

Updated for Toolkit version 0.2

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JumpStartTM Architecture and Security Scripts for the SolarisTM Operating Environment - Part 2 *Updated for Toolkit version 0.2*

Update

This Sun BluePrintsTM OnLine article has been updated to reflect changes in the newly released version (0.2) of the JumpStartTM Architecture and Security Scripts ("JASS" Toolkit) for the SolarisTM Operating Environment.

Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the JumpStartTM Architecture and Security Scripts for the SolarisTM Operating Environment - Updated for version 0.2 articles are available at:

- Part 1 http://www.sun.com/blueprints/1100/jssec-updt1.pdf
- Part 2 http://www.sun.com/blueprints/1100/jssec2-updt1.pdf
- Part 3 http://www.sun.com/blueprints/1100/jssec3-updt1.pdf

Overview

This is the second article in a three part series discussing the JumpStart Architecture and Security Scripts ("JASS" Toolkit). The Toolkit is a recommended mechanism of securing systems using the Solaris Operating Environment (Solaris OE).

The first article presented a detailed overview of the JumpStart product, and provided step-by-step instructions for installing and configuring a JumpStart client and server.

This article continues with an overview of the configuration files, directories, and scripts used by the Toolkit to harden Solaris systems.

Philosophy

The goal of the Toolkit is to automate and simplify building secured Solaris OE systems. The Toolkit focuses on Solaris OE security modifications to harden and minimize a system. Hardening is the modification of Solaris OE configurations to improve the security of the system. Minimization is the removal of unnecessary Solaris OE packages from the system which will reduce the number of components that have to be patched and made secure—reducing the number of components has the potential to reduce entry points to an intruder.

Note – Configuration modifications for performance enhancements and software configuration are not addressed by the Toolkit.

The Toolkit was designed to harden systems during installation—this is achieved by using the JumpStart technology as a mechanism for running the Toolkit scripts. As discussed in Part 1 of this series, JumpStart technology provides a method of installing the Solaris OE over a network, and also has the ability to run scripts on the JumpStart client during installation. This function is used to run the scripts in the Toolkit during the installation process automatically.

Additionally, the Toolkit has been designed to run outside the JumpStart framework in a standalone mode. This standalone mode allows the Toolkit to be used on systems that require security modifications and/or updates but cannot be taken out of service to re-install the OS from scratch.

The Toolkit was built with a modular framework. Customers with existing JumpStart installations will benefit from the Toolkit's ability to integrate into their existing JumpStart architecture. For customers who do not currently use the JumpStart product, the flexibility of the Toolkit's framework will enhance their ability to start using the JumpStart product efficiently.

Supported Versions

The current release of the Toolkit works with Solaris OE versions 2.5.1, 2.6, 7, and 8. The Toolkit scripts will automatically detect which version of the Solaris OE software is installed, and only run tasks appropriate to that version.

Toolkit Architecture

The main components of the architecture consist of the following directories:

- Documentation
- Drivers
- Files
- Finish
- OS
- Packages
- Patches
- Profiles
- Sysidcfg

Documentation Directory

This directory contains all Sun BluePrints Online documentation discussing security recommendations for the Toolkit. It may also be accessed through the Internet from:

http://www.sun.com/blueprints/browsesubject.html#security

Drivers Directory

This directory contains all driver scripts—driver scripts are the scripts listed in the rules files that call all other scripts during Toolkit execution. The driver scripts determine which security modifications will be made to each system by calling specified finish scripts. The finish scripts perform the actual modifications to the Solaris OE on the JumpStart clients.

Files Directory

This directory stores files to be copied to the JumpStart client—the Files directory is used in conjunction with an environment variable and driver scripts to select and copy files to the JumpStart client.

Finish Directory

This directory contains the finish scripts that perform system modifications and updates during installation. Finish scripts have been written to perform various tasks such as patch and software installation. These scripts will be discussed further in Part 3 of this series.

OS Directory

This directory must contain only Solaris OE files. These files will be used by the JumpStart server (over the network) to build the client. Different Solaris OE releases should be stored in sub directories within this subdirectory. The sub directories should use the naming convention recommended in Part 1 to enable fine grained control for testing and deployment purposes.

Packages Directory

This directory contains software packages that will be installed by the finish scripts. For example, Secure Shell (SSH) software could be stored in the Packages directory so the appropriate finish script can install and configure the software as required.

Patches Directory

This directory contains the Recommended and Security Patch Clusters (in addition to individual patches). Sub directories should be created in the Patches directory for each of the Solaris OE versions being used. The patch clusters should be extracted into the individual sub directories—this will allow the patch installation script to run without having to first extract the patch cluster for each system installation.

Profiles Directory

This directory contains all profiles—a profile is a file that contains configuration information used by the JumpStart software to determine which Solaris OE cluster to install (Core, End User, Developer, or Entire Distribution), the disk layout to use, and the type of installation to perform (e.g., standalone). These configuration files are used to define how specific systems, or groups of systems are built. Part 1 of this series discusses Profiles in greater detail.

Sysidcfg Directory

This directory contains directories with OS and host specific sysidcfg files. Due to the OS specific nature of the sysidcfg file, a generic version can no longer be used for all Solaris OE releases. The sub directories should use a naming convention similar to that recommended for the OS directory in Part 1. The installation convention used is Solaris_x.x<version #>. The sysidcfg files for the Solaris OE version 2.6 should be stored in a sub-directory named Solaris_2.6.

Script Development Framework

The JumpStart software determines which Solaris OE cluster type to install, specifies disk partitioning, and calls all scripts that are to be executed based on the information specified in the rules file. Additionally, it provides a robust framework for developing scripts to configure Solaris OE systems.

The Toolkit architecture includes additional configuration information that enables scripts to be used in different environments. All variables used in the scripts are maintained in a configuration file—this configuration file is imported by a driver script which will then make the variables available to all subsequent scripts.

Toolkit Configuration

To simplify the migration of the JumpStart environment between sites, specific configuration information is kept in configuration files. The Toolkit has two configuration files, which are both stored in the Drivers directory. The first,

driver.init, should rarely require modification. All site-specific and installation-specific modifications to the environment variables of the Toolkit should be made in the user.init script. This script contains the following variables:

- JASS_FILES_DIR
- JASS_FINISH_DIR
- JASS_PACKAGE_DIR
- JASS_PACKAGE_MOUNT
- JASS_PATCH_DIR
- JASS_PATCH_MOUNT
- JASS_RHOSTS_FILE
- JASS_ROOT_DIR
- JASS_ROOT_PASSWD
- JASS_SAVE_BACKUP
- JASS_SGID_FILE

- JASS_STANDALONE
- JASS_SUFFIX
- JASS_SUID_FILE
- JASS_SVCS_DISABLE
- JASS_TMPFS_SIZE
- JASS_UMASK
- JASS_UNAME
- JASS_UNOWNED_FILE
- JASS_USER_DIR
- JASS_WRITEABLE_FILE

Only these environment variables need to be verified when moving the JumpStart environment from one site to another. The function of each variable is as follows:

JASS CONFIG DIR

This variable defines the location of the Toolkit source tree. In JumpStart mode, the JumpStart variable SI_CONFIG_DIR will be used to set JASS_CONFIG_DIR. In standalone mode, it will be set by the jass-execute script. Normally this variable should not require modification by the user.

JASS_FILES_DIR

This variable points to the location of the Files directory on the JumpStart server. This directory contains files which can be copied to the JumpStart client.

Any files to be copied are specified in the <code>JASS_FILES_LIST</code> variable—these will be copied to the client during installation. The <code>JASS_FILES_LIST</code> variable is set by individual drivers and not in the configuration file. There are several methods available for copying files using this variable which will be covered in Part 3 of this series.

JASS_FINISH_DIR

This variable should not normally require modification. The convention used by the Toolkit is to store all finish scripts in the Finish directory. However, for flexibility, the JASS_FINISH_DIR environment variable has been included for those organizations that require finish scripts to be stored in different locations.

JASS_PACKAGE_DIR and JASS_PACKAGE_MOUNT

These variables specify where software packages are stored.

The JASS_PACKAGE_DIR variable specifies where to NFS mount the JASS_PACKAGE_MOUNT directory. Normally, the JASS_PACKAGE_DIR variable will not require modification because this is a transient mount-point used only during the JumpStart installation.

The JASS_PACKAGE_MOUNT variable identifies the location of software packages available for installation on the JumpStart server. The location must be specified by both hostname or IP address and complete path because this directory is NFS mounted to the JumpStart client during installation. Since a hostname or IP address is specified in the value of the environment variable, it will *always* require modification. This is a JumpStart specific variable, and is not used during standalone installations.

JASS PATCH DIR and JASS PATCH MOUNT

These variables specify the location of the Patches directory on the JumpStart server

The JASS_PATCH_DIR variable specifies the directory where the Patch directory will be mounted during a JumpStart installation and does not usually require modification.

The JASS_PATCH_MOUNT variable specifies the JumpStart server hostname or IP address and complete path of the Patch directory; therefore, the JASS_PATCH_MOUNT variable will require modification for each site. This is a JumpStart specific variable, and is not used during standalone installations.

JASS_RHOSTS_FILE

This variable specifies where the print-rhosts.fin script sends its output. If the variable is not defined or has a null value, the output is sent to standard output. The default configuration of the Toolkit is to not define <code>JASS_RHOSTS_FILE</code> and have the output directed to standard output.

JASS_ROOT_DIR

This variable defines the root directory of the file system. For JumpStart installations this will always be /a. For standalone Toolkit executions, this variable must be changed to one. Toolkit version 0.2 automates this in the jass-execute script so manual modification is no longer required.

JASS_ROOT_PASSWD

This variable specifies the root password used by the set-root-password.fin script. This will only be executed when using the Toolkit in JumpStart mode because the set-root-password.fin script does not run when the Toolkit is run in standalone mode and the system is not being booted off of a mini-root.

JASS_SAVE_BACKUP

This variable controls the creation of backup files during Toolkit execution. The default value of this variable is 1, which causes the Toolkit to create a backup copy of any file modified on client. If the value is changed to 0 then all backup copies will be removed from the system.

JASS_SGID_FILE

This variable specifies where the print-sgid-files.fin script sends its output. If the variable is not defined or has a null value then the output is sent to standard out. The default configuration of the Toolkit is to not define JASS_SGID_FILE and have the output directed to standard out.

JASS STANDALONE

This variable is used to control whether the Toolkit runs in standalone or JumpStart mode. When set to 1 the Toolkit runs in standalone while the value of 0 is used for JumpStart mode. This variable should not require direct modification by the user as the jass-execute script will set it for standalone mode execution. The default value of 0 is correct for JumpStart installations.

JASS_SUFFIX

This variable is used by the Toolkit to determine which suffixes must be appended onto backup copies of files. By default this is set to JASS.

JASS_SUID_FILE

This variable specifies where the print-suid-files.fin script sends its output. If the variable is not defined or has a null value then the output is sent to standard output. The default configuration of the Toolkit is to not define JASS_SUID_FILE and have the output directed to standard output.

JASS_SVCS_DISABLE

This variable can be used to simplify the removal of different services for different servers. When specified, the list of services defined in this variable will be disabled by the update-inetd-conf.fin script. When not specified, the Toolkit will default back to the hard-coded list of services specified in the script itself.

JASS_TMPFS_SIZE

This variable can be used to specify the maximum disk space which may be used in the tmpfs filesystem. By default, this is hard-coded in the set-tmpfs-limit.fin script to be 100MB. When this variable is defined, the value it specifies will be used instead of the default.

JASS_UMASK

This variable provides an override capability for the set-system-umask.fin and set-user-umask.fin scripts. The default value is 022 but can be set to any value desired through the use of the JASS_UMASK environment variable without modifying the script.

JASS UNAME

This variable is used as a global environment variable specifying the OS version of the JumpStart client being built. This variable is set by the driver.init script through the use of the uname -r command and exported so all other scripts can access it.

JASS UNOWNED FILE

This variable specifies where the print-unownded-files.fin script sends its output. If the variable is not defined or has a null value then the output is sent to standard output. The default configuration of the Toolkit is to not define JASS_UNOWNED_FILE and have the output directed to standard output.

JASS_USER_DIR

This variable specifies the location of the Toolkit configuration files user.init and user.driver. By defaut, these files are stored in the Drivers directory. Any custom modifications required, should be implemented in these files to minimize the impact of Toolkit upgrades in the future.

JASS_WRITEABLE_FILE

This variable specifies where the output of the print-world-writeable-files.fin script sends its output. If the variable is not defined or has a null value then the output is sent to standard output. The default configuration of the Toolkit is to not define JASS_WRITEABLE_FILE and have the output directed to standard output.

Limitations

JumpStart is an extremely powerful tool; however, it does have limitations and restrictions. For instance, while booting, a JumpStart client will load a Solaris OE mini-root and run all subsequent commands from this memory based operating system. The operating system being installed is mounted on the mini-root through the mountpoint /a. However, many of the required commands can only be run on the disk-based OS and not from the memory resident mini-root. These commands and scripts must be called through the chroot command. By using the chroot command, the commands and scripts can be run on the newly installed OS image of the client system.

Version Control

Maintaining version control for all files and scripts in the JumpStart environment is critical for two reasons. First, one of the goals of this environment is to be able to recreate a system installation. This will be impossible without having a snapshot of all file versions used during the installation. Secondly, because these scripts are performing security functions—which is a critical process for many organizations—extreme caution should be exercised to ensure only appropriate and tested changes are implemented.

The Source Code Control System (SCCS) used for version control is contained in the Solaris OE SUNWsprot package. Other version control software available from freeware and commercial vendors can also manage version information. Whichever version control product is used—it is important that a process *be in place* to manage updates and capture version information for future system re-creation.

Toolkit (Part 3)

The following article will present detailed information on Toolkit installation and configuration. Additionally, the scripts contained in the Toolkit will be individually listed and discussed. Recommendations on changes necessary to port the Toolkit will also be made.

Part 3 of this series is available at:

http://www.sun.com/blueprints/1100/jssec3-updt1.pdf

Conclusion

This article provided an overview of the JumpStart Architecture and Security Scripts Toolkit. As part of the overview, the design philosophy of the Toolkit was also reviewed. Additionally, the architecture and framework of the Toolkit was discussed. As part of the architecture discussion, the directory structures and their functions were described.

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