

Native Client Interface Architecture (NCIA)

Definition

System Network Architecture (SNA) applications-access architecture, developed by Cisco, that combines the full functionality of native SNA interfaces at both the host and the client with the flexibility of leveraging TCP/IP backbones. NCIA encapsulates SNA traffic on a client PC or workstation, thereby providing direct TCP/IP access while preserving the native SNA interface at the end-user level. In many networks, this capability obviates the need for a standalone gateway and can provide flexible TCP/IP access while preserving the native SNA interface to the host.

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