Recovering from varyonvg Error Message 0516-044

Special Notices

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Note: The information in this document is **not** applicable for AIX 4.1.

About this Document

This document describes what to do if you receive error message 0516-044 from the "varyonvg" command on a RISC System/6000 with AIX 3.1 or 3.2.

About the Error

The 0516-044 error message from varyonvg means that the write to the internal map failed. This occurred because there was not enough room in the "/" (/dev/hd4) file system for varyonvg to write to the /etc/vg/vg* files.

Procedure

1. Check to see if the "/" filesystem on your machine is indeed near or completely to the full state.

   Run the "df" command and look at how many bytes are left for "/". If the "/" filesystem has more than 1 MB of free space left, then disregard this document and call your service representative. This problem should not happen on an AIX 4.1 system, so these instructions are only valid for those systems running AIX 3.1 or 3.2.

   If your filesystem is full, you have two choices to resolve this problem.

   - You may extend the size of the "/" filesystem so that enough room becomes available for the /etc/vg/vg* files to be correctly written.

     However, if your rootvg no longer has enough expansion space, then you must proceed with the second option.

- Start moving or removing files from the "/" filesystem. Some files you may want to delete (if they exist) are:

```
/smit.log
/smit.script
/core
/etc/core
/dev/core
/etc/vg/vg*
```

The /smit.log and /smit.script files are a history of everything you have done with smit (as root) and these files will be re-created when you use smit again (as root). If you are unsure if a file should be deleted, you may move that file to a temporary location on any filesystem but the "/" filesystem for later recovery.

Core files in / or in any subdirectory of / (unless the subdirectory is a separate mount point) may be deleted. Examples of subdirectories of / that you may want to check are /etc, /dev, and any user-created directories.

The /etc/vg/vg* files will be between 1 MB and 6 MB in size and will be re-created as needed. You can reclaim quite a bit of space from these files if you had volume groups in the past which are no longer on your system. If you have not removed any volume groups from your system, then deleting these files will not reclaim space, as the files will immediately be needed (when you access the volume groups) and will be re-created at their original size.

2. Check for any tremendously large files in the /dev directory. It is common for a very large file to end up in /dev as a result of a mistyped command (such as backup, tar, or dd).

3. Rerun the command which gave you the 0516-044 error. If you do not get the error, you are finished with this procedure. If you still get the error, continue expanding the "/" filesystem or removing files from that filesystem.

   Warning: AIX does not provide shrinkable filesystems. So if you expand the "/" filesystem to a much larger number than you really need, you cannot reduce the size of "/". Advance the size of "/" in small increments until the 0516-044 problem goes away.

   If you still get the error and you want further assistance with this problem, contact one of the following:

   - local branch office
   - your point of sale
   - 1-800-CALL-AIX (to register for fee-based services)

   All of the above avenues for assistance may be billable.

Reader's Comments

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If you need technical assistance, contact your local branch office, point of sale, or 1-800-CALL-AIX (for information about support offerings). These services may be billable. Faxes on a variety of subjects may be ordered free of charge from 1-800-IBM-4FAX. Outside the U.S. call 415-855-4329 using a fax machine phone.

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Problem Report or Item #: Branch Office or Customer #:

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