

RedHat: Re: (sweet recovery!) when rpm --rebuilddb doesn't work! what next?

## Re: (sweet recovery!) when rpm --rebuilddb doesn't work! what next?

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/RedHat/2003-09/1416.html>

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**From:** Michael Fratoni (*mfratoni\_at\_tuxfan.homeip.net*)

**Date:** 09/12/03

To: redhat-list@redhat.com

Date: Thu, 11 Sep 2003 22:39:07 -0400

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----

Hash: SHA1

On Thursday 11 September 2003 07:38 am, Ed Wilts wrote:

> *On Thu, Sep 11, 2003 at 12:02:03AM -0400, Michael Fratoni wrote:*  
> > *I also find out that in SUSE Linux there's a time-stamped backups*  
> > *of the RPM database in /var/adm/backup/rpmdb and that you can just*  
> > *copy it to /var/lib/rpm, and everything gets back to normal! Anyway*  
> > *thanks a lot!*  
> >  
> > *Hrmm, not a bad idea. Simple enough to accomplish via a cron job.*  
> > *You'd want to add some error checks and remove older backups, but*  
> > *basically this should work:*  
>  
> *Personally, I find this to be a bad idea. Everything needs to be*  
> *backed up, and that's a user's responsibility. First the distributor*  
> *decides you need rpmdb backed up, and then the password and group*  
> *files, and then configuration files, and then they don't stop until you*  
> *no space for your backups.*

I don't disagree.

> *A good administrator will take backups of the important stuff. In my*  
> *daily backups, I include /var.*

There are plenty of cases where backups aren't done, or aren't done often enough. (Think home user) I wasn't advocating Red Hat including a function to back up the rpm database (or anything else), just a quick script for a user to do it manually. Sure, you back up your data, and I back up mine. There are plenty of cases where users don't create backups of anything at all. In such a situation, a user created cron job to make backups of the rpm database can't be a bad thing. If they lose a disk, they are sunk anyway, but if they hose the rpm database, recovery is as simple as a 'cp' command.

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--Michael

pgp key: <http://www.tuxfan.homeip.net:8080/gpgkey.txt>

Red Hat Linux 7.{2,3}|8.0|9 in 8M of RAM: <http://www.rule-project.org/en/>

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-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----

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