

Re: [SLE] Partition suddenly going into read-only status

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On Friday 27 October 2006 18:45, LDB wrote:

I recently had my SuSE 10.0 installation have its root partition go into read-only mode – It was proposed that my disk is going bad. I rebooted and everything is fine after the reboot.

No, nothing changed. It just suddenly went into read-only mode.

Any ideas?

Hi LDB,

Spontaneously dropping into read-only ("dirty") mode is a sign of a failed hard disk read or write operation. You were forced to reboot which, in turn, caused the appropriate flavor of 'fsck' to be run automatically on the unmounted partition. Apparently, the filesystem was successfully "cleaned" and put back into service, but you'll be a much happier camper if you take preemptive measures, now, instead of waiting for this 'transient' problem to reappear.

In my experience, the frequency and severity of 'transient' drive errors only increases over time... sometimes failures happen very soon and are severe... other times you can 'stumble along' for several weeks or even months. One thing you **can** be sure of, though, is **transient** errors and hard disks are **not** a good mix. :-)

I'd check to see if a bootable floppy or CD-ROM based diagnostic utility is available at the drive manufacturer's website. If S.M.A.R.T. is supported and enabled, this may tell you more about the problem. I'd also make timely backups of any data and configuration files, just in case.

hth & regards,

Carl

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