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Introduction

The SSA-NAME3 Developer's Workbench is a Java GUI tool that helps a programmer prototype SSA-NAME3 calls. The Workbench is also used for:

- Browser-based Help and Documentation

- Generating Sample Program Code

- Executing SSA-NAME3 Calls

- Testing different SSA-NAME3 parameters

- Producing debugging information for Informatica Corporation

In order to use the Developer's Workbench, the SSA-NAME3 core modules and Standard Populations should have been installed, either locally, or on another computer/server.

Please note that the Workbench requires a Java Runtime Environment (JRE) Version 1.4 minimum. JRE 1.4.2 is the version recommended by Informatica Corporation and is available on the SSA-NAME3 Install CD.

If SSA-NAME3 was installed on another computer/server, you will first need to start the SSA-NAME3 Server process on that computer. To do this, refer to the platform specific Installation Guide (PC Installation, Unix Installation or z/OS Installation).

Note that use of the remote calls (i.e. across a network) to the SSA-NAME3 Server is recommended only for development or testing. For production use, your application (or component) should call a **local** copy of SSA-NAME3, either directly via the DLL or indirectly via a locally running SSA-NAME3 Server or database stored procedure.

Launching the Workbench

This chapter takes the reader through a step-by-step guide to using the Developer's Workbench.

Launching the Workbench

On a Win32 platform, there will be a Workbench icon in the Start menu, in the "Informatica's Products" program group. Once selected, the Workbench entry screen will be displayed.

The **"Introduction to SSA-NAME3"** button will launch an html document that provides a short introduction to SSA-NAME3. It can be read by someone who has no prior experience of the product and wants a general overview about SSA-NAME3. It explains the problems SSA-NAME3 is designed to overcome and the approaches used to do so. There is also a chapter dedicated to providing an overview for Application Programmers.
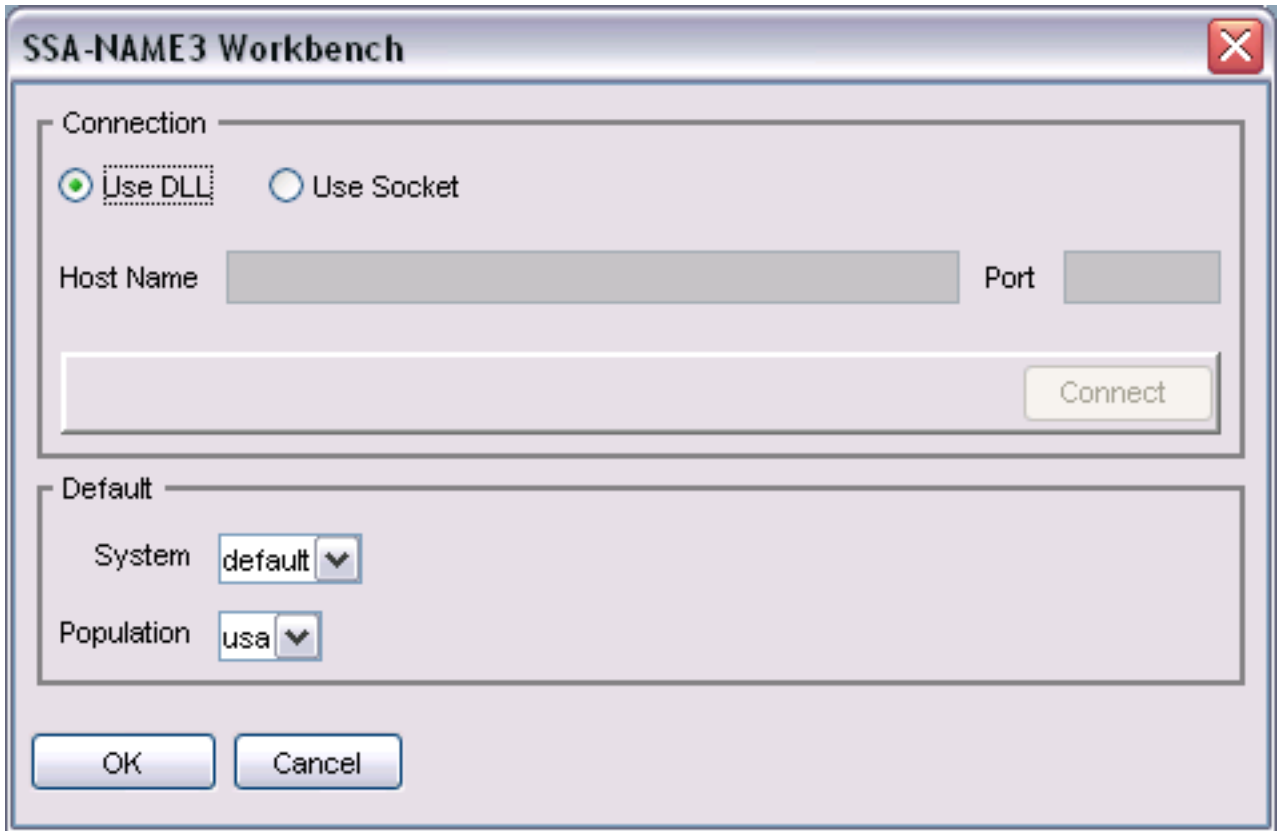
The **"Technical Documentation"** button will launch SSA-NAME3's technical documentation. This documentation includes links to SSA-NAME3 Introduction, Getting Started, Installation Guides, Workbench User Guide, Application & Database Design and Release Notes.

The **"All Systems Information"** button will launch an html document that lists the available systems and populations that have been installed, along with information about when these were last updated.

The **"Workbench"** button launches the Workbench connection screen.

Connecting to SSA-NAME3

To connect to SSA-NAME3, or load the local DLL, click the **"Workbench"** button on the Entry Screen. This will launch the connection choice screen:

If SSA-NAME3 was installed on another computer/server, you will need to use the Socket connection to connect to the SSA-NAME3 Server. Select **Use Socket** and enter the Host Name and Port. (Note: the default port used by SSA-NAME3 is **1665)**.
If SSA-NAME3 was installed locally, select the **Use DLL** option.

Selecting a System and Population

On the connection screen, also select the System and Population name you wish to work with. The System name is the name of the **pr** sub-directory where the Standard Populations (files with an extensions of **.ysp**) reside. The System called **default** is where the installer copies the Standard Population files from the CD. You may also have one or more Custom Populations (files with an extension of **.ycp**).
It is recommended that you copy the Standard Population Files you will be using into a new **pr** sub-directory. The name of that sub-directory could be a name relating to the business system or project name. It is also recommended to have different directories/systems for different phases in the project development (e.g. **dev, test, qa, production**).
The available Populations will be those you chose to install. Select the most suitable Population for your data.
Once you are satisfied that you are specifying the correct system/population, click the OK button to continue into the Workbench and its Function Testing Environment.

The Function Testing Environment

The Function Testing Environment of the Workbench is where the actual API functions can be tested. It is also where the Documentation is viewed, and sample programs generated.

The screen below shows the first screen displayed when the Function testing Environment is entered. It is the ssan3_open function screen.
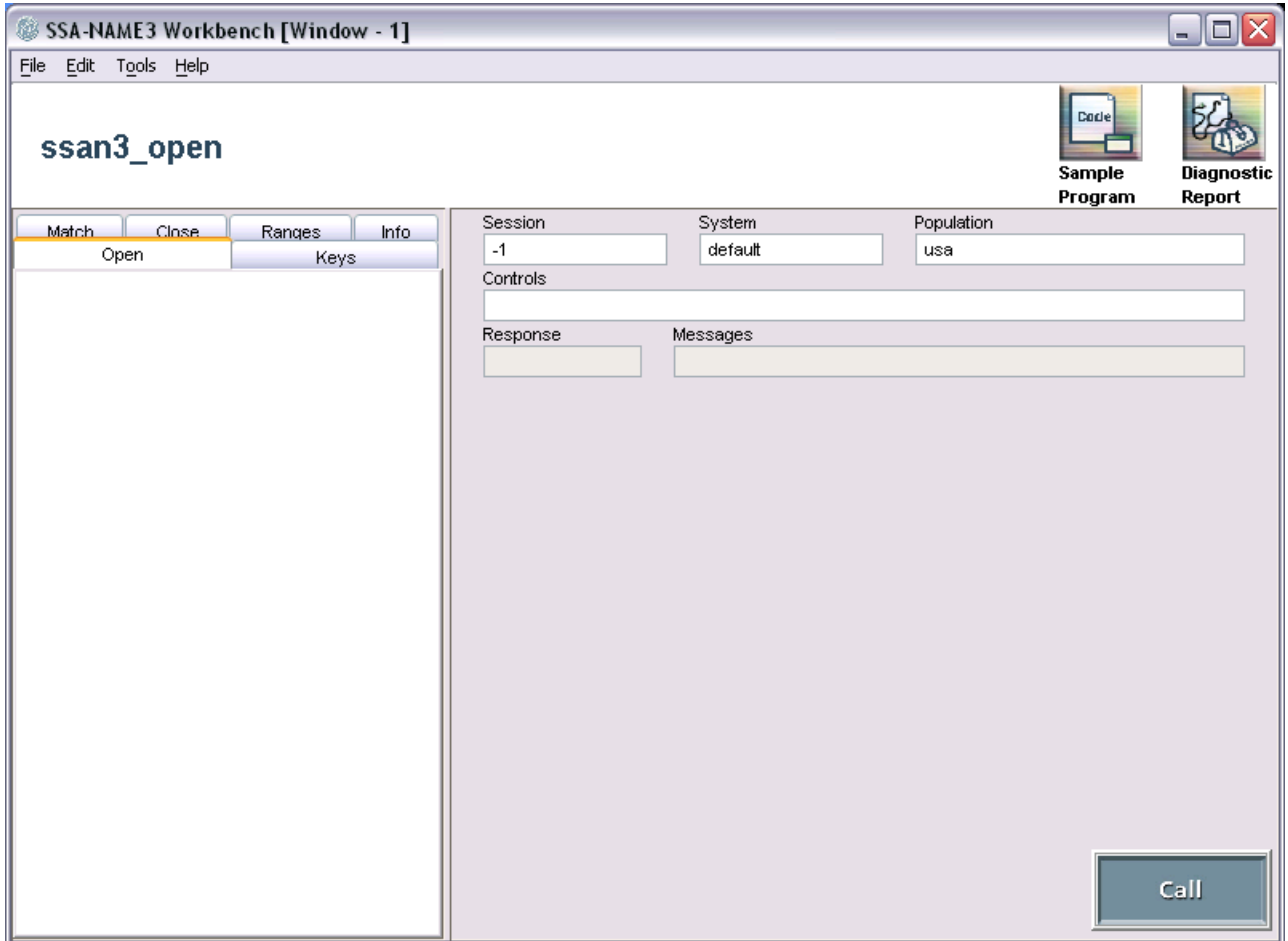
General Usage Notes

Using the tabs on the left-hand pane you can select from the six available API Functions (Open, Keys, Ranges, Match, Close, Info). When a tab is clicked, its available input parameters and parameter values will be listed in the left-hand pane below the tabs. The input parameters are made up of "Controls" to direct what specific action the function will take, and "Data" on which the function will perform its actions. Many of these parameters are "hotspots", meaning that a mouse click will transfer the selected parameter and value into the appropriate text box on the right-hand pane. If a parameter is a hotspot, the mouse pointer will change to

Hovering the mouse cursor over a parameter or parameter value will also display a pop-up description of that field.

When an API function tab is selected, the right-hand pane will change to show all of the function's input and output parameters as text boxes. Input text boxes have a white background. Output text boxes have a grey background. These will be the parameters that are actually used to make the call.

As said in the first paragraph, some of the parameters and values can be easily entered into the text boxes via clicks on the values in the left-hand pane, however, others such as the actual name or address data to be used in a particular function call must be manually typed or cut and pasted into the input text boxes from another location.

Once the text boxes on the right-hand frame are completed, they will closely resemble how you would specify the parameters in your own program code. To execute a function, click on the "Call" button in the lower right-hand corner of the right-hand pane and view the results.

It is useful when debugging program code to put in some print or display statements after the call to the SSA-NAME3 function. After running the program to produce some debug output, copy the parameters from the program's function call into the Workbench environment to replicate the function call and check if the output is the same.

The Workbench will remember the results of each function as you move around the different functions. Read the Functions Section in the API Reference manual for more detail about each function.

File Menu Options

File|Open New Window

If more than one Workbench screen is required, use the **File|Open New Window** menu option. Windows can then be tiled to perform comparison tests between the same function type.

File|Close

Menu option **File|Close** will prompt to close the current Function Testing Environment session.

File|Exit

Menu option **File|Exit** will prompt to close and exit all Workbench sessions.

Edit Menu Options

Edit|Cut, Edit|Copy, Edit|Paste

The menu options **Edit|Cut**, **Edit|Copy** and **Edit|Paste** are useful to allow copying of Controls and Data from one textbox to another, or between Function screens.

Edit|Clear, Edit|Clear All

Menu option **Edit|Clear** undoes the previous entry. Menu option **Edit|Clear All** clears all entries on the current function screen.

Edit|Contact Details

The **Edit|Contact Details** menu option allows you to enter your contact information. Users are advised to complete this information as it helps Informatica Corporation to communicate with you regarding product features, diagnostics, and technical support. (Informatica Corporation respects your right to privacy. Data collected from this form will not be given, sold or shared with organizations external to Informatica Corporation).

Edit|Connection Details

The **Edit|Connection Details** menu option allows you to select a different System/Population to work with. Once selected, the new Population will replace the current Population.