Preserve Login Session Information After Accounting

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

About This Document

In some versions of AIX (and UNIX), there is a problem with connection accounting forgetting about jobs that haven't logged off in the last 24 hours. The steps in this document correct this problem.

Note: APAR IX42292 corrected this problem in AIX 3.2.5. The problem was corrected in AIX 3.2.5.1 and all later releases.

About the Problem

The "runacct" command removes the contents of /var/adm/wtmp every night. Because of this, commands such as "last" lose track of users who logged in before the file was cleared.

Workaround

The C program given below will take the /etc/utmp file entries for all currently logged-in users and append them to the existing /var/adm/wtmp file. This will allow "last" to report the user as being logged in and will allow "runacct" to report connection-accounting information for that user.

How to Use the C Program

To use the program below, run it immediately after running the "runacct" command. Typically, "runacct" is executed from the "adm" crontab with an entry of the form:

```
10 23 * * 0-6 /usr/lib/acct/runacct 2>/usr/adm/acct/nite/accterr > /dev/null
```

Edit the "adm" crontab with the command "su adm -c crontab -e" and change that line to read:

```
10 23 * * 0-6 (/usr/lib/acct/runacct ;/usr/lib/acct/mkwtmp)
      2>/usr/adm/acct/nite/accterr> /dev/null
```

Note: The above two lines should be entered as a single line.

The C Program

Compile the C program given below and store in /usr/lib/acct/mkwtmp. The program must be made executable by the "adm" user and group.

Depending on how you are viewing this document, some characters in the following code may appear incorrectly. If the characters in the following list do not match their descriptions, be sure to change them in the code.

[	left bracket
]	right bracket

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <utmp.h>
#include <stdio.h>

main (int argc, char ** argv)
{
   char *utmp_name = "/etc/utmp";
   char *wtmp_name = "/var/adm/wtmp";
   FILE *utmp_fp = 0;
   FILE *wtmp_fp = 0;
   int  flag;
   time_t now;
   struct utmp utmp_rec;
   extern int  optind;
   extern char *optarg;

   while ((flag = getopt (argc, argv, "u:w:")) != EOF) {
      switch (flag) {
         case 'u':
            utmp_name = optarg;
            break;
         case 'w':
            wtmp_name = optarg;
            break;
         default:
            fprintf (stderr,
               "mkwtmp [ -u utmp ] [ -w wtmp ]\n");
            exit (0);
            break;
      }
   }
   if ((utmp_fp = fopen (utmp_name, "r")) == (FILE *) 0) {
      perror (utmp_name);
      exit (1);
   }
   if ((wtmp_fp = fopen (wtmp_name, "w")) == (FILE *) 0) {
      perror (wtmp_name);
      exit (1);
   }
   time (&now);

   while (fread (&utmp_rec, sizeof utmp_rec, 1, utmp_fp) == 1) {
      if (utmp_rec.ut_type == USER_PROCESS) {
         utmp_rec.ut_time = now;
         fwrite (&utmp_rec, sizeof utmp_rec, 1, wtmp_fp);
      }
   }
   exit (0);
}
```

Reader's Comments

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END OF DOCUMENT (wtmp.save.cmd, 4FAX# 2707)