TSO OMVS and You: What to Make of UNIX System Services

Kevin Wick
CA Technologies

Thursday, August 11, 2011
Session 10065
Abstract

- Been using USS for awhile, but still not comfortable with the environment? Do you know enough to be dangerous, and usually are? More and more vendors are starting to use UNIX filesystems and utilities as the heart of their new software, and we need to get you ready to manage it! In this session, the speaker will give an overview of the base UNIX System Services environment, talk about what you need to prepare so your users can use UNIX, and describe how you can manage the files that your vendors are using. We will cover profile setup, file system management, and even get into a high level overview of common web containers, like Apache Tomcat. It's a whole new world out there!
Video Recording Disclaimer

- Today's session will be recorded (both audio and video) for internal use by CA Technologies. If you do choose to ask any questions during or after the presentation, your voice will be recorded.
What’s in a name?

• Official IBM Naming Progression
  • OpenEdition, UNIX Services
  • OS/390 UNIX System Services, OS/390 UNIX
  • z/OS UNIX System Services, z/OS UNIX

• Common but “Unofficial” Names
  • USS: UNIX System Services
  • z/UNIX?
So, What am I Dealing With Here?

- Shell Interface
  - OMVS, ISHELL (ISH)
  - Two shells, “z/OS” and tcsh
  - Scripting Languages (batch and interactive)
- Application Programming Interface (API)
  - Execute programs in batch
  - Request services (from ASM, TSO, REXX)

- Starting to see products (and programmers!) who want to take advantage of all these features at once
What Do My Users Need?

• Notorious “OMVS Segment”
  • UID
  • Logon Shell
  • Home Directory
• Absolutely required for USS use!
  • If you don’t, strange errors will occur!
• Good idea to assign a default group as well
  • If not, z/OS will use the installation default

• Let’s examine each in detail…
UID

• Must:
  • Be numeric, between 0 and 2147483647

• Recommended:
  • Less than 2097151 (because of tar/pax extraction issues)
  • Unique to each user (ensure file security)
  • Not zero! Give BPX.SUPERUSER instead.

• Security packages have the ability to assign the next free UID and prevent shared UIDs… this is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

• Almost all of this applies to the GID as well
Logon Shell

- Must:
  - Exist!
  - Be fully qualified
  - Case sensitive

- Called when the user issues a request for a shell
  - Also when using rlogin, otelnetd, su, or newgrp

- Rare to see it set to anything other than ‘/bin/sh’
Home Directory

- Must:
  - Exist!
  - Be fully qualified
  - Case sensitive
- Recommended:
  - Unique to each user (filesystem too!)
  - Not the root filesystem (/)
  - Not read-only

- This is where the shell points whenever a user requests shell services (interactive or batch). If it’s not there, we’ve got a problem.
Seems Easy, Right?

• Can’t I just make up a bunch of paths and numbers?
  • Sure, for the first 40 users or so…

• Have a policy for assigning UIDs (or use auto assign)
• Make individual filesystems for each user
  • Take advantage of automount
  • Use standard naming convention (just like datasets)
    • /u/smiths01, /u/doej01, /u/smiths02
    • Careful, must be unique here…

• Don’t forget to educate the security team. In most cases, they will be defining new users, not you.
What About File Systems?

• Some common questions:
  • What are all these directories?
  • Where are you going to put stuff?
  • Where should I put stuff?
  • How do I maintain all this?

• Again, we’ll discuss each one individually…
Don’t Touch Me!

- /bin
  - UNIX executables, shell commands
  - Functions somewhat like LNKLST
- /dev
  - Special character files for shells and c89.
  - Populated during IPL, updated automatically
- /lib
  - C runtime libraries, TCP/IP symbolics
- /var
  - Dynamic data used internally by z/OS
  - Files created during execution/customization
We’re Here for You

- /tmp
  - Temporary data
  - Programs/applications use this, you can too!
- /etc
  - Configuration files for all sorts of stuff
  - This is a grey area; IBM puts things here too
- /samples
  - “Un-customized” files (that will live in /etc)
- /u
  - User home directories
  - /u/users is redundant!
Other UNIX Standard Directories

- /opt
  - Software or other “add-on” packages
- /usr
  - Shared user data
  - Usually read-only
  - Not home directories!
What Do Vendors Do?

- IBM might use /opt, /etc, or recommend /usr/lpp
- /<VendorName>/<ProductName>
  - Keeps all related things together
- Almost everyone uses /tmp to some degree

- There is almost always an option to customize
  - Don’t feel forced to take the default
  - However, default sometimes does make the install easier

- Careful changing the directory after install!
Recommendations for Directories

- Use `/u` for home directories
  - Don’t fill it with other “stuff”
- Get in the habit of `/tmp` for temporary files
  - Better than taking up space elsewhere
  - Remember to clean up if not TFS
- Common files go in common places!
  - Put Java in `/usr/lpp` as recommended
  - Don’t fill it with other “stuff”
- Feel free to make your own directories
  - Make a standard and enforce it!
  - Apply DSN qualifiers to promote consistency
    - `/sys2/<ProductName>` for vendor products
Other File System Recommendations

• Give every user their own (small) file system for their home directory
  • Prevents out of space conditions due to other users
  • Encourage creation/addition of more filesystems as necessary
  • Means keeping track, mount permissions, etc…
• Remember that filesystems must be mounted to empty directories!
  • Can’t “cover up” a file
  • This is a very, very common issue
More File System Recommendations

- Use multiple BPXPRMxx members for mounts
  - Don’t forget order of mount points
  - Remember to document!
- New filesystems as logical groupings
  - Again, avoid out of space errors from others
  - Easier to manage and control (unmount and move)
  - More organized, less confusing to new people
- Always new mount points on root, never files
  - Specifically recommended by IBM
  - Easier to upgrade z/OS
  - Usually read-only
The Actual Work!

- Traditional ways to “work” with USS
  - Interactive (OMVS, ISHELL)
  - Batch (Scripts and programs with BPXBATCH)
- Other ways
  - API (ASM, TSO, REXX, etc…)
  - JZOS Batch Launcher
- Use of JZOS is popping up more and more often
  - Easy way to get Java running in a started task
  - Provides additional Java methods to access z/OS services
What is JZOS?

• A load module! There’s a sample PROC too.

• Basically, JZOS is a program that allows Java to run as a started task
  • DD statement support
  • Return code handling
  • Console support (WTOs, Start/Stop, etc…)
  • Access to system variables

• How do I get it?
  • Free offering from IBM
  • Option on z/OS SDK or can be downloaded separately
Simple JZOS Example

```java
/u/wick/java> cat HelloWorld.java
class HelloWorld
{
    public static void main(String args[])
    {
        System.out.println("Hello World!");
    }
}
/u/wick/java> javac HelloWorld.java
/u/wick/java> ls HelloWorld.*
HelloWorld.class  HelloWorld.java
/u/wick/java>
```

```plaintext
000008 //STEP01 EXEC PGM=JVMLDM60,REGION=0M,PARM='HelloWorld +D'
000009 //STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR,DSN=SYS2.JZOS.LOADLIB
000010 //SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=*
000011 //SYSOUT DD SYSOUT=*
000012 //STDOUT DD SYSOUT=*
000013 //STDERR DD SYSOUT=*
000014 //STDENV DD *
000015 APP_HOME=/u/wick/java
000016 export JAVA_HOME=/usr/lpp/java/J6.0
000017
000018 export PATH=$JAVA_HOME/bin
000019 LIBPATH=/lib:/usr/lib:$JAVA_HOME/bin
000020 LIBPATH="$LIBPATH":"$JAVA_HOME"/lib/390
000021 LIBPATH="$LIBPATH":"$JAVA_HOME"/lib/390/j9vm
000022 LIBPATH="$LIBPATH":"$JAVA_HOME"/bin/classic
000023 export LIBPATH="$LIBPATH":
000024 export CLASSPATH="$APP_HOME"$JAVA_HOME"/lib:"$JAVA_HOME"/lib/ext
000025
000026 IJO="-Xms16m -Xmx128m"
000027 export IBM_JAVA_OPTIONS="$IJO"
000028 /*
```
• Wonderful, more Java. Why do I care about JZOS?
Starting Point for Serious Java!

- Provides a MVS environment for web containers
  - Open-source projects: Jetty, Apache Tomcat, JBoss

- Popular among vendors who don’t have time/resources to write their own web containers

- With a little work, you can run these too!
  - Dovetailed Technologies’ Quickstart for Tomcat

- We’ll use this as a sample for the rest of the discussion
  - Vendor web containers are very similar, with more customization
Quickstart for Tomcat

- Tomcat, optimized for Mainframe

```xml
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='IBM-1047'?>
<!--
This is an XML fragment containing entity declarations (variables)
that can be used in the Tomcat SERVXML
-->

<!-- the Tomcat HTTP port -->

<!-- if SERVXML configured for SSL/TLS -->

<!-- normally don't need to change -->
```

nly (see SERVXML)

INFO: Initializing Coyote HTTP/1.1 on http-8080

INFO: Initialization processed in 877 ms

INFO: Starting service Catalina

INFO: Starting Servlet Engine: Apache Tomcat/6.0.18

INFO: Starting Coyote HTTP/1.1 on http-8080

INFO: Server startup in 885 ms
```

- Let’s look at the file system…
Look Familiar?

- Very similar to root
- Another set of directories to manage and understand
- Need to be aware of what they contain and how they are used and maintained

- We’ll take a look at each directory in detail…
The Heart of the Matter

- /bin
  - Common or shared executables, shell scripts
- /webapps
  - Java classes and JAR files
  - User web applications, WAR files
- /lib
  - Web container runtime libraries
Moving Targets

- /log
  - Log files

- /conf
  - Configuration files to setup the server

- /tmp
  - Temporary data
    - Usually only for duration of the STC

- /work
  - Another temporary place
    - Stays around after STC stops
Recommendations

- Watch sizes of `/tmp`, and `/work`
  - Should be documented
  - Consider TFS
- Logging can quickly get out of control
  - Ask about different log levels
  - More logs could be in other directories than just `/log`
- Be aware of `agggrgrow` mount option
- Permanently mount STC-related file systems
  - Use `BPXPRMxx`
  - Careful about order
SMP/E Considerations

• Vendors handle things differently
  • Each file is an element
    • Could use symbolic links if long filenames
  • Multiple files as one element
• SMP/E work on different LPARs?
  • File system(s) have to be mounted on the SMP/E system
  • Use ADRDSSU to DUMP/RESTORE
• Make copies of customized files
  • SMP/E updates might overwrite
More Information

• ABCs of z/OS System Programming, Volume 9
  • http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg246989.html
• z/OS v1r12 UNIX System Services Bookshelf
  • http://publibz.boulder.ibm.com/cgi-bin/bookmgr_OS390/Shelves/bpxzshb0
• JZOS Java Launcher and Toolkit
  • http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/z/os/zos/tools/java/products/jzos/overview.html
• Dovetailed Technologies Quickstart for Tomcat
  • http://dovetail.com/products/tomcat.html
Related Sessions

• 9997: Java SDK, Marcel Mitran
  • Java 6.0.1 and gencon

• Anaheim 9061: Understanding WAS OEM, Glenn Anderson
  • z/OSMF architecture, you can apply what you learned here

• Anaheim 9040: USS Filesystems, Ann Totten

• Seattle 2285: Shell Commands, Ahilan Rajadeva
  • Great USS command introduction

• Austin 8368: JZOS, Hilon Potter
Questions?

• email: Kevin.Wick@ca.com