Map Extraction

This chapter covers the following topics:

- General Information
- Using Natural for Ajax Tools
- Using the Mass Function
- Location of the Files

General Information

The Map Extractor is the first tool that is used in the process of converting a map-based application to a Natural for Ajax application. It analyzes the code of a Natural map and creates from each map a file that contains information about the map, the so-called "map extract file".

The map extract files have the extension *.njx* and are not human-readable. They are intended as input for the second step of the process, the map conversion.

The Map Extractor is used only to process character maps. GUI elements contained in maps are not extracted.

Using Natural for Ajax Tools

The map extract files can be created using Natural for Ajax Tools, which is an optional plug-in for Natural Studio. See *Using the Map Extractor* in the *Natural Studio Extensions* documentation which is provided for Natural for Windows.

Using the Mass Function

For mass processing of maps, the Natural program `MAP2NJX` is provided. The program is delivered in the plug-in library `SYSPLNJX`.

`MAP2NJX` is working only on the local environment. It is called in the following way:

```
MAP2NJX library-name map-name
```

In the parameter *map-name*, the asterisk (*) notation can be used.

Location of the Files

The location of the map extract files depends on the settings in the configuration file *ConfigNJXPLG.dat* (see *Configuring the Servers* in the *Natural Studio Extensions* documentation which is provided for Natural for Windows).

If an application server and a Natural Web I/O Interface server has been specified for the active environment, *and* if a file-system path to the application server environment has been specified, *and* if an Application Designer project has been created for the current library, *and* if this Application Designer project contains a *nat* subdirectory, then the Map Extractor writes the resulting map extract files to the *nat* subdirectory of this Application Designer project.

If the above information is not available for the active environment, the Map Extractor stores the files as follows:

- If the active environment is the local environment, the files are stored in the *res* subdirectory of the current library.

- If the active environment is a remote environment, the extraction fails.

The names of the map extract files are derived from the map names (for example, MYMAP.NSM results in MYMAP.NJX).

If the function is applied to several maps and the extraction fails for some of them, a log is displayed and is stored at the location described below:

- If the above path information is available and valid, the log file is written to the *nat* subdirectory of the corresponding Application Designer project.

- If the above path information is available, but not valid, the log file is written to the *res* subdirectory of the user's library in the local environment.

- If the above path information is not available and the active environment is a remote environment, the log file is written to the *res* subdirectory of the user's library in the local environment.

- If the above path information is not available and the active environment is the local environment, the log file is written to the *res* subdirectory of the current library.