

## Re: Disappearing files, created from /etc/X11/Xclients

---

*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/questions/2007-03/msg01860.html>

---

- *From:* Alex Zbyslaw <[xfb52@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:xfb52@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 20 Mar 2007 15:56:37 +0000
- 

Please include freebsd-questions on any replies.

Laszlo Nagy wrote:

If `os.getlogin()` failed non-fatally and returned, say, an empty string, then you'd be creating a file called ".txt", if I read correctly. What does "`ls -lsa /tmp/disklessips`" show? Do you in fact have .txt and .history.txt files (which a simple `ls` won't show you).

There are no '.txt' and '.history.txt' files. :-(

Failing that, you'll just need to include some debugging. Open a file in /tmp to write stuff to, and print \*all\* the various variables you use to that file. (Or just print them to stdout if that will show up on the console). Then try as some other user and check that everything really does have the value you think it does.

Unfortunately, I cannot debug this way. The error is that no files are created by normal users, so I cannot use files for logging. Also there is no console because this is the /etc/X11/Xclients script, e.g. it is executed by gdm after logging in to X window system through xdmcp. Well, I might setup an xml rpc server for logging, but hey, if I cannot write into a wicked file then I should not start with complex protocols and networking.

Humour me. Try opening a fixed filename in a location which you double-check is world-writeable. E.g. /tmp/FOO and print all your relevant variables there. If it works as gandalf, then delete that trace file and try as a non-working user.

If that fails, then try opening the file in the home directory of the user who you are testing as.

If that fails then you can try logging them with syslog.

If \*that\* fails then make your console world-writeable for a little while and print directly to that

Re: Disappearing files, created from /etc/X11/Xclients

(/dev/console) (assuming there is a console which you can sit in front of).

One way or another you need to get debugging info to figure out what is not working.

I asked this on the FreeBSD questions list because I thought that there is some OS specific stuff that I don't know of.

There's no FreeBSD specific feature which makes file mysteriously vanish, that I'm aware of ;--)

Are you sure that if say the file() fails, that a window manager won't start anyway? You can test that by making the filename something clearly non-existent.

--Alex

---

freebsd-questions@xxxxxxxxxxx mailing list

<http://lists.freebsd.org/mailman/listinfo/freebsd-questions>

To unsubscribe, send any mail to "freebsd-questions-unsubscribe@xxxxxxxxxxx"