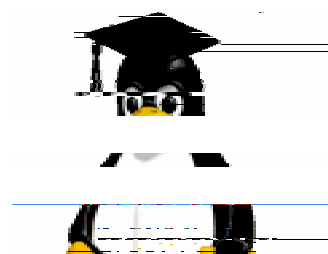


LKCD Installation and Configuration



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About This Lesson

Purpose	This lesson describes how to install and configure the Linux Kernel Crash Dump facility (LKCD).
What is not covered	This lesson will not describe how to use LKCD tools to analyze a Linux crash dump. It will tell you how to obtain a crash dump for later analysis.
Prerequisites	You need to know how to build, install and boot a Linux kernel.

The Crash Dump Process

Introduction	The process used by the LKCD to create a crash dump is discussed in this section.
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Process	The process to obtain a crash dump involves two stages. In <i>stage one</i> , the contents of the systems memory is copied into a temporary disk location called a dump device. In <i>stage two</i> , Linux is booted and the memory image previously saved in the dump device is moved to a permanent location in the directory <i>/var/log/dump</i> . Both the locations of the dump device and the dump directory are configurable.
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System in production

Crash dump requested

Selecting a Dump Device

Introduction When configuring LKCD you must select a disk partition to be used as a

Selecting a Dump Device, Continued

Finding a partition

Available disk partitions and sizes may be listed using the command:

Configuration Options

Introduction

are available to you. This section discusses these options.

Configuration Options,

Options Continued

DUMP_FLAGS	Flag parameters to use when configuring system dumps. In version 4 the only valid settings are: 0 - No flags are required. 1 - Non-disruptive, do not reboot after dumping; continue running.	0
DUMP_COMPRESS	Indicates which compression mechanism the kernel should attempt to use for compression (see below for more on dump compression).	0
PANI_TIMEOUT	Represents the timeout (in seconds) before r after a	

Installing LKCD,

Installing LKCD, Continued

Testing Your LKCD Installation

Introduction Once you have installed and configured LKCD it is important to verify that a crash dump can be taken. This section describes a procedure to test the LKCD installation.

Warning Forcing a crash dump will cause the system to crash. Insure that all

Verifying a Crash Dump, Continued