

RHCE BOOT CAMP

PAM, Kerberos and Software
RAID



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CERTIFIED
E N G I N E E R

PAM

- Applications which are compiled against `libpam.so` may use PAM's modules to customize how individual applications verify their users. Each application has its own configuration file in `/etc/pam.d`
- The first field of the configuration file indicates how the module will be used:
 - **Authentication management (auth)** Establishes the identity of a user.
 - **Account management (account)** Allows or denies access to the account.
 - **Password management (password)** Enforces password management policies.
 - **Session management (session)** Starts, stops, and records each session.

PAM

- The second field of the configuration file indicates the effect that the module will have on the application:
 - **Required** If this module fails, access will not be granted, but all other modules will still be run.
 - **Requisite** If this module fails, access will not be granted and no other modules will be run.
 - **Sufficient** If this module succeeds, access will be granted and no other modules will be run.
 - **Optional** The result of this module is ignored.

PAM

- The third field of the configuration file indicates the name of the actual PAM module to be used for the config line in question.
- Side note:
 - The config file `system-auth` is a collection of many PAM modules commonly used by many authentication services. You will see it included by many of the other configuration files. *Do not modify this file directly.*

PAM

- **pam_unix** Authenticates users by UNIX password
- **pam_securetty** Only allows root to log in from secure terminals listed in `/etc/securetty`
- **pam_nologin** Will not allow any non-root user to login if `/etc/nologin` exists
- **pam_time** Can be configured to allow/deny access based on the system time
- Helpful PAM documentation can be found in:
 - `/usr/share/doc/pam-<version>`

LAB

1. Using PAM, prevent “`guido`” from being able to login on Virtual Console 2. `Guido` should still be able to login elsewhere.

Hint: Configure the `pam_access` module.

2. Set up the `pam_time` module to restrict `linus` so he can only login between 8am and 5pm Monday through Friday, and block out all non-root users from logging in midnight to 2am Sundays for a maintenance period.

KERBEROS

- Kerberos is a secure authentication method which never needs to send passwords over the network, except in the case of changing a password, which is handled with strong encryption.
- All that is needed for a client to set up Kerberos authentication is:
 - Realm
 - KDC - Key Distribution Center
 - Admin Server (often same server as KDC)

LAB

1. Disable NIS authentication and verify you can no longer authenticate as `station#`.
2. Configure your server to authenticate against `server1.example.com` using LDAP and Kerberos passwords. KDC/Admin server: `server1.example.com`, realm: `EXAMPLE.COM`
3. You should then be able to log in to your server as `station#` (where `#` is your station number) with the password: `station#`

SOFTWARE RAID

- Software RAID can all be configured, monitored, and modified with the mdadm command.
- To create a RAID array, you can run the following command:
 - `mdadm -C <RAID dev> -l <LEVEL> -n <# DISKS> <partitions>`
- To verify the RAID array, use either of the following commands:
 - `mdadm --detail <RAID device>`
 - `cat /proc/mdstat`

LAB

1. Create a RAID-5 array on your machine consisting of:
 - 4 partitions
 - each 512MiB in size
 - one of which should be reserved for use as a hot spare
2. Format this array with ext4 and mount it with support for user quotas so that it will persist across reboots.


```
slideshow.end();
```