1.108.5 Notify users on system-related issues Weight 1

Linux Professional Institute Certification — 102

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2005 July

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Context

Objective

/etc/issue

telnet and issue.ne

otd

Ways of notifying users

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- 1.108.1 Use and Manage Local System Documentation [4]
- 1.108.2 Find Linux Documentation on the Internet [3]
- 1.108.5 Notify Users on System Related Issues [1]

Description of Objective

1.108.5 Notify users on system-related issues

Candidates should be able to notify the users about current issues related to the system. This objective includes automating the communication process, e.g. through logon messages.

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Key files, terms, and utilities include:

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telnet <mark>and issue.n</mark>

l**essage of the Day** otd

Ways of notifying users

Customize the Local Login screen with /etc/issue

▶ The login screen for Fedora Core 4 looks like this:

```
Fedora Core release 4 (Stentz)
Kernel 2.6.13-1.1526_FC4smp on an i686
```

login:

- The getty process spawned by init presents the contents of the file /etc/issue and provides a login: prompt for the user
- ► The file /etc/issue

```
$ cat /etc/issue ←
Fedora Core release 4 (Stentz
Kernel \r on an \m
```

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Manpage for issue

Linux Programmer's Manual ISSUE(5)

NAME

ISSUE (5)

issue - pre-login message and identification file

DESCRIPTION

The file /etc/issue is a text file which contains a message or system identification to be printed before the login prompt. It may contain various @char and \char sequences, License Of This if supported by mingetty(1).

FILES

/etc/issue

SEE ALSO

mingetty(1), motd(5)

Linux 1993-07-24 ISSUE (5)

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- \d insert current day (localtime),
- \lambda insert line on which mingetty is running,
- \m inserts machine architecture (uname -m),
- \n inserts machine's network node hostname (uname -n),
- \o inserts domain name,
- \r inserts operating system release (uname -r),
- \t insert current time (localtime),
- \s inserts operating system name,
- \u insert the number of current users logged in
- \U inserts "1 user" or " $\langle n \rangle$ users", where $\langle n \rangle$ is the number of users logged in
- \v inserts operating system version (uname -v).

Telnet uses /etc/issue.net

The following sequences are supported by telnetd:

```
show the current ttv
응]
          show the system node name (FQDN)
%h,
     응n
          show the name of the NIS domain
%D.
     응ㅇ
          show the current time and date
%d.
    응t
          show the name of the operating system
응S
          show the machine (hardware) type
응m
%r
          show the operating system release
유귟
          show the operating system version
          display a single '%' character
응응
```

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Ways of notifying users

- ► Contents of /etc/issue is displayed.
- getty displays the login prompt.
- ▶ /bin/login handles the login process.
 - User is authorized
 - ► Contents of /etc/motd is displayed.
 - ► The login shell is executed.

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Manpage for motd

MOTD (5)

Linux Programmer's Manual

motd - message of the day

DESCRIPTION

MOTD (5)

NAME

The contents of /etc/motd are displayed by login(1) after a successful login but just before it executes the login shell.

The abbreviation "motd" stands for "message of the day", and this file has been traditionally used for exactly that (it requires much less disk space than mail to all users).

FILES

/etc/motd

SEE ALSO

login(1), issue(5)

Linux

1992-12-29

MOTD (5)

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motd Manpage for motd

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motd

```
$ cat /etc/motd ←
G'day! :-)
$ exit ←
```

```
Red Hat Linux release 9 (Shrike)
Kernel 2.4.20-8 on an i686
```

```
Marshar login: geolirey
Password:
Last login: Wed Sep 10 22:23:15 on tty:
G'day! :-)
G'day! new mail.
```

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```
Kernel 2.4.20-8 on an i686
```

marsbar login: **geoffre**y

Password:

G'day! :-)
\$ **exit** ←

ast login: Wed Sep 10 22:23:15 on tty2

G'day! :-)

You have new mail.

\$ cat /etc/motd ←

\$

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telnet <mark>and issue.ne</mark>

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```
Red Hat Linux release 9 (Shrike)
Kernel 2.4.20-8 on an i686
```

```
marsbar login: geoffrey
Password:
```

Last login: Wed Sep 10 22:23:15 on tty2

G'day! :-)

G'day! :-)
\$ **exit** ←

You have new mail.

\$ cat /etc/motd ←

\$

It also works with ssh

```
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```
$ ssh nicku.org ←
Last login: Thu Oct 27 10:51:21 2005 from nicku.or Gain action
G'day! :-)
$ cat /etc/motd ←
G'day! :-)
$
```

Login Screen /etc/issue

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net
Login message /etc/motd
wall Message to all terminals
talk Split screen message
Email Users list

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Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net

Login message /etc/moto

wall Message to all terminals

talk Split screen message

Email Users list

Phone They have a phone

Visit They have an office

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