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A System Administrator's Guide to Sun Workstations



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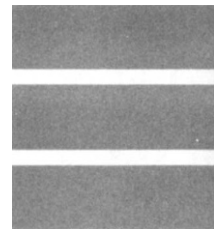
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Dedication



This book is dedicated to all of our users (past, present, and future) - for all of those "interesting" situations you created, just so we could learn a little more . . . :)

Preface

This Guide to Sun Administration is a reference manual written by Sun administrators for Sun administrators. The book is not intended to be a complete guide to UNIX Systems Administration; instead it will concentrate on the special issues that are particular to the Sun environment. It will take you through the basic steps necessary to install and maintain a network of Sun computers. Along the way, helpful ideas will be given concerning NFS, YP, backup and restore procedures, as well as many useful installation tips that can make a system administrator's job less painful. Specifically, SunOS 4.0 through 4.0.3 will be studied; however, many of the ideas and concepts presented are generic enough to be used on any version of SunOS.

This book is not intended to be basic introduction to SunOS. It is assumed that the reader will have at least a year of experience supporting UNIX.

Book Overview

The first chapter gives a description of the system types that will be discussed throughout the book. An understanding of all of the system types is needed to comprehend the rest of the book.

Chapter 2 provides the information necessary to install a workstation. The format utility and the steps involved in the **suninstall** process are covered in detail. Ideas and concepts about partitioning are included in this chapter.

YP is the topic of the third chapter. A specific description of each YP map and each YP command is presented, along with some tips about ways to best utilize this package in your environment.

The fourth chapter discusses the issues involved in administering the workstation after it has been installed. We present de-

tails about installing clients and their home directories, as well as establishing a good working environment.

Chapter 5 provides an overview of the networking in the SunOS environment. The steps necessary to install multiple networks and subnets are presented, along with an overview of some network commands.

Chapter 6 gives a description of ways to increase security. In particular, the steps necessary to install secure NFS or C2 security are discussed. Several of the files that control security are also discussed.

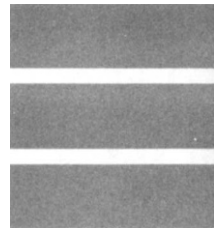
Backups is the topic of Chapter 7. Several different scenarios and procedures are presented, with a description of most of the backup commands.

Chapter 8 provides a step-by-step guide to troubleshooting. Some common error codes are discussed. Also presented are ways to troubleshoot booting, printing and mail delivery problems.

Chapter 9 is the catch-all chapter, containing a combination of miscellaneous information. A discussion of some important files is included with a section on serial communications and another on disk recovery steps. The last chapter lists suggestions for further reading.

Throughout the book, special fonts are used to denote filenames and command names. In general, italics indicate a filename. Some of these are files that you can look at on your workstation or server. Boldface print indicate that the word is also a command. These commands often have at least one manual page associated with it.

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We would also like to thank the following folks for reading the earlier versions of this book and for supplying some answers: Chris Drake, Geoff Gall, Bikram Gill, Ray Jang, Scott Mattoon, Ralph Torres, Eric Voss, and Jing May Wang.

Finally we would like to thank Mike and Lance for getting us involved in this project . . . we think!!?

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