

## Re: Backup Question <System & User configuration>

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux.suse/2008-08/msg00548.html>

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- *From:* zmdmw52 <jaylinux52@xxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Thu, 28 Aug 2008 05:00:35 -0700 (PDT)
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On Aug 28, 2:08 pm, houghi <hou...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

zmdmw52 wrote:

For updated openSUSE 11.0-

There has been a problem (hardware-can't detect the USB device/Network Connection & Applet does not work), due to which I would like to backup my personal user settings (updated applications & libraries, drivers (nvidia), and esp. the gnome desktop settings, panels, etc as I spent some time configuring these). If it is possible to backup the system configuration files, I would like to do that also.

Questions are (being from a Windows background)-

1. What should I backup? (which directories/files) & how to restore them later, after re-install of system?

The main thing for personal data is /home.  
Also backup /etc and /var/spool

2. How can I backup (using what application)? (Will a simple copy to an external HDD suffice to restore from later)?

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Yes.

Don't get me wrong, re-installing (especially for somebody who just begins) is not a bad thing. You will learn if you look around in the installations. I have done many installations and when I started I did about 10 at least per version before I finally was happy. (Then I was NOT beta testing) Now I just do one (except for beta testing) till the reboot to see what options are available and then one completely. Faster to start again then to press back 700 times. :-D

Thanks for the reply. I have copied the /home dir to ext USB drive already. Will also backup the other 2 dirs.

Now doing the NVidia drivers, I think it is easier to just do them all again from the start. That is just one click.

I agree, re-installing the nvidia drivers would not be much of a problem, being as have already done it twice.

From what you have mentioned, I just need to copy-paste the /home dir contents to the new /home dir. But will this also restore the updated & new applications (done thro online update, packman repo, 3rd-party codec installs, etc....so it will be a time-consuming effort to re-install them all over again. Is it possible to backup-restore the apps by copy-pasteing (I believe the apps are in the / (i.e. root) dir.

I also have a question. It sounds as if you intend to do a reinstallation. Normally a reinstallation will not solve that problem and if it does, then it could have been solved by other ways as well.

That's right: after 1 final attempt tonight to try & solve the problem, I will do a re-install [already did the repair option (with 'expert' sub-option) ] from the boot DVD, but this did not help.

My problem is as follows- (mentioned between the "=====" lines for sake of clarity

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On openSUSE 11.0 with updates, the net connection using a DSL Router connected through a USB port (detected as eth1: TI NDIS USB Device, where TI = Texas Instruments) worked fine till now (installed a week ago) ; but by error I altered the connection settings to include DHCP (i.e. obtain DNS Name addresses via DHCP). Now, I cannot configure it connect using a static IP & using the DNS Servers that the ISP provides.

Now, the 'Update DNS data via DHCP' box remains checked (it is greyed out, as seen in the picture) & I cannot connect to the web. The screenshot is that of the Yast Network Configuration screen with the error is here –

<http://lvznow.bay.livefilestore.com/y1pRtlIJOHvXf9INHCWxmMDLY4N-Scv98HFVVA0Lm-3JMo4sRInkw-IYpZ>

I have a feeling that if I can get rid of the DHCP–enable option (the grayed–out button in the pict in url above), then after changing to static IP & DNS (ie I would enter them manually from provided by ISP), it would resolve the problem, since the past week, I had net access with the static IP option). Any suggestions/further steps on how to resolve this?

PS:

– On shutting down the system yesterday, there was a message stating the eth1 (TI NDIS USB Device) connection was not detected/changed & that I should file a bugzilla report. It scrolled out too fast for to note the exact message.

– I have not added any additional hardware or made any significant system changes other checking the DHCP one (obtain IP Address & update DNS address via DHCP); that I can't seem to reverse now.

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