

# Private Libraries

This section covers the following topics:

- What is a Private Library?
  - Protecting a Private Library
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## What is a Private Library?

A user may have a "personal" library whose ID is the same as his/her user ID. Such a library is called a *private library*.

Only users of type ADMINISTRATOR or PERSON can have a private library.

Private libraries can be made available in two modes:

- **Public mode** - In this mode, private libraries are treated like any other libraries, that is, their use can be controlled in the same way as that of "normal" libraries. The only difference is that if a private library is protected (which is the default), the user with the same ID can access it without having to be linked to it, while other users need a link to it (see below).
- **Private mode** - In this mode, a private library can only be accessed by the user who is directly attached to it, that is, whose user ID is the same as the library ID. Not even a Natural Security administrator has access to it. (The only way for an administrator to gain access to a private library is by modifying the user's password in the user's security profile and then logging on to the private library with the user's user ID and the new password.) Thus, such a private library provides a certain degree of seclusion for the user; and possible misuse of this seclusion is hard to eliminate. Therefore it is recommended that this mode *not* be used.

The mode is set with the general option "Private libraries in public mode" (described in the section Administrator Services) and applies to all private libraries.

### Note:

As far as access to DDMs/files is concerned, there is no difference between private libraries and "normal" libraries.

## Protecting a Private Library

The user with the same user ID as the library ID always has access to his/her private library.

In public mode, other users' access to someone's private library is determined by the settings of the fields "People-protected" and "Terminal-protected" in the security profile of the private library. Possible values for the field "People-protected" are "P" (which is the default value, and which corresponds to "Y" in other library profiles) and "N" (which is the same as in other library profiles). Possible values for the field "Terminal-protected" are the same as for other libraries (Y, N or A). The possible protection combinations are described under Protected Libraries in the section Protecting Libraries.

In private mode, no other user has access to someone else's private library.