

Re: F7: SELinux feature or bug?

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2007-07/msg01594.html>

- *From:* Jim Cornette <fc-cornette@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 09 Jul 2007 17:36:11 -0400
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Daniel J Walsh wrote:

Mikkel L. Ellertson wrote:

Jeroen Lankheet wrote:

Hi all,

I think I've been stupid or framed or both. I wanted to samba share a USB disk on a F7 system but got an SELinux message saying that the directory could not be shared, and that there was a command to get it right (=wrong?). So I typed in

```
chcon -t samba_share_t -R /
```

Yes, that's what was in the SELinux message thingie as suggestion. And being a total SELinux nitwit I did what the almighty Linux system advised. So it took a while before getting "operation not permitted" on /dev/.... Then I cancelled the operation but the damage has apparently already been made. I retyped the command with the proper directory to share and now the share worked. But when I restarted the system all kinds of services were broken including /dev/eth0. The kernel could not find the eth0 device. The X configuration was gone and all kinds of errors were smashed into my face. So it looks like the SELinux (or me myself?) has scrambled my harddisk.

Re: F7: SELinux feature or bug?

I cannot even login anymore. The system is completely dead.
Some 'simple' questions:
Why did this go wrong?
What actually did go wrong?
What to do next? Re-install? That would be a bummer.

Thanks for the help.

Regards,
Jeroen.

From man selinux:

The best way to relabel the file system is to create the flag file `/.autorelabel` and reboot. `system-config-securitylevel`, also has this capability. The `restorcon/fixfiles` commands are also available for relabeling files.

As root, you will want to run something like: (This will reboot the system when you enter the command, so make sure you are ready to reboot!):

```
touch /.autorelabel ; reboot  
or  
touch /.autorelabel ; shutdown -r now
```

You could also just do the "touch /.autorelabel" and then reboot using the GUI option to reboot the system.

Mikkel

This is the safest way to relabel since no processes are running when this happens. This causes the init script to run `fixfiles relabel` before it starts anything. If processes are already running, they could be running in the wrong context and creating files with the wrong context until they are restarted.

Does this method clear out the `/tmp` directory when run? I usually clear the `/tmp` directory when I run `fixfiles relabel` from runlevel 1.

Since the same program is run during the boot `autorelabel`, I guess I can stop dropping to runlevel 1 to run the program. Thanks for the info about processes writing the wrong context until the restart.

Jim

—

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