

freebsd-questions: RE: make world : did it fail?

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From: Dan MacMillan (*flowers_at_users.sourceforge.net*)

Date: 05/12/04

Date: Tue, 11 May 2004 19:52:49 -0600

To: Dan MacMillan <flowers@users.sourceforge.net>, freebsd-questions@freebsd.org

Hi.

I'd still like to hear from anyone with insight into this (whether an actual problem occurred or not), but here's what I've decided to do:

I know from the script output that the buildworld and buildkernel succeeded. The only step that is suspect is the installkernel. So:

In case something did screw up, I want to make sure I still have the known good kernel available:

```
rm -rf /boot/kernel
mv /boot/kernel.old /boot/kernel
```

Then I booted into single-user mode and ran:

```
uname -a
```

It reported the unpatched kernel (good). So:

```
cd /usr/src
script /root/mw/mw-200405111844.out
make installkernel KERNCONF=GOLLUM
```

This time I sat around and waited for it to finish. Finally, it did, with no errors or other suspect output. Satisfied, I rebooted. No problems, so back into single-user-mode to installworld:

```
cd /usr/src
script /root/mw/mw-200405111852.out
make installworld && echo "sleeping now" && sleep 600 && reboot
```

I would have waited around for this to complete but I wanted to go home. I reasoned that 10 minutes should surely be enough for script to flush output to disk (man 1 script says it flushes, by default, every 30 seconds). By rebooting I would then be able to continue setting up the server through an SSH session from home (I established and tested SSH settings on the company

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firewall before beginning the make world). Sure enough, I just logged in and:

```
> tail mw-200405111852.out  
====> etc/sendmail
```

>>> *Rebuilding man page indices*

```
cd /usr/src/share/man; make makedb  
makewhatis /usr/share/man  
makewhatis /usr/share/openssl/man  
rm -rf /tmp/install.8m808LpI  
sleeping now  
>
```

So it looks like everything's good.

Is there any flaw in my reasoning? In particular, even though it appeared to work, is it a bad idea to delete the active kernel? I've done it before and I haven't had any problems, but I always feel like I'm playing Russian Roulette when I do it.

-Dan

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-freebsd-questions@freebsd.org
[mailto:owner-freebsd-questions@freebsd.org]On Behalf Of Dan MacMillan
Sent: May 11, 2004 18:11
To: freebsd-questions@freebsd.org
Subject: make world : did it fail?

Hi.

I just ran the make world procedure on a freshly installed FreeBSD system. After dropping to single user mode, I ran:

```
cd /usr/src  
script /root/mw/mw-200405111310.out  
make buildworld && make buildkernel KERNCONF=GOLLUM && make installkernel  
KERNCONF=GOLLUM && reboot
```

I do things this way because I don't want to babysit the machine waiting to proceed to the next step. When I heard the computer reboot (it's sitting right next to me), I logged in and ran:

```
tail /root/mw.out
```

To see if anything untoward had happened. The result looks like this:

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```
> tail /root/mw/mw-200405111310.out
install -o root -g wheel -m 555 safe.ko /boot/kernel
====> sbni
install -o root -g wheel -m 555 if_sbni.ko /boot/kernel
====> scsi_low
install -o root -g wheel -m 555 scsi_low.ko /boot/kernel
====> smbfs
install -o root -g wheel -m 555 smbfs.ko /boot/kernel
====> sound
====> sound/pcm
install -o root -g wheel -m 555 snd_>
```

Doesn't look so good, does it? Now I'm not sure if it rebooted because of the '&& reboot' or because it ran into some terrible no good awful bad problem. I checked the timestamps on all the files in /boot/kernel and they all look good (all .ko files dated today within 1 minute of each other, the kernel a few minutes older). The number of files in /boot/kernel matches the number in /boot/kernel.old. I ran (from my home directory):

```
ls /boot/kernel > kernel
ls /boot/kernel.old > kernel.old
diff kernel kernel.old
```

And there are no differences.

uname -a now reports 5.2.1-RELEASE-p6.

I'm thinking that probably what happened is that the machine rebooted without the remaining script output being flushed to disk. Is there any way to tell for sure? And should this even be possible? I've followed this technique on my home machines several times and never got the script output truncated like this.

I'm now cursing myself for putting the && reboot on there. I can re-run the make world procedure, but unless I figure out for sure what happened here I'm afraid it's indicative of a more significant problem.

Thanks in advance.

--

Danny MacMillan

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