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Ecco la traduzione completa e professionale del manuale ¹:

User Manual and Scopes of Use for ntJobApp

Version 20251226 ²

1. Introduction and Purpose

An **ntJobApp** is an application designed to operate in **batch mode** ³. The architecture utilizes the `ncJobApp` class and the `jData` instance to orchestrate these batch micro-applications ⁴. The version generated via AI uses the `acJobsOS` class and the `aiSys` function file ⁵.

The purpose of an ntJobApp is threefold ⁶:

- Read an `.ini` file passed as a parameter (usually named `ntjobs.ini`) ⁷.
- Execute one or more commands requested by the caller ⁸.
- Return a result `.ini` file. The output `.ini` file will be renamed with the `.end` extension ⁹.

ntJobApps are built to be orchestrated by **ntJobsOS**, but they can also function autonomously ¹⁰.

2. Execution Logic for the Executor

The execution of an ntJobApp follows a standard sequential logic ¹¹:

1. **Instance Creation:** The `ncJobApp` instance is created in the `jData` global variable ¹².

2. **Startup (Start()):** `self.Start()` is executed, which reads the `.ini` file passed as a parameter (or creates it) and saves it in `self.dictJobs`¹³. If `sResult` (the operation result) is not empty, the application exits with **errorlevel 1**¹⁴.
3. **Execution (Run()):** `self.Run()` is executed, running each individual job defined in `self.dictJobs` in sequence¹⁵.
4. **Finalization (End()):** `self.End(sResult)` is executed¹⁶.

3. Execution Instructions

To execute an `ntJobApp`, the application must be started by passing the **full path** of the `.ini` configuration file as the first parameter¹⁷.

3.1. The Input File (.ini)

The `.ini` file must contain at least the `[CONFIG]` section and one or more **job** sections¹⁸.

Example ntjobsapp.ini file:¹⁹

Ini, TOML

```
[CONFIG]
TYPE=NTJOBS.APP.1.0
EXIT=TRUE ; If "TRUE", the app exits if a job fails.
LOG="FILE.LOG" ; Optional Log file name.
NAME=APP_ID
```

```
[JOB1_ID]
ACTION=ACTION_NAME
FILE.ID1=PathFile1
PARAM.ID1=Value
```

Crucial Validations in Start():

- **CONFIG Section:** Must be present in the dictionary loaded into `self.dictJobs`, otherwise the app exits with the error "CONFIG section not found"²⁰.
- **COMMAND Key:** Every job section (except CONFIG) must have a `COMMAND` key (or `ACTION` in the example); otherwise, the error is appended to `sResult`²¹.

- **File Verification:** If there are keys starting with `FILE.`, the application verifies that the file exists²². If a file does not exist, the error is appended to `sResult`, but execution is **not** interrupted at this stage²³.

3.2. The Output File (.end)

At the end of execution, the `End(sResult)` method saves the content of `self.dictJobs` as an `.ini` file at the path `self.sJobEnd`²⁴. `self.sJobEnd` is the name of `self.sJobIni` with the extension changed to `.end`²⁵.

The `.end` file will contain the results of each job, including²⁶:

- `RETURN.TYPE` (e.g., `E=Error`, `""=OK`)²⁷.
- `RETURN.VALUE` (Optional return message)²⁸.
- `TS.START` and `TS.END` (Start and end timestamps)²⁹.
- Keys with the prefix `FILE.RETURN.` (references to files generated by the job)³⁰.

3.3. Result Codes (Errorlevel)

The `ntJobApp` returns a result code (errorlevel) indicating the final status³¹:

Code	Description	Meaning
0	All Good	The application finished correctly; all jobs were executed. ³²
1	Failed to reach job execution	Critical error during the startup phase (<code>Start()</code>); the <code>.end</code> file is not generated. ³³

2	One or more jobs failed	One or more jobs within the .ini file ended with an error. ³⁴
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4. Scopes of Use and Advantages vs. Web Automation

The ntJobApp architecture is specifically designed for **batch** automation processes and offers significant advantages over solutions requiring graphical interaction (like clicks and waits on a website)³⁵.

Typical ntJobApp Use Cases	Key Advantages vs. Web Automation (GUI)
Asynchronous Processes: Complex or massive processing, such as nightly report generation, that should not block the user. ³⁶	Efficiency and Speed: As a backend process, it has no graphical overhead and doesn't require waiting for page rendering or human interaction. ³⁷
Data Integration: Massive file movement, conversion, or processing (e.g., FTP to a database) working "under the hood." ³⁸	Robustness and Reliability: Not subject to errors from UI changes (like a button changing ID) or network timeouts during page loads. ³⁹
Structured Orchestration: Calling different applications sequentially, where results/files from one action are inputs for the next. ⁴⁰	Standardized Traceability: The .ini input and .end output ensure a uniform, readable status format for the caller. ⁴¹

Scheduling: Executing automatic tasks at predefined times (e.g., Cron or Task Scheduler). ⁴²	Ease of Automation: Command-line execution makes it ideal for any job scheduler . ⁴³
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Special Features of NTJOBSAPP and NTJOBSOS

An NTJOBSAPP must be simple, portable, and focused on automation and asynchronous communication⁴⁴.

- **Similarities with Docker:** Like a Docker image composition using YAML files to tell the composer what to do in sequence, ntJobApp uses .ini files⁴⁵.
- **Similarities with Microservices:** Applications are broken down into autonomous, reusable modules⁴⁶. An ntJobsApp is composed of modules ("commands") independently callable by the user⁴⁷.
- **Sustainability:** The core paradigm is sustainability, which involves trade-offs like the absence of a WEB interface⁴⁸. The user interface uses "simple" channels and execution is asynchronous⁴⁹.

IT Structure

- **Portability:** ntJobsApp and ntJobsOS must be easily movable and low-cost to maintain⁵⁰. They require a Python X64 portable environment⁵¹.
- **Simplicity:** No mandatory underlying databases or web server installations are used⁵². Configuration is handled via .csv and .ini files⁵³.
- **Components:**
 - aiSys.py or nlSys.py: Generic function/class library⁵⁴.
 - acJobsApp.py or ncJobsApp.py: Interface and management class⁵⁵.
 - Start function for initialization and cbCommands() callback for executing commands⁵⁶.

Polling Events (Similarities with IBM MQ / Apache NiFi)

In this mode:

1. The user/app deposits a file in an input folder⁵⁷.
2. A daemon/service checks the folder regularly⁵⁸.
3. New files are validated, moved to a work folder, and the job is enqueued/executed⁵⁹.
4. The worker executes the guided flow (e.g., host program calls, scripts)⁶⁰.
5. Results are output to a folder or MQ⁶¹.

This pattern is currently being tested for integration with **Apache NiFi**⁶².

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