

Re: Cron Daemon backup message too big

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2008-03/msg02482.html>

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 - *Date:* Sun, 30 Mar 2008 19:27:37 +0300
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On Sun, Mar 30, 2008 at 11:28:35AM -0400, Haines Brown wrote:

For a long time I've done back ups by having cron run a script regularly. At a certain point (can't recall the circumstances) that ceased to work, and I've had to initiate the backups by hand.

What happens is that Cron Daemon sends me a message that reports backup progress, That is, I suppose there is one line in the message for every file backed up. However, at a certain point, the message gets too big and the backup terminates. I get a message from cron to the effect, "mail failure - message too big".

My guess is that I am exceeding the message size limit in exim (default is 50Mb). I suppose I could simply configure exim to accept larger messages by having:

```
message_size_limit = 500 MB
```

(not sure of syntax here), but I'd prefer that cron simply not send me messages for this job. Is there any way I can modify my backup script to tell cron to be silent or to send its report instead to a temporary log file?

cron will send you any output your script has. You just have to rewrite your script so that it doesn't produce any output.

Regards,
Andrei

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If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.
(Albert Einstein)

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