

Re: How to Configure Qmail on Fedora Core 1 Server

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2004-07/6215.html>

From: Craig White (craigwhite_at_azapple.com)

Date: 07/27/04

To: For users of Fedora Core releases <fedora-list@redhat.com>

Date: Tue, 27 Jul 2004 11:54:35 -0700

On Tue, 2004-07-27 at 11:15, Fritz Whittington wrote:

> >

> **Mail read with Mozilla on a Windows machine from a POP3 server doesn't have root's privileges either!**

> (And yes, you can do anything in vi that you might want to do in emacs,

> so let's just ship **one** editor with the system and force everyone to do

> it **that** way, just because! OK with you? I thought not.) Of course,

> I guess I could set up the foo alias and then read foo's mail with

> Mozilla on a Windows machine from a POP3 server. Can you prove that to

> be even a tiny bit more secure?

that isn't the point though. If root can retrieve email from his account - be it local or remote is the issue. You are differentiating a system that doesn't differentiate. Restricting root's access locally would require something like hosts.allow/deny or iptables, both of which is beyond the safeguards of dovecot or whichever pop/imap daemon you employ.

Proving that accessing mail from account foo or account root via POP3 remotely is inherently more secure is not relevant.

the topic of both vi and emacs doesn't correlate.

>

> >Thus your argument about working

> >'with' or 'on' really doesn't hold water.

> >

> >

> That refers to something of an additional topic: qmail versus

> sendmail/postfix/dovecot and the ease of installing without having to

> read (first finding) bunches of docs and becoming something of a guru on

> the subject.

>

> Also, be aware that (IMHO) once any security issues are removed, this

> becomes a "religious" (that is, personal preference) issue just like the

> choice of a text editor.

I do not seek to engage in a debate of one editor over another, or one MTA versus another. I fail to see how this impacts the topic anyway.

Security issues being removed is between the user, his distro and configuration. The distro makes assumptions of best use. The user can override some of these decisions via configuration and the rest by

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recompiling (they do provide the source code if you wish). This seems to be a very logical system and when I want to work 'with' a system rather than 'on' a system (your terms), I generally defer to the greater minds than mine because I credit them for having foresight to consider the security implications.

Craig

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