

Re: failing & corrupt hdisks & mirror... restore VG's from tape?

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- *From:* "p595pimp" <christiancolborn@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 27 Feb 2007 12:39:32 -0800
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On Feb 27, 11:51 am, "Michael W. Ryder" <_mwry...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

p595pimp wrote:

On Feb 26, 11:35 pm, "Michael W. Ryder" <_mwry...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

p595pimp wrote:

Wow, thanks for your in-depth response, man, it was very helpful. i'll tell you what happened: i removed the definitions of the failing hdisks (1 & 4) with rmdev commands, brought the system down, physically removed the disks, installed the new disks in same slots as old disks, brought the system up & ran cfgmgr (this was wierd, as it labeled the disks hdisk6 & hdisk7, even though i had remeoved their def's from the odm), exported the vg01 volume group that was on the failed disks, recreated vg01 on the new hdisks (same pv size, same pp sizes), tried to restore vg01 from the tape backup that we had (tape backup included the whole system, which had 2 uservg's; vg01 & vg02).. .tried using restvg for this, and various smitty restvg, smitty lvm methods of restoring this VG (vg01) from the tape... but all i would get was an error:

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0512-025 restvg: The image data file does not exist. Restore of Volume Group cancelled.
anybody have any ideas?
Thanks,
-P

If the data was placed on the tape using a regular backup command you should be able to do a regular restore. Use 'restore -T' to see if the files are on the tape.

thanks' i'll try that in the morning and let you know how it goes.
i'm not sure how the backups were created, they seem to outsource ALL of their IT stuff... I'll find out though, assumed savevg -> restvg, didnt think of old backup -> restore method. guess i should have as nothing has been updated or patched on this machine in almost 10 years!
thanks!
-P

BUT also... say that the tape IS valid, (and not, i really hope, just a mkysyb or something), but say it IS valid, and has backups of rootvg, and both the uservgs, vg01 & vg02...(vg01 is the one that needs restored)...
now...
does restore (or restvg for that matter) know to seek out the particular VG thats missing from the target system? in other words, i cant find anything in the AIX 4.3 man pages for restvg or restore that has an argument for targeting just ONE of the uservg's (like our missing vg01) on a tape backup.
i mean, i recreated the vg... vg01, on the 2 new hdisks i installed, so how does restvg know what specific vg & data to restore?
its late, and i'm tired and don't know if i'm explaining this right, but do you understand what i mean?
your help is much appreciated.
thanks,
-P

If the tape was created using the backup command you would restore the volume groups by specifying the directories in the volume groups. If the volume group had directories data1 and data2 you would use something like 'restore -xvf /dev/rmt0 /data1 /data2' to restore the data.

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yeah, I looked at the backup script and, youre right, they used "backup" instead of "savevg", so I'll have to recreate using that method. another thing is this:

the original problem came when two hdisks (hdisk1 & 4) started showing I/O errors, and the scsi bus they were attached to was showing errors... so, I initially thought it was a scsi bus problem, but my coworker thought it was just failing disks... so...

we got two new disks and swapped out the failing ones and recreated the datavg that way... but... after putting the new disk in, we were still getting the same errors, so now i'm pretty much convinced that the scsi bus may be the culprit.

so...

what i'm wondering is this: could it be possible that just the two slots on the scsi bus that the original disks were attached to were the culprit? in other words, if i put the new disks into the secondary scsi bus (scsi1... currently unused)... should this remedy the situation? or, assuming that these slots are bad, should we worry that the entire scsi0 bus is unreliable, and just try to move ALL the disks to scsi1?

thanks in advance,

-P

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