

Securing root password?

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Do you all have a "best practice" for "securing" the root account?

One of my clients has an auditor suggesting that they write the password for root on a piece of paper and put it in a secure vault, and that we have to change the root password after every login (do we also need to shoot the person who writes the password on the paper?).

One of our Sun guys has come up with an way that stores the encrypted root password in a file on a central server, encrypted with the hash file from the Sun box. Basically, after it detects that the encrypted file has been accessed, it compares the password with the password on the Sun box to see if it needs to reset it automatically.

In theory, it works, but I don't see how well it ports to AIX (I've never seen an AIX server-specific hash file that could be used to implement this).

We have one client who has opted to prevent CONSOLE-level root login access (you always have to log in as a user and su/sudo to root, even at the console).

How do you all secure the root password and audit who is logging in as root? Note, I can already check su and sudo accesses. How do you keep the root password secure and audit direct root logins?

Thanks.

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