

Re: SCO 5.0.4/5 stops at boot: prompt on a fresh install in a VMware workstation

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- *From:* Bleve <carl.I.brewer@xxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 1 Jul 2008 00:57:19 -0700 (PDT)
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On Jul 1, 5:21 pm, Nico Kadel-Garcia <nka...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

On 1 Jul, 03:22, Bleve <carl.I.bre...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hello,

I'm a complete newbie with SCO, but not to UNIX. A client of mine has an old SCO 5.0.5 server running a very small Progress database and the hardware is finally dying. We're going to run it in a VMware workstation, at the moment, with IDE disks, which seems to be working after some simple hackery with 5.0.7 install floppy images... but it works.

I've done a clean install into the VM, applied the licence keys, but every time I try and boot the VM it stops at the boot: prompt. Hitting return makes it boot, and it then asks to be licenced, and then asks for the root password or ^d to continue into normal mode. I can ^d in and it seems to run ok from then on.

Can anyone here point me at what I need to do to get it to boot up multi user without needing user input on the (virtual) console?

What happens if you just \*wait\* for a few minutes? Under 5.0.6, there's a lengthy pause at that stage: I think that it's a legacy of what is basically a very antique operating system that thinks you should reboot only in emergencies, and therefore you \*MUST\* want a lengthy chance to have a talk with it at boot time.

I haven't tried that, but will do so once this server build is done, thankyou.

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Be warned: that IDE based installation works fine iwth VMware Workstation, but VMware ESX doesn't support it. You have to use the Buslogic emulated SCSI and 5.0.7 boot floppy, described at AP Lawrence's website, to install on VMware ESX.

Understood, I think I can get away with workstation, running in a VNC session. It's kludgy but buys me time to fix the real problems.

More background if it helps :

I have a CPIO archive of the existing system that I want to restore on top of the VM once this is working, so I can get it working with a minimum of fuss in a hurry. Any tips or caveats to doing this? I expect the kernel might get upset, or maybe the licence will stop moaning?

Restoring form cpio is begging for pain. It's likely to seriously screw up your kernel and configuration if you simply restore on top of it: this is AT&T SysV with SCO modifications on top of it, not Linux, and that nutty symlinking all over the file system of your installed software that OpenServer does is likely to present profound difficulties.

Yeah ... it's a mess alright, I think I can get away with just the progress database stuff and recreate the rest, but how do you activate the licence?