
SECTION 3 Understand SuSEconfig

In this section of the workbook, you learn how to do the following:

- “Use the YaST /etc/sysconfig Editor Module” on 3-1
- “Use SuSEconfig to Check and Set File Permissions” on 3-3

Exercise 3-1 Use the YaST /etc/sysconfig Editor Module

To use the YaST /etc/sysconfig Editor module, complete the following:

1. Ensure that you are logged into the server’s GUI as **geeko** with a password of **Nov3ll**.
2. Launch a terminal window by selecting the respective icon.
3. In the terminal window, enter
less /etc/sysconfig/cron
4. Record the value of the variable `MAX_DAYS_IN_TMP`:

5. Quit **less** by pressing **q**.
6. Launch YaST from the main menu by selecting
System > Configuration > YaST Control Center
7. Enter the root password **novell** in the authentication window.
8. On the left, select **System**.
9. On the right, select **/etc/sysconfig Editor**.

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6. Launch YaST from the main menu by selecting
System > Configuration > YaST Control Center
7. Enter the root password **novell** in the authentication window.
8. On the left, select **System**.
9. On the right, select **/etc/sysconfig Editor**.

Browse through the tree on the left side to view the available options.

10. On the left, open the **System** entry.
11. Within System, open the **Cron** entry.
12. Within Cron, select **MAX_DAYS_IN_TMP**.
13. Change the value to **180**.
14. Select **Finish**.
15. Accept the modified variables by selecting **OK**.
16. In the terminal window, repeat the command

less /etc/sysconfig/cron

by pressing **Up-Arrow** and **Enter**.

Notice the change to the MAX_DAYS_IN_TMP variable.



The advantage of the YaST module is the tree structure. The tree lets you find the variables easily without having to bother with the filename and see where these variables are defined. Apart from that, changing the values within the files using an editor has the same effect.

17. Close YaST and your terminal session.

(End of Exercise)

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17. Close YaST and your terminal session.

(End of Exercise)

Exercise 3-2 Use SuSEconfig to Check and Set File Permissions

To use SuSEconfig to check and set file permissions, complete the following:

1. Ensure you are logged in to your server's GUI as **geeko** with a password of **N0v3ll**.
2. Launch a terminal window:
 - a. Press **Alt + F2**.
 - b. Enter **konsole**.
 - c. Select **Run**.
3. In the terminal, get root privileges by entering **sux -**.
4. Enter the root password **novell** at the prompt.
5. To edit the file `/etc/permissions.local`, enter **vi /etc/permissions.local**
6. Add the following line to the end of the file:
/etc/hosts root:root 0644
7. Save the file and exit vi by entering **:wq**.
8. Run SuSEconfig to check file permissions by entering **SuSEconfig --module permissions**

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7. Save the file and exit vi by entering **:wq**.
8. Run SuSEconfig to check file permissions by entering **SuSEconfig --module permissions**

You will see a result similar to this:

```
Starting SuSEconfig, the SuSE Configuration Tool...
Running module permissions only
Reading /etc/sysconfig and updating the system...
Executing /sbin/conf.d/SuSEconfig.permissions...
Checking permissions and ownerships - using the permissions files
/etc/permissions.d/apache2
/etc/permissions.d/cups-client
/etc/permissions.d/kdebase3
/etc/permissions.d/kdelibs3
/etc/permissions.d/mailman
....
Finished.
```

9. Change the file permissions on `/etc/hosts` to simulate a misconfiguration by entering

`chmod g+w /etc/hosts`

10. Run SuSEconfig again to check permissions by entering

`SuSEconfig --module permissions`

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/etc/permissions.d/kdelibs3
/etc/permissions.d/mailman
....
setting /etc/hosts to root:root 0644. (wrong permissions 0664)
Finished.
```

11. Check that the permissions have been corrected by entering

`ls -l /etc/hosts`

You will see a result similar to this:

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/etc/permissions.d/kdelibs3
/etc/permissions.d/mailman
....
setting /etc/hosts to root:root 0644. (wrong permissions 0664)
Finished.
```

11. Check that the permissions have been corrected by entering

`ls -l /etc/hosts`

12. Simulate a misconfiguration to the hosts file permissions by entering

```
chmod g+w /etc/hosts
```

13. Check and reset the permissions by entering

```
chkstat --set /etc/permissions.local
```

You will see a result similar to the following:

```
Checking permissions and ownerships - using the permissions files
/etc/permissions.local
setting /etc/hosts to root:root 0644. (wrong permissions 0664)
```

14. Check that the permissions have been reset again to the configured value by entering

```
ls -l /etc/hosts
```

The result will look like the following:

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 687 Jun 18 08:42 /etc/hosts
```

15. Leave the session with root privileges by entering **exit**.
16. Close your terminal window.

(End of Exercise)

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chmod g+w /etc/hosts
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The result will look like the following:

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16. Close your terminal window.

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