

Re: Sparc Solaris NIS client Linux NIS server

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.os.linux.setup/2005-12/msg00420.html>

- *From:* Chris Cox <ccox_nopenotthis@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 14 Dec 2005 15:40:36 -0600
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Nico Kadel-Garcia wrote:

> "Chris Cox" <ccox_nopenotthis@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:11ps8mre0vnscca@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

>

>>If the number of accounts are small (not in the 10,000's) then
>>managing users with NIS is much simpler than with .. let's say...
>>LDAP. If you have an existing Windows infrastructure, it's
>>fairly trivial to auto create NIS users based on Windows
>>account data and tie the password back to the Windows
>>password server (which may bother Unix purists... but does
>>work.. and if you've got the ugly animal there anyway...
>>might as well use it).

>

> Bullwinkle, that trick *NEVER* works. The NIS stored password information is
> very distinct from the password management used for Windows or even Samba.
> LDAP works much, much better for providing single-source authentication.

Whatever. I do this at multi-million dollar companies for a living.

LDAP is a generic framework... the password field that's there
is for clear text only. Sure people jam hashes into it.. .but
that's a whole other story.

Ultimately, I use NIS much like LDAP. It hold account
data. Authentication is a different piece that can be
handled in plethora of ways. I'm just pointing out that
if you've got the dreaded Windows beastie on the network,
might as well use it for the auth piece.

>

>>I've used the technique at a plastics production facility
>>with good success. You just add users to the Windows domain
>>(pretty much assumes a single Windows domain) and then
>>they automatically get NIS accounts when they log into
>>Windows the first time... just that the NIS DES
>>encrypted password is nuked (untypable) and the boxes
>>do their auth NTLM style to the Windows password
>>server. Or.. even better, don't use NTLM at all and
>>just load an SSH key which comes off a shared drive

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>>in NFS/Samba space (home dirs) at Windows login time and tell them
>>to PuTTY into the client hosts... then they don't
>>have to use a password once they've logged into
>>the Windows client.
>
> Making SSH keys network accessible is..... asking for trouble. It's almost
> as bad as putting a post-it note on your keyboard with your password on it.

Sigh.... You aren't easily satisfied are you? It's as
secure as LDAP... is that ok now?

The point is that you have to assume some things always. Having
a computer in a location where more than one person can
get to it is EQUALLY as insecure... true?

Post-it notes :) You remind me of our security team.

• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: Sparc Solaris NIS client Linux NIS server**
◇ From: Nico Kadel-Garcia

• **References:**

- ◆ **Sparc Solaris NIS client Linux NIS server**
◇ From: dogdog
- ◆ **Re: Sparc Solaris NIS client Linux NIS server**
◇ From: Chris Cox
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◇ From: Nico Kadel-Garcia

- Prev by Date: **Re: Fedora Core 2/Windows XP dual boot: selecting Linux doesn't work**
- Next by Date: **Re: Sparc Solaris NIS client Linux NIS server – solution**
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