

## Re: Restoring mksysb on bigger disk

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ketsak <[member44158@dbforums.com](mailto:member44158@dbforums.com)> writes:

>No responses ???!!!!!! Need some expert advice.....

Okay, I'll speak first. Don't do it. The odds of getting it right are too small.

>> I have RS/6K running 4.2.1 with mirrored ROOTVG on 4.3 GB disks  
>> (hdisk0 & hdisk1). I want to take a system backup and JUST FOR  
>> verification purpose wants to restore it on the SAME system (as I  
>> don't have any spare system), but on DIFFERENT spare hard disks, of  
>> the size 18 GB each. While restoring I may not be able to power  
>> down/disable hdisk0 & hdisk1, i.e these two disks would be on line  
>> with 18GB disks.

>> I know that before running mksysb I need to edit /image.data file to  
>> change PP size to 32 MB (currently it is 8 MB for 4.3 GB disks) under  
>> vg\_data stanza. Also I need to verify PROMPT=YES in /bosinst.data  
>> file. Now my questions are :

>> 1) Do I need to change PP size to 32 MB under all 'lv\_data' stanza in  
>> /image.data ?

If you have just file systems, not raw LVs, I \*think\* you can leave the PP stuff alone and just set SHRINK=yes. I'm pretty sure I've done this at least once with no problems (but this might have been on AIX later than 4.2.1).

If 4.2.1 doesn't support the SHRINK option, then you should adjust all PP/LP sizes and counts. At least, I have done this and had the restore work.

>> 2) According to new PP size do I need to change FS\_SIZE under  
>> 'fs\_data' stanza in /image.data ?

The FS\_SIZE is in blocks and doesn't need to change. You might end up with unused space at the end of the LVs, but that is not important.

comp.unix.aix: Re: Restoring mksysb on bigger disk

>> 4) *After selecting target disks under Installation & Maintenance menu,  
>> still is there any possibility that restore process may affect  
>> existing rootvg on hdisk0 & hdisk1 ?*

Yes! That's why I wouldn't try this without disconnecting hdisk0 and 1.  
Especially with such an old AIX. If I remember correctly, if you had  
two sets of disks that internally claimed to have the same LVs and you  
somehow activated them both at the same time, the ODM got very confused.

>> 5) *To avoid probable problem mentioned in Q-4, do I need to edit  
>> /bosinst.data file to reflect location of the target disks (18 GB  
>> disks) under 'target\_disk\_data' stanza ?*

I would. Just in case.

>> 6) *Suppose I succeed in restoring mksysb tape on new hard disks, now  
>> on simply physically removing those disks, will I be able to boot  
>> from hdisk0 again without any problem ?*

Depends on how you've set your bootlist. If you set it to try the new  
disks first, then hdisk0, you should be okay. After you are done with  
the testing, change the bootlist to hdisk0 and 1 only again.

>> 6) *Do you see any other potential problem in restoring this way ? Or  
>> please let me know if I may be missing some steps for successful  
>> restoration on bigger disks.*

Create two mksysb images, one normal and one with your edited image.data and  
bosinst.data files. That way, if the second one proves unreadable part way  
through, and hdisk0 gets clobbered in spite of your care, you'll still  
have the first tape to recover with.

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