General Linux 2 –

Notify Users on System Related Issues [1]

(Linux Professional Institute Certification)

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\\$Id: g12.108.5.slides.tex,v 1.1 2003/09/10 03:50:07 geoffr Exp \$%\$

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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 []

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

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

Resources

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

Customize the Local Login screen with /etc/issue

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Kernel 2.4.18-3 on an i686
login:
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- 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

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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),
\1
       insert line on which mingetty is running,
\mbox{m}
       inserts machine architecture (uname -m),
\n
       inserts machine's network node hostname (uname -n),
\0
       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".
\backslash 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
      - show the name of the operating system
왕S
응m
      - show the machine (hardware) type
%r
      - show the operating system release
%V
      - show the operating system version
      - display a single '%' character
응응
```

Login Sequence

• Contents of /etc/issue is displayed.

- Contents of /etc/issue is displayed.
- getty displays the login prompt.

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- /bin/login handles the login process.

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 - User is authorized.

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- /bin/login handles the login process.
 - User is authorized.
 - Contents of /etc/motd is displayed.

- 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 suc cessful 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

motd

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

motd

```
$^D
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.
$
```

\$ cat /etc/motd \hookrightarrow

Have a nice day :−)

Login Screen /etc/issue

Login Screen /etc/issue

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net

Login Screen /etc/issue

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net

Login message /etc/motd

Login Screen /etc/issue

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net

Login message /etc/motd

wall Message to all terminals

Login Screen /etc/issue

Telnet Login Screen /etc/issue.net

Login message /etc/motd

wall Message to all terminals

talk Split screen message

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

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

Phone They have a phone

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

Phone They have a phone

Visit They have an office

The End