ID104: Best Practices for Upgrading IBM Notes® and Domino® to 9.0.x

John Paganetti, Senior Software Engineer IBM Notes & Domino Development
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Abstract

- Why release 9.0.x? Get a head start on your upgrade plans by listening to the development team share their experiences upgrading IBM Notes Clients and Domino Servers to Release 9.0.x in their production domains. We'll cover general recommended best practices and also discuss enablement of some of the new exciting features in release 9.0.x that you'll want to take advantage of right away. We'll riddle the presentation with FAQs about upgrading, new features and lessons learned with release 9.0.x. You'll walk away with information helping you expedite your own 9.0.x production deployment.
Lotusphere/Connect Presentations

- 2008 - ID108 Best Practices for Deploying IBM Lotus Notes® & Domino® 8
- 2010 - ID615 Best Practices for Upgrading IBM Lotus Notes® and Domino® Servers to 8.5.1
- 2011 - ID102 Best Practices for Upgrading IBM Lotus Notes® and Domino® Servers to 8.5.x - Real World Analysis
- 2012 - ID106 Release the Power Again! Best Practices Utilizing New Features in Notes®/Domino® Release 8.5.3
- 2013 - ID107 Deploying IBM Lotus Domino® 9.0 in Your Production Environment

- 2014 - IDxxx Best Practices for Upgrading IBM Notes® and Domino® to 9.0.x
The “Upgrading to IBM Notes and Domino 9.0.x” cookbook is in progress

http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/dominowiki.nsf/dx/UC1_TableofContents.htm
Evaluate what’s new in Notes and Domino 9.0.1

Welcome to the IBM Notes and Domino Wiki

Notes and Domino 9.0.1 documentation

There are great new features to deliver social capabilities, help accelerate business operations, and enhance productivity. Use these links to see what’s new in Notes, as well as iNotes, Traveler, and Domino:

- What’s New in IBM Notes 9.0.1 Social Edition
- What’s New in IBM iNotes 9.0.1 Social Edition
- What’s New in IBM Notes Traveler 9.0.1
- What’s New in IBM Domino 9.0.1 Social Edition
- IBM Notes 9.0.1 Browser Plugin

Evaluate system requirements for 9.0.1

Index of system requirements for Notes, Domino, Domino Administrator, Domino Designer & Notes Traveler

Product documentation

Abstract
This document contains an index listing of detailed system requirements for the following supported releases of IBM Notes, IBM Domino, IBM Domino Administrator, IBM Domino Designer, and IBM Notes Traveler.

Index of system requirements for Notes, Domino, Domino Administrator, Domino Designer & Notes Traveler

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<table>
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<th>Domino Administrator &amp; Domino Designer</th>
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<th>8.5.3</th>
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<td>7.x</td>
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</table>
## Domino 9.0.1 System Requirements

<table>
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<th>By type (High-level)</th>
<th>By platform (Detail)</th>
<th>Related requirements</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>→ Operating Systems</td>
<td>→ AIX</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Software</td>
<td>→ IBM i</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Hardware</td>
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<td></td>
<td>→ Mobile OS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>→ Windows</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

# Domino 9.0.1 System Requirements - Windows®

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Hardware</th>
<th>Bitness</th>
<th>Server</th>
<th>Operating System Minimum</th>
<th>Product Minimum</th>
<th>Notes?</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows Server 2008 R2 Enterprise Edition</td>
<td>x86-64</td>
<td>32, 64-Exploit</td>
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<td>Base</td>
<td>9.0.1 Social Edition</td>
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<td>View</td>
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<td>Windows Server 2008 R2 Standard Edition</td>
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<td>32, 64-Exploit</td>
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<td>Base</td>
<td>9.0.1 Social Edition</td>
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<td>View</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windows Server 2012 Datacenter Edition</td>
<td>x86-64</td>
<td>64-Exploit</td>
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<td>Base</td>
<td>9.0.1 Social Edition</td>
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<td>View</td>
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</table>
General Recommended Best Practice

Upgrade order

- Domino Servers
- Notes Clients
Major Components of a Domino Upgrade

- Upgrading Domino Directory Design
- Upgrading Domino Server Version
- Upgrading Design of Mail Files
- Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design

- Update design on Administration Server of Domino Directory
  – “Refresh design on admin server only”
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design (continued)

- Administration server of Domino Directory
  - “Manager” access in ACL to push ACL and Design changes to other servers
  - “Editor” maximum access for other servers in ACL
  - “Enforce a consistent Access Control List across all replicas”
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design (continued)

- Replacing design of Domino Directory from one major release to another results in design changes for some views causing them to be rebuilt from scratch when first opened.

- Two critical views accessed when a Notes Client or another Domino Server attempts to open a session and thus authenticate with this server are the ($Users) and ($ServerAccess) views.

- Authentication attempts will be blocked from completing until these two views are completely brought up to date potentially resulting in a variety of undesirable end user experiences.
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design (continued)

- You can optionally upgrade the Domino Directory Design to 9.0.1 before upgrading a single Domino Server to 9.0.1 in your Domain
- Retrieve a copy of the Domino Directory 9.0.1 Template PUBNAMES.NTF by installing Domino 9.0.1 on a test machine
- If you customize your Domino Directory Design, inherit all Design Elements from the Domino Directory 9.0.1 Template StdR4PublicAddressBook
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Uncontrolled Rollout Small and Medium Businesses

- Some current notes.ini settings on Domino Server depending on release upgrading from
  - Setup=850300
  - ServerSetup=850300
  - TemplateSetup=850300
  - EventSetup=850300
  - DDMSetup=850300

- At off business hours, upgrade Administration Server of Domino Directory to Release 9.0.1

- Start Administration Server of Domino Directory

- Allow normal course of replication to and from the Administration Server of the Domino Directory to propagate the new design to all other Domino Servers.

- As each successive Domino Server receives the designs changes, the one-time view rebuilds will occur
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Uncontrolled Rollout Small and Medium Businesses (continued)

- Verify `SERVER_UPGRADE_NO_DIRECTORY_REDESIGN=0` or does not exist in notes.ini
- Note current notes.ini settings depending on Domino Release upgrading from
  - Setup=850300
  - ServerSetup=850300
  - TemplateSetup=850300
  - EventSetup=850300
  - DDMSetup=850300

- At off business hours, run Release 9.0.1 Domino Installer on Administration Server of Domino Directory
  - Leave installed templates (.ntf) on server for now
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Uncontrolled Rollout Small and Medium Businesses (continued)

- Start Administration Server of Domino Directory
- One time Server Setup will be executed to upgrade System Database designs

- Monitor following notes.ini values until
  - Setup=900000
  - ServerSetup=900000
  - TemplateSetup=900000
  - EventSetup=900000
  - DDMSetup=900000

- Removing templates (.ntf)? - OK to now quit Domino Server and remove templates
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Uncontrolled Rollout Small and Medium Businesses (continued)

- Allow normal course of replication from Administration Server of the Domino Directory to propagate the new design to all other Domino Servers.

- As each successive Domino Server receives the designs changes, the one-time view rebuilds will occur.

![Server Connection: Demily/Iris to Iris Servers](image1)

- Replication:
  - Replication task: Enabled
  - Replicate databases of: Low & Medium & High priority
  - Replication type: Pull Push
  - Files/Directory paths to replicate: names.nsf; admin4.nsf (all if none specified)

- Scheduled Connection:
  - Schedule: Enabled
  - Connect at times: 12:01 AM - 11:59 PM each day
  - Repeat interval of: 15 minutes
  - Days of week: Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Controlled Rollout Enterprise Businesses

- First, prevent “Design elements” in *names.nsf* from replicating to other Domino Servers until you are ready
- Requires edit to names.nsf on Domino Servers you want to control
  - “File->Replication->Options for the Application”
  - Advanced Tab
- Receive these Elements from other replicas
- Uncheck Design Elements
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Controlled Rollout Enterprise Businesses (continued)

- Following controlled rollout assumes Domino Directory is not encrypted
  - Can still be done if encrypted but with a few more steps
- Starting with Administration Server of the Domino Directory
- Shutdown the Domino Server
- Install Domino Release 9.0.1
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Controlled Rollout Enterprise Businesses (continued)

- Start Administration Server of Domino Directory
- One time Server Setup will be executed to upgrade System Database designs

![Image]

- Monitor following notes.ini values until
  - Setup=900000
  - ServerSetup=900000
  - TemplateSetup=900000
  - EventSetup=900000
  - DDMSsetup=900000

- Quit the Administration Server
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Controlled Rollout Enterprise Businesses (continued)

- Set `CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1` on notes.ini
- Run DBMT process against names.nsf
  - Compacts names.nsf to ODS52
  - Rebuilds existing Views in Domino Directory whose Design has changed
  - `(n)dbmt names.nsf`
- Once DBMT process runs to completion
  - Copy updated Directory off to a network share
- Restart the Domino Server
General Recommended Best Practice
Domino Directory Design – Controlled Rollout Enterprise Businesses (continued)

- Proceed to next Domino Server
- Shutdown the Domino Server
- Install Domino Release 9.0.1
- Optionally `CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1` in notes.ini
- Copy Domino Directory saved off on Network Share to data directory
- Restart the Domino Server
General Recommended Best Practice

Upgrading Design of Mail Files

- Bring Domino Server Mail Server down
- Install Domino Release 9.0.1
- Run CONVERT process to build indirect (.ind) file containing mail file names for users whom this is their home server in person record in Domino Directory
  
(n)convert -l mailfiles.ind

- Make sure all filenames in mailfiles.ind end in .nsf
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Design of Mail Files (continued)

- Run CONVERT processes against (.ind) file to upgrade to mail9.ntf
  - Optionally use -s to override prohibit design replace or refresh on folders
  - Optionally use -u to upgrade all folders with mail9.ntf $InBox design

- Run multiple CONVERT processes at a time for concurrency
  - CONVERT process is single threaded
  - Take mailfiles.ind and break it up into multiple indirect (.ind)
    • (n)convert -s -u -f mailfiles1.ind * mail9.ntf
    • (n)convert -s –u –f mailfiles2.ind * mail9.ntf
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Design of Mail Files (continued)

- Run DBMT against indirect (.ind) file to rebuild all existing Views whose design changed or “critical views” not built yet so they don't get rebuilt on first user access

- e.g. (n)dbmt mailfiles.ind –updallThreads 8 –compactThreads 0
  – Number of updallThreads recommended is number of CPUs

- Restart Domino Server
General Recommended Best Practice
Bringing critical views in mail files up to date on server startup

- Release 9.0
  - Database Maintenance Tool - DBMT
  - Group Usage in Program Records

Program: dbmt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basics</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program name: dbmt</td>
<td>Enabled/disabled: At server startup only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command line: mail -compactThreads 0 -updallThreads 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Server to run on: Iris Domain Mail Servers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments: Bring all mail file views up to date on every server restart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enhancements in IBM Notes/Domino Release 9.0.1

New On-Disk Structure ODS52 is optionally available

- Notes Client or Domino Server must be Release 9.0.1 or greater
- Set `CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1` in `notes.ini`
- New databases or replicas created will be ODS52
- Next copy style compact of existing databases will be ODS52
Issue 1: Medium and Strong Encrypted Databases

- **Problem** – Rare note corruption when updating a note, only occurs with Medium or Strong encrypted databases
  - Has existed since Notes/Domino began using Medium and Strong encryption
  - Not noticed because vast majority of databases have replicas and fixup would discard the corrupted note and next replication the note would come back in just fine

- **Resolution** – Best way to maintain backward compatibility and interoperability was to address with a change to the on-disk-structure (ODS)
  
  but wait there is more…..
Issue 2: Medium Encrypted Databases

- **Problem** – Rare note corruption when updating a note, only occurs with Medium encrypted databases
  - Has existed since Notes/Domino began using Medium encryption
  - Not noticed because vast majority of databases have replicas and fixup would discard the corrupted note and next replication the note would come back in just fine

- **Resolution** – The fix for this issue would affect the vast majority of the data and hence there were security concerns it could potentially weaken the current Medium encryption strength. As a work around, Security team recommends customers go to ODS52 and upgrade existing Medium Encrypted databases to Strong
Caution: Upgrading Medium encrypted to Strong

- NRPC run of Win2008 R2 Server 64-Bit @ 4000 Users, mail9 template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encryption</th>
<th>Encryption</th>
<th>Encryption</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPU Busy %</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Medium to Strong adds ~23% CPU.
Enhancements in IBM Notes/Domino Release 9.0.1
Identify Encrypted databases and Encryption levels

- Administrators may now easily identify which databases are currently encrypted and the encryption level, by setting the following notes.ini variable

  SHOW_ENCRYPTED_DATABASES=

- Utilizes a Bit Mask
  - 1 is “Show Simple”
  - 2 is “Show Medium”
  - 4 is “Show Strong”

- To see all Encrypted Databases
  - Simple, Medium and Strong (1+2+4 = 7)
  - Set SHOW_ENCRYPTED_DATABASES = 7 in notes.ini
enhancements in ibm notes/domino release 9.0.1
identify encrypted databases and encryption levels (continued)

- when encrypted databases are opened for the first time - 0 to 1 transition, one of the following messages will be logged

  “current encryption strength: simple - < absolute file path >”
  “current encryption strength: medium - < absolute file path >”
  “current encryption strength: strong - < absolute file path >”

- note: as long as running release 9.0.1, show_encrypted_databases works for all database ods levels
Enhancements in IBM Notes/Domino Release 9.0.1
Easily upgrade Medium encrypted databases to Strong encryption

- **If you have enough CPU Band Width** to upgrade all existing Medium encrypted databases to Strong encryption, set the following notes.ini variable

  - COMPACT_UPGRADE_MEDIUM_ENCRYPTION_TO_STRONG=1

- Next copy style compaction will additionally upgrade Medium encrypted databases to Strong encryption

- To do this manually
  - Disable Medium encryption
  - Copy style compact
  - Enable Strong encryption
  - Copy style compact
Enhancements in IBM Notes/Domino Release 9.0.1
Upgrade Medium encrypted databases to Strong encryption

- Concerned increased CPU might max out machine capacity?
- Build manageable set of indirect (.ind) files for Medium encrypted databases
  - Identify Medium encrypted utilizing \texttt{SHOW\_ENCRYPTED\_DATABASES=2}
- Bring Domino Server down
- Set \texttt{COMPACT\_UPGRADE\_MEDIUM\_ENCRYPTION\_TO\_STRONG=1} in notes.ini
- Use DBMT process to copy style compact one of the indirect (.ind) files
  - e.g. \texttt{DBMT xxxx.ind –compactThreads 8 –updallThreads 0}
- Set \texttt{COMPACT\_UPGRADE\_MEDIUM\_ENCRYPTION\_TO\_STRONG=0} in notes.ini
- Restart Domino Server
- Monitor CPU utilization for a few days
  - If OK rinse and repeat with next indirect (.ind) file
Enhancements in IBM Notes/Domino Release 9.0.1
Upgrade Medium encrypted databases to Medium Encryption with Fix

- Upgrading from Medium encryption to Strong not an option because of increased CPU?
- Willing to accept New Medium encryption strength may be lessened?
- `CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1` and `ENABLE_MEDIUM_ENCRYPTION_FIX=FFFFFFFB`
- Next copy style compact of existing Medium Encrypted databases will be ODS52 with new Medium Encryption which has fix applied

- `SHOW_ENCRYPTED_DATABASES=2`
  - Legacy Medium encrypted database
    - “Current encryption strength: MEDIUM - `<absolute file path>`”
  - New Medium encrypted database with fix (+)
    - “Current encryption strength: MEDIUM+ - `<absolute file path>`”
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure on Domino Server

- After Upgrading Domino Server to Release 9.0.1
- Set CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1
- Existing Program Record created for Release 9.0 will convert non-System databases
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure on Domino Server (continued)

- Create an indirect file (.ind) containing system databases
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure on Domino Server (continued)

- Domino Server down in Maintenance Window
  - Run DBMT process against indirect file containing system databases
  - `(n)dbmt system.ind -updallThreads 0 -compactThreads 8`

  alternatively

- Domino Server up
  - Use Compact Replication process against indirect file containing system databases
  - `(n)compact system.ind # 4 -REPLICA -RESTART`

- To catch stragglers or as double check once you think everything is ODS52
  - Do Compact Replication only on databases with older ODS version
  - `(n)compact -ODS -REPLICA -RESTART`
IBM Domino Release 9.0

DBMT has a nasty little side-effect on Domino Server

- From http://ab1osborne.blogspot.com/2013/05/dbmt-has-nasty-little-side-effect.html
IBM Domino Release 9.0.1
DBMT will preformat .TMP files to prevent fragmentation

- Defrag your Domino Data Directories at least once after upgrading to Release 9.0.1
Enhancements in IBM Domino Release 9.0.1
Preventing repeated Router, SMTP and IMAP crashes caused by problem messages

- Processing a problem message repeatedly can cause a server crash. If a message being processed at the time of a Router, SMTP, or IMAP crash remains in the mail.box database or mail file, processing the message again when the server is restarted can cause another server crash.

In IBM® Domino® 9.0.1 Social Edition 9.0.1, at the time of the crash, Domino now uses an exception handler to save the information identifying the message that caused the crash to the file system. Upon server restart, Domino uses the information to find the message and quarantine it.

- http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/dominowiki.nsf/dx/Preventing_repeated_Routercom_SMTP_and_IMAP_crashes_caused_by_problem_messages
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure on Notes Client

- Exit Notes Client and install IBM Notes Client Release 9.0.1
- Set following in notes.ini on Notes Client
  - NSF_UpdateODS=1
  - CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1
  - COMPACT_UPGRADE_MEDIUM_ENCRYPTION_TO_STRONG=1
  - Start Notes Client and House Keeping Daemon will execute
    • (n)compact -C -ODS -Quiet -Client -UpdateIndexes
- Not supported yet, but if you want to try out so local databases available while compacting additionally set following in notes.ini
  - NSF_UpdateCompactReplica=1
  - Start Notes Client and House Keeping Daemon will execute
    • (n)compact -REPLICA -ODS -Quiet -Client -UpdateIndexes
General Recommended Best Practice
Upgrading Database On-Disk-Structure on Notes Client (continued)

- Push the notes.ini settings via Desktop Settings Policy
  - NSF_UpdateODS=1,Enforce
  - CREATE_R9_DATABASES=1,Enforce
  - COMPACT_UPGRADE_MEDIUM_ENCRYPTION_TO_STRONG=1,Enforce
  - NSF_UpdatedToODS=43,SetOnce
  - Optionally NSF_UpdateCompactReplica=1,Enforce
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback

- Shortcut Buttons

- Not having to sort Mail View “Who” before searching
  - Start typing name and automatically sorts itself
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Open Hotspot in edit mode
  - Right Mouse Click
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- "Weekly Planner" calendar view

  New Weekly Planner view

  The Weekly Planner shows the days of the week in a two-column format. You can scroll within a day to see more entries.

  You can also click **Show > Show Available Times** to see the times when no events are scheduled.

- Scroll by week within the Monthly calendar view (aka "Rolling Month")
  - **Subject:** I *love* the Rolling Month feature. <>
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Open link in edit mode – (Ctrl+Click)
  - *Use this frequently*
  - `<Like>`

Subject: New and notable calendar stuff added in 9.0

Color code calendar entries by Category [http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/dominowiki.nsf/dx/Organize your calendar with category colors]

- Paste as Plain Text – (Ctrl+Shift+V)
  - *Use it all the time!*
  - *Oh yes... I use this CONSTANTLY*
  - `^^^^ what he said. +10`
  - *Me too!!*
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Image Attachment Thumbnails
  - Preview Image Attachments without the need to open every attachment
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Type-ahead
  - Show addresses from Server Directory first, then Local Directory
    - `TypeaheadShowServerFirst=1`
    - `TypeaheadShowServerFirstDefault=1`
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Type-ahead (continued)
  - Allow to be seen when “Mail file location: on Server”
    - $ServerMailAddressing=1
  - Admins can push the notes.ini settings via Desktop Settings Policy
Enhancements in IBM Notes Release 9.0.1
Favorites feedback (continued)

- Add, remove, or modify online meeting information in an existing calendar entry
- Conferences, meetings, or seminars with people spread across different geographies has now become very easy and quick, with the Online Meeting solution.
- Notes users have often experienced the need to add Online Meeting information to a previously-sent invitation, or the need to modify or delete Online Meeting details in an existing calendar entry.
- Nice when used in conjunction with “Automatically process meeting updates and apply changes to meetings”

http://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/dominowiki.nsf/dx/Addcom_removecom_or_modify_online_meeting_information_in_an_existing_calendar_entry
Thank You!
Your feedback is important!

- Access Connect Online to complete your session surveys using any:
  - Web or mobile browser
  - Connect Online kiosk onsite
Questions & Answers

- Meet the Developers Lab
- jpaganet@us.ibm.com
- Thanks Again!
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