

Re: Restarting ntpd on address change

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/stable/2005-11/1142.html>

From: Brooks Davis (*brooks_at_one-eyed-alien.net*)

Date: 11/30/05

Date: Tue, 29 Nov 2005 18:19:30 -0800

To: "Ian D. Leroux" <ian_leroux@fastmail.fm>

On Tue, Nov 29, 2005 at 09:01:16PM -0500, Ian D. Leroux wrote:

> Greetings,
>
> My machine's ip address is assigned by DHCP, and whenever it changes
> ntpd stops functioning and must be restarted. I gather this behavior
> will be changed in some future ntpd version, but in the meantime I had
> added a line to my /etc/dhclient-exit-hooks to restart ntpd every time a
> new address was obtained:
>
> # [...] setup variables for ipcheck
>
> if [-n "\$new_ip_address"]; then
> # [...] run ipcheck to update my dyndns
> /etc/rc.d/ntpd restart
> fi
>
> This seemed work fine on 5.4, but on 6.0 it gives problems at boot.
> Specifically, I get repeated "bad file descriptor" errors after my
> network address is assigned, and running ps after the boot completes
> shows that there are two ntpd processes running. Killing one of them
> stops the file descriptor errors. My interpretation of this (for what
> it's worth) is that an ntpd process gets started before dhclient gets a
> chance to configure the address (perhaps when the interface initially
> comes up) and then when the address is assigned the /etc/rc.d/ntpd
> restart starts a second process, but somehow fails to stop the first
> one. For now I've removed that line from dhclient-exit-hooks, which
> avoids the problems at boot time.
>
> I have the feeling that I'm not doing the Right Thing here. So is there
> an accepted (or at least known-good) way of automatically managing the
> restart of ntpd on address change? Have I found a bug in rc.d worth
> investigating? Or should I just stick to manual restarts until ntpd
> stops needing them?

Hmm, this should work because the pid file should prevent ntpd from getting started twice. That happens on my -CURRENT laptop so I'm

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thinking there's something going on in the startup process that's tripping you up. One thought I had was that /var/run might be getting cleared, but it doesn't look like that should be the case.

On a tangential note, the ntpd script won't actually support chroots due to it's broken assumption that devices can exist outside devfs file systems.

--- Brooks

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Any statement of the form "X is the one, true Y" is FALSE.

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