

Chapter 3 Unix Overview



Figure 3.1 Unix file system

Directory	Purpose		
/	The root directory		
/bin or /sbin	Critical executables needed to boot the system		
/dev	Device drivers		
/etc	System configuration files such as passwords, network addresses and names, system startup scripts		
/home	User home directories		
/lib	Shared libraries used by programs		
/mnt	Temporary mount point for file systems		
/proc	Images of currently executing processes on the system		
/tmp	Temporary files		
/usr	A variety of critical system files, including system utilities (/usr/bin), and administration executables (/usr/sbin)		
/var	Stores varying files such as /var/log, /var/mail		

Table 3.1 Important Directories in the Unix file system



UNIX System



Figure 3.3 Relationship between init, inetd, and various network services

Sample /etc/inetd.conf file containing services spawned by inetd

#	These	are	standard	services.
щ				

ftp telnet #	stream tcp stream tcp	nowait root nowait root	/usr/sbin/in.ftpd /usr/sbin/in.telnetd	in.ftpd in.telnetd
shell	stream tcp	nowait root	/usr/sbin/in.rshd	in.rshd
login	stream tcp	nowait root	/usr/sbin/in.rlogind	in.rlogind
#exec	stream tcp	nowait root	/usr/sbin/in.rexecd	in.rexecd

 Note that this line is commented out with a #, so the exec service will not be activated by inetd

/etc/inetd.conf file format

- Service name (port # defined in /etc/services)
- Socket type (stream or dgram)
- Protocol (tcp, udp, rpc/tcp, or rpc/udp)
- Wait status (wait or nowait)
- Username (service run as)
- Server program
- Server program arguments

Use of inetd.conf to create backdoor listeners and attack relays

Common Unix Administration Tasks

- Vulnerability of using "." in your search path
 \$PATH
- Showing all running processes
 - ps -aux
 - ps -aef
- Killing/restarting processes
 kill -HUP pid
 - killall -HUP inetd
- /etc/passwd file
- Unix permissions rwxrwxrwx chmod command

Common Unix Administration Tasks (cont.)

- SetUID programs
 - Executes with permissions of its owner, not of its user
 - /etc/passwd setUID root r-s--x--x
 - Creating setUID files
 - #chmod 4741 foo

Finding setUID files



Vulnerability of setUID programs

Unix Trust



Alice's name is in Bob's /etc/hosts.equiv or ~/.rhosts file

- Authenticating users on behalf of another machine
- R-commands
 - rlogin
 - rsh
 - rcp
- Weakness of r-commands
 - Actions based on IP address of trusted machine
 - Undermining r-commands via IP address spoofing

Logs and Auditing

- Syslog daemon
 - Syslogd
- /etc/syslog.conf
- /var/log
 - /var/log/messages
 - /var/log/http
- Accounting files
 - Utmp
 - Records who is currently logged into a system
 - used by who command
 - Wtmp
 - records all logins and logouts
 - used by last command
 - lastlog
 - Records time and location of each user's last login to system

Network File System (NFS)

mountd

- Nfsd
- Share only folders that require sharing
- Export files only to hosts requiring access
- Carefully assign permissions to shared files
- Avoid NFS sharing across the Internet
- Alternatives
 - Secure ftp
 - IPSec-based VPN