

NATIVE CLIENT

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1 Introduction

Native Client is a browser plug-in that lets websites execute compiled, native C and C++ code. The browser plugin which is common with Googles chrome browser was developed using Native Client (NaCl) an open-source technology which runs native compiled code in the browser at near-native speeds. The open source technology gained the trust and popular vote of programmers for its much needed attributes of maintaining the portability and safety that users expect from web applications. Native Client comes in two flavors: traditional (NaCl) and portable (PNaCl). Traditional, which must be distributed through the Chrome Web Store lets you target a specific hardware platform while portable can run on the open web.

Having introduced what native client is, one may still wonder how it really works. Well, a bitcode file is downloaded to a client computer and converted to hardware-specific code before any execution. Over time, the technology has been made more user friendly hence the increase in the number of users as well as native client products namely; and a number of products have

Among the notable benefits of Native Client are; It gives web applications some advantages of desktop software. Specifically, it provides the means to fully harness the clients computational resources for applications such as expanding web programming beyond JavaScript, enabling programmers to enhance web applications using their preferred language. A Native Client web application basically consists of JavaScript, HTML, CSS, and a NaCl module written in a language supported by the SDK. It also gives C and C++ (and other languages targeting it) the same level of portability and safety as JavaScript.