

1.108.5

Notify users on system-related issues

Weight 1

Linux Professional Institute Certification — 102

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Description of Objective

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.

Key files, terms, and utilities include:

```
/etc/issue
/etc/issue.net
/etc/motd
```

Documentation

2.108.1 Use and Manage Local System Documentation

2.108.2 Find Linux Documentation on the Internet

2.108.5 Notify Users on System Related Issues []

Notify Users on System Related Issues

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Notify Users on System Related Issues

```
/etc/issue
/etc/issue.net
/etc/motd
```

Notify Users on System Related Issues

TBA

Customize the Local Login screen with `/etc/issue`

- The login screen for RH73 looks like this:

```
Red Hat Linux release 7.3 (Valhalla)
Kernel 2.4.18-3 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 ←
Red Hat Linux release 7.3 (Valhalla)
Kernel \r on an \m
```

man issue

```
ISSUE(5)                Linux Programmer's Manual                ISSUE(5)

NAME
    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, if supported by
    getty(1).

FILES
    /etc/issue
```

SEE ALSO
getty(1), motd(5)

Linux
1993-07-24 ISSUE(5)

man getty—embedded in the /etc/issue

```
\d    insert current day (localtime),
\l    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    resp. \U the current number of users which are currently
      logged in. \U inserts "n users", where as \u only inserts "n".
\v    inserts operating system version (uname -v).
```

Telnet uses /etc/issue.net

The following sequences are supported by telnetd:

```
%l    - show the current tty
%h, %n - show the system node name (FQDN)
%D, %o - show the name of the NIS domain
%d, %t - show the current time and date
%s    - show the name of the operating system
%m    - show the machine (hardware) type
%r    - show the operating system release
%v    - show the operating system version
%%    - display a single '%' character
```

Message of the Day—motd

- 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.

Manpage for motd

MOTD(5) Linux Programmer's Manual MOTD(5)

NAME
motd - message of the day

DESCRIPTION
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)

motd

1

```
$ cat /etc/motd ←
Have a nice day :-)
$^D
```

2

```
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
Have a nice day :-)
You have new mail.
$
```

Notify Users of System Related Issues

Login Screen /etc/issue 1

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net 2

Login message /etc/motd 3

wall Message to all terminals 4

talk Split screen message 5

Email Users list 6

Phone They have a phone 7

Visit They have an office

The End

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