

# NIS with Linux and Sun: Environment

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Hello

I am integrating some Linux (RH AS 2.1) clients in a Sun (2.7) NIS domain. Some difficulties arise related to the different environments needed depending on the host from which the user is logging in.

It seems that the `/etc/profile` and the `$HOME/.profile` and a lot of other shell related files have to be adapted to handle environment differences, checking the type of host the user is coming from. One striking problem is the shell set in the NIS `passwd` file, which will prevent logging in if it won't exist at the same place in the client. My only idea until now is to put a link on the client.

I do this procedure for the first time and it seems quite prone to errors. For example, similar binaries on different platforms could create an own `.dir` in the user's home (like `.netscape`), putting files there that are not necessarily compatible across platforms, or files could be overwritten by switching platforms etc. I am looking for something like "best practices", "common methods", "proven solutions" or the like, in order not to have to test and invent everything anew. Shells used are `csh`, `ksh`, `bash` and `sh`.

Any hint, recommendation or reference to pertinent documents will be highly appreciated.

Thanks

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