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Problem rotating Postfix logs

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Linux Command Reference Cheat Sheet

In this cheat sheet you will find a bunch of the most common Linux commands that you're likely to use on a regular basis.

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08-30-2006, 07:17 AM #1

keyF
Member

Registered: Jan 2006
 Location: Moscow
 Distribution: Debian, RHEL, FreeBSD, CentOS
 Posts: 38

Rep:

Problem rotating Postfix logs

Hello,

I tried to search thru the forum and google about my problem, but didn't found anything..

My system: Debian 3.1, Postfix 2.1.5.

Here is the problem: when my [mail](#) logs get rotated postfix don't start to write to new files, and continue to write into

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rotated log files instead.

My
/etc/syslog.conf:
Code:

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```
...
mail.*                -/var/log/mail.l
...
mail.info             -/var/log/mail.in
mail.warn             -/var/log/mail.w
mail.err              /var/log/mail.er
```

My /etc/logrotate.d/postfix-logs:

Code:

```
/var/log/mail.info /var/log/mail.err /var/log/ma
#
    daily
    size=1k #for testing
    rotate 10
    compress
    delaycompress
    notifempty
    create 640 root root
}
```

Here is the /var/log/ listing before logrotate:

Code:

```
24:~# ls /var/log/mail.* -lh
-rw-r----- 1 root root 132K Aug 29 22:25 /var/l
-rw-r----- 1 root root 3.0M Aug 30 08:09 /var/l
-rw-r----- 1 root root 1.9M Aug 30 08:09 /var/l
-rw-r----- 1 root root 4.1M Aug 30 08:05 /var/l
```

then I run

Code:

```
/usr/sbin/logrotate /etc/logrotate.d/postfix-log:
```

and logortate renames my log files to mail.*.1 and creates new logs mail.info, mail.err, etc.
BUT those files are zero length, and rotated files (mail.info.1 for example) are growing because postfix writes to them.

So, what should I do to let postfix know about new files?
"postfix restart" and "/etc/init.d/syslogd restart" does not help.

please advice ;(

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Moderator
Registered: Jun 2001
Location: UK
Distribution: Gentoo, RHEL, Fedora, Centos
Posts: 39,400
Rep: 


sure you need to HPU the syslogd process. one of my default logrotate scripts looks like this:

```
Code:
/var/log/messages /var/log/secure /var/log/maillog
sharedscripts
postrotate
    /bin/kill -HUP `cat /var/run/syslogd.pid`
endscript
}
```

so once the rotate is actually done the kill command is used to send a HUP, which will close and reopen all files, so the existing filehandle which whilst open is oblivious to filename changes closes and reopens the right file names, i.e. the new blank file is now in use.

btw, syslog-ng is so so much nicer than syslogd and deals with its own rotation issues so these things don't matter.

08-30-2006, 07:42 AM #3

keyF
Member
Registered: Jan 2006
Location: Moscow
Distribution: Debian, RHEL, FreeBSD, CentOS
Posts: 38
Original Poster
Rep: 


YES!
now it works right 😊 thank you many times!

but it is strange, because i've tried

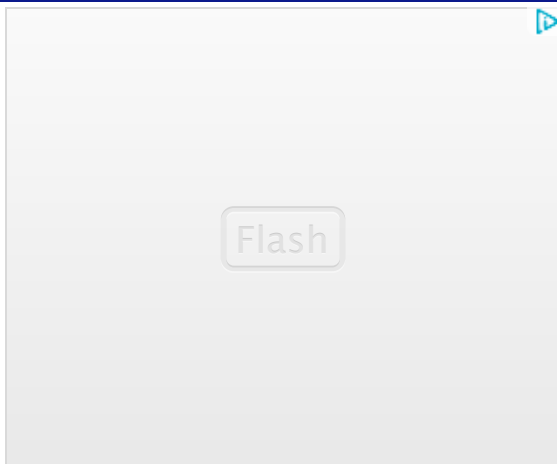
```
Code:
/etc/init.d/syslogd stop
/etc/init.d/syslogd start
```

before and it does not solve the problem. i guess that full stop includes actions taken on HUP signal..
but thank you anyway 😊

08-30-2006, 07:56 AM #4

acid_kewpie
Moderator
Registered: Jun 2001
Location: UK
Distribution: Gentoo, RHEL, Fedora, Centos
Posts: 39,400
Rep: 

yeah i would have thought that'd do it too...




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