Windows Batch File	2 KB

The application server is a command line daemon that will open a REST endpoint, by default at port 8650.



Logs are written in a SQLite database format into the logs directory. We recommend an application like “DB Browser for SQLite” (<http://sqlitebrowser.org/>) for accessing the log files.

Please note, that the default installation location under “Program Files” is not the best place for this server program, as you might not have the permissions on your system to write data under this directory. Also, you need administrator permissions on your system to start the program.




3. Configuration

The application server comes with a minimal XML configuration file:

```
<!--  
  Netfabb Application Server  
-->  
<config xmlns="http://schemas.autodesk.com/netfabb/applicationserver/2018/11">  
  <server host="127.0.0.1" port="8650" />  
  <log prefix="./logs/log_" />  
  <data directory="./data/" />  
  <database type="sqlite" filename="netfabbapplicationserver.db" />  
  <https type="tls" certificate="example.crt" privatekey="example.key" />  
  <authentication type="passphrase" sessionduration="36000">  
    <global passphrase="admin" salt="" />  
    <nameduser id="GSM8MPQXTZDA" passphrase="b727bc64862e65e24b4a86c5bd1826cd738e167d"  
salt="X1234" />  
  </authentication>  
</config>
```

The settings here allow to specify:

Setting	Default / Notes
server host	the servers IP address (default: 127.0.0.1)
port	TCP port (default 8650)
log prefix	a prefix for the log files and path
data directory	a directory for all data files
database type	the database type (currently only SQLite)
filename	the DB file
https type	Enabling of SSL: "http type='tls'" – otherwise leave the field empty
certificate	The path to your certificate
privatekey	The path to your key file
authentication type	
sessionduration	Duration until session timeout
global passphrase	A global shared secret
salt	If the salt is empty, the password is transferred in clear, otherwise a sha1 sum, which is calculated by (sha1 (sha1(salt)+cleartext-password))
nameduser	Named user allow a rudimentary user management to separate them out, not

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	knowing the main passphrase. Generally, there are no different access permissions yet, all is allowed for everyone authenticated
--	--

Please note, that when used the salted password must be entered into the config, on server side and into the Netfabb client side in the settings:



To ease this process the installation come with a small “PasswordSalter.exe” utility program. This program is an easy to use command line program with the following parameters:

Parameter	Explanation
--help	Shows syntax help
-p password	Password to be salted
-s salt	Input Salt (generated if not provided)

4. API Documentation for the Task Handler

General Request Structure

Every request is a simple REST call to a HTTP Endpoint running on the specific application server IP and port. At this stage all requests are either a GET request or a POST request with a specific JSON body with at least two values:

- **protocol:** Protocol schema string. Identifier for the request protocol type. Currently all protocols are of the form "com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.*"
- **version:** Protocol version string. This is a protocol version string that is currently unique across all requests and responses that a application server will take. In the future this might be split up to a per request versioning.

The return value is always a JSON object containing the above two string fields protocol and version. In case of a processing error, the protocol will be set to "com.autodesk.error", and two more string fields are added:

- **errormessage:** A plain text error string describing the issue.
- **loguuid:** A unique identifier that allows to reconstruct the log of the request file in the log database of the application server.

Authentication headers are not supported yet in the protocol.

Example error response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.error",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "errormessage": "Could not find job: ee66d549-aaac-4200-b5ba-15d7ff0c225c",
  "loguuid": "7386c87b-7eae-48f9-b9c9-c5daeb91d606"
}
```

New Session Request

For getting a new session a POST request has to be send to the "session/new" end point.

Endpoint	/session/new
Method	POST
Protocol Schema	com.autodesk.netfabbsession.new
Body definition	- userid: userid set in the config of the server
Return values	- sessionuuid: Unique identifier string for identifying the session the worker is working on

Example request:



```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "userid": "test"
}
```

Example response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "authtype": "saltedhash",
  "userid": "test",
  "salt": "563d2c466abdc3dc0328ca26b938ab03691be96"
}
```

Session authenticate Request

In order to use the new session created it has to be authenticated via the “session/auth” endpoint.

Endpoint	/session/auth
Method	POST
Protocol Schema	com.autodesk.netfabbsession.auth
Body definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- authtype: Has to be “saltedhash”- sessionuuid: The session uuid retrieved with the new session request- authkey: The authkey is calculated as followed: sha1(NETFABB\$sessionuuid\$saltedpassphrase) where the \$sessionuuid is the session UUID retrieved in the new session request and the \$saltedpassphrase is the passphrase of the user saved in the config
Return values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- token: Session token to be used with further requests

Example request:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.auth",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "authtype": "saltedhash",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "authkey": "18863ac2a57212d24c0e61acd486ebe00b3ba754"
}
```

Example response:


```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.auth",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "token": "eyJzZXNzaW9uIjoizjQwNmJiNjYtYTFiMS00OGY1LTkZGQtdMDNjZjk4ZTQzNTcxIiwidXNlcmlkIjoiaGVzdCJ9"
}
```

New Task Request

Creating a task needs a POST request to the corresponding “new task” end point.

Endpoint	/tasks/new
Method	POST
Protocol Schema	com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.new
Authentication	Bearer sessiontoken
Body definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - name: Task identifier string. The Workers will poll for this name to run the correct worker script. - parameters: Key value pairs of arbitrary string parameters that determine the payload of the task description.
Return values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uuid: Unique identifier string for identifying the task and polling the result information.

Example request:

POST ▾	http://localhost:8651/tasks/new	Params
--------	---------------------------------	--------

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "name": "slicestl",
  "parameters": {
    "inputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Downloads/STL Examples/STL Examples/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.stl",
    "outputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Desktop/slices/task/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.zip"
  }
}
```

Example response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "uuid": "ee66d549-aaac-4200-b5ba-15d75f0c225c"
}
```

Get Task Status Request

Retrieving the task status needs a GET request to the corresponding “task status” end point.

Endpoint	/tasks/<uuid>
Method	GET
Protocol Schema	com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.status
Authentication	Bearer sessiontoken
Body definition	n/a
Return values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uuid: Unique identifier string for identifying the task and polling the result information. - status: Current task status. Valid values are “NEW”, “INPROCESS”, “SUCCESS”, “ERROR”, “CANCELED”, “RETURNED” - name: Task identifier string. The Workers will poll for this name to run the correct worker script. - parameters: Key/Value pairs of arbitrary string parameters that determine the payload of the task description. - results: Key/Value pairs of arbitrary string results that give output information of the processes. - worker: Name of the worker instance that has processed the task - timestamp: Unix timestamp when the task was created.

Example request:

GET ▾	http://localhost:8651/tasks/2cbf08e4-3765-4ca5-8bc4-8e59f563377a	Params
-------	--	--------

Example response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.status",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "uuid": "ee66d549-aaac-4200-b5ba-15d75f0c225c",
  "status": "NEW",
  "name": "slicestl",
  "parameters": {
    "inputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Downloads/STL Examples/STL Examples/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.stl",
    "outputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Desktop/slices/task/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.zip"
  },
  "result": null,
  "worker": "",
  "timestamp": "2019-02-08T11:10:43+01:00"
}
```

Authentication and task creation example using Postman

1. Create a session:

**POST :**

<http://localhost:8650/session/new>

Request:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "userid": "test"
}
```

Response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "authtype": "saltedhash",
  "userid": "test",
  "salt": "563d2c466abdc3dc0328ca26b938ab03691be96"
}
```

The sessionuuid is to be used in the next request.

2. Authenticate the session**Example request:**

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.auth",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "authtype": "saltedhash",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "authkey": "18863ac2a57212d24c0e61acd486ebe00b3ba754"
}
```

Auth key: SHA1(NETFABB88660803-7283-45f1-aa9c-227be74d6503admin)

i.e. take SHA1 of string NETFABB`sessionuid`admin

Example response:

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbsession.auth",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "sessionuuid": "f406bb66-a1b1-48f5-8ddd-03cf98e43571",
  "token": "eyJzZXNzaW9uIjoizjQwNmJiYtYTFiMS00OGY1LTlkZGQtMDNjZjk4ZTQzNTcxIiwidXNlcmkIjoiaGVzdCJ9"
}
```

The token is to be used next as Bearer Token

3. Create the Task

**POST :**<http://localhost:8650/tasks/new>**Request:**

```
{
  "protocol": "com.autodesk.netfabbtasks.new",
  "version": "2.0.0",
  "name": "slicestl",
  "parameters": {
    "inputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Downloads/STL Examples/STL Examples/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.stl",
    "outputSTL": "C:/Users/Joy/Desktop/slices/task/100017U0_PositiveShelled_repaired.zip"
  }
}
```

[More examples](#)

Look into:

- for a full 3-step workflow (create, handle and query task) demonstration see the “TaskHandlerClientDemo.lua” example in the Netfabb Ultimate Lua script library



5. Example: Direct SQLite Project injection

(Example for creating a project with one mesh and two instances of this mesh).

Let's assume we have a fixed predefined folder **FOLDERUUID** "3eb2b24d-534d-4c50-942b-a17aab1b4bfe" and want to create a new project in it.

Create the Project Entry

1. For the new project, we define a name and generate a new guid **ITEMUUID** (here "f2ba8807-e5d5-4ee4-b71f-561bcc8eace6"). Let's call this project "project1"
2. Create a entry into the netstorage_items table with uuid=ITEMUUID, folderuuid=FOLDERUUID, itemname="project1.netfabbonline", active=1:

```
INSERT INTO netstorage_items (uuid, folderuuid, itemname, active) VALUES
  ("f2ba8807-e5d5-4ee4-b71f-561bcc8eace6",
   "3eb2b24d-534d-4c50-942b-a17aab1b4bfe",
   "testProject.netfabbonline",
   1
  )
```

Create the Mesh data

1. Convert an STL to an NCM (here: box.ncm) and generate a new guid **MESHDATAUUID** (here c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328). Copy the ncm file to data/**MESHDATAUUID**.dat
2. Create a Entry into the netstorage_entities table with uuid=**MESHDATAUUID**, itemuuid=**ITEMUUID**, datatype="ngm" and the sha1 sum and filesize of the file.
The field metadata must be a JSON string containing the UUID again:
{ "uuid": "c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328" }
The field timestamp should be a timestamp formatted according to RFC3339, (for example "2019-11-06T03:56:48+01:00")

```
INSERT INTO netstorage_entities (uuid, itemuuid, datatype, sha1, filesize, metadata, timestamp) VALUES
  ("c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328",
   "f2ba8807-e5d5-4ee4-b71f-561bcc8eace6",
   "ngm",
   "DFE9C2DC90ECE18D29D7382A32B89E212005CEDA",
   344,
   '{ "uuid": "c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328" }',
   "2019-11-06T03:56:48+01:00"
  )
```

Prepare the Project data



1. In order to make the example more interesting, we want to create two instances of the mesh data above, and for this we are generating two new guids **MESHUID1** (here “9e27cfe8-2839-4470-8d90-d239e34f5ff0”) and **MESHUID2** (here “0abf7b0d-4da9-4a28-bf27-b29c68ccdfb0”)
2. Generate a Project XML according to the general schema, with two instances of the mesh, referring to the same dataguid **MESHDATAUID**, while having distinct guid elements. The matrices specify the relative translation of the instances to the original mesh data space. In our example, the second box is moved by a vector of (220, 50, 0) against the first box.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<fabbproject xmlns="http://schemas.autodesk.com/dmg/fabbproject/2017/11">
  <meshtrees>
    <tree>
      <root>
        <mesh>
          <dataguid>c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328</dataguid>
          <name>Mesh Instance 1</name>
          <guid>9e27cfe8-2839-4470-8d90-d239e34f5ff0</guid>
          <matrix>1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1</matrix>
          <selected>0</selected>
          <color>16744448</color>
          <visible>1</visible>
        </mesh>
        <mesh>
          <dataguid>c45f76b8-a23a-4cf7-aafa-3837ee028328</dataguid>
          <name>Mesh Instance 2</name>
          <guid>0abf7b0d-4da9-4a28-bf27-b29c68ccdfb0</guid>
          <matrix>1 0 0 220 0 1 0 50 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1</matrix>
          <selected>0</selected>
          <color>16744448</color>
          <visible>1</visible>
        </mesh>
      </root>
      <nobuildzones></nobuildzones>
      <isactive>1</isactive>
    </tree>
  </meshtrees>
```

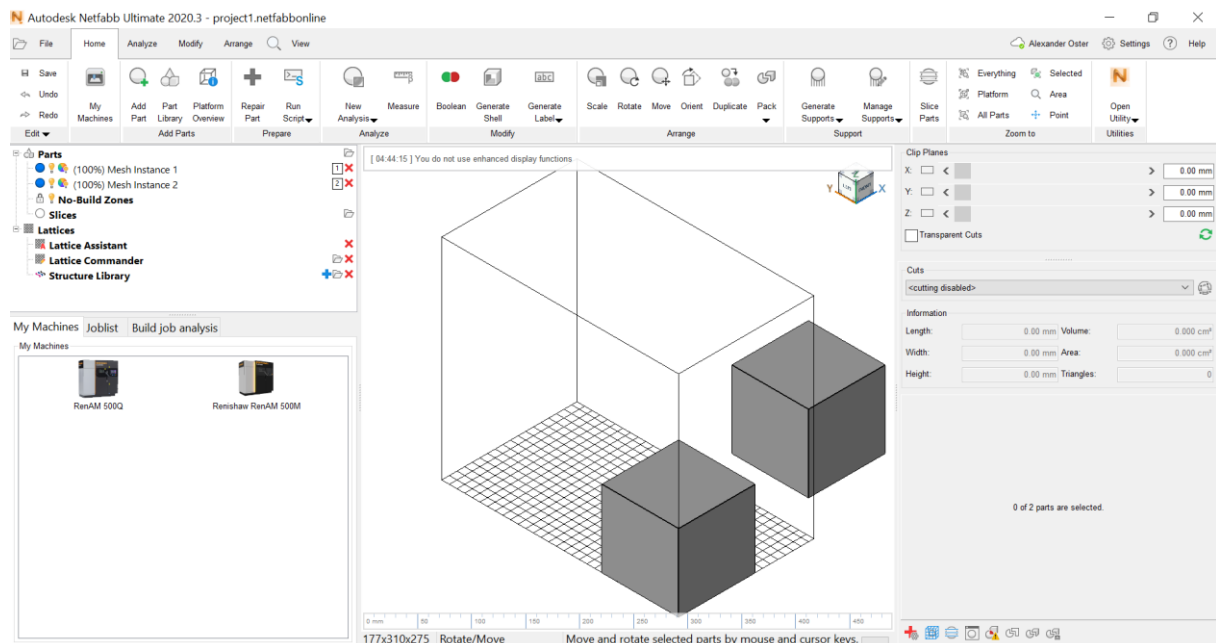
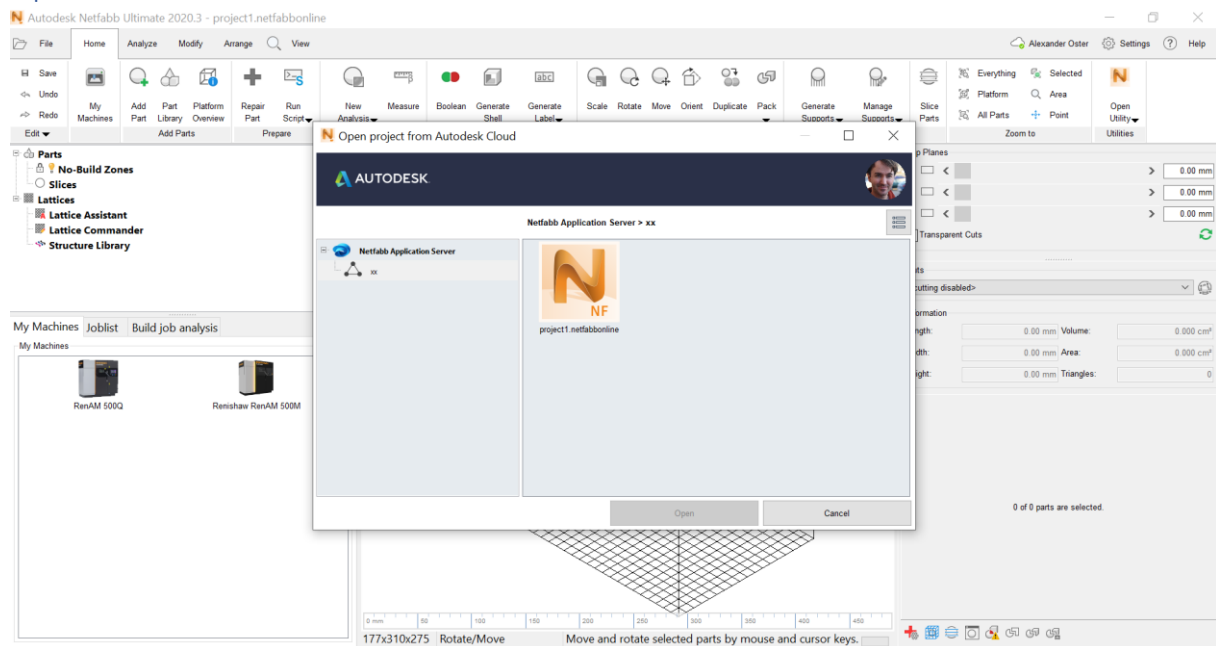
3. Generate a new guid **PROJECTDATAUID** (here d8708ddc-475f-4954-83ea-865d816cfe1f) and write the Project XML to data/ **PROJECTDATAUID.dat**.
4. Create a Entry into the netstorage_entities table with uuid= **PROJECTDATAUID**, itemuuid=**ITEMUID**, datatype="state" and the sha1 sum and filesize of the XML file. The field metadata must be a JSON string containing two fields
 - "xmlversion": an increasing version number of this state (here "1")
 - "timestamp": the current date in "days since 1900" (can be a float value, here 43772.5)


The field timestamp should be a timestamp formatted according to RFC3339, (for example "2019-11-06T03:56:48+01:00")



```
INSERT INTO netstorage_entities (uuid, itemuuid, datatype, sha1, filesize, metadata, timestamp) VALUES  
(  
  "d8708ddc-475f-4954-83ea-865d816cfe1f",  
  "f2ba8807-e5d5-4ee4-b71f-561bcc8eace6",  
  "state",  
  "035D17BE50D70FD8B56B0EBB1F64242C",  
  1091,  
  '{ "xmlversion": 1, "timestamp": 43772.5}',  
  "2019-11-06T03:56:48+01:00"  
)
```

Open in Netfabb



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Note

Sometimes it is helpful to delete everything in %AppData%\Roaming\netfabb\NetCache, when testing out things.

6. Outlook

Here are some potential extensions for the future:

- More authentication options.
- Automatic retry handling of task timeouts, i.e. in case of a disappearing worker a task will remain INPROCESS without being reclaimed by another worker.
- Client authorization (every client can currently submit jobs, once a job is submitted, it is protected by a non-guessable secret).
- Windows System Service: The current database server is a command line utility which is not embedded in the windows service framework.
- Server configuration and discovery: The application server could be configurable by a proper configuration system.