Cosmo and Eric

Cosm-Eric: A World Class Vision

- Change from local NIS (on Cosmos) and NIS+ (on Eric) authentication to "eUMIST" (LDAP-based) authentication.
- Update available applications, e.g., up-to-date email clients and web browsers.
- Decent documentation.
- Eric to become (half) a general-usage machine.
- Change of policy: encourage use of Cosmos and Eric rather than restrict usage market the things.
- Decent entry on Cosmos (and Eric) in ISD documentation, e.g., The Handbook and on our Website.

SNMP on Cosmos

• SNMP

Cosmos Documenttion — ISD Web Pages

- Accessing Cosmos.
- ISD Web Pages Sketch

Gnome on Cosmos

Here.

LDAP/eUMIST Authentication

The short version: I installed LDAP on a RedHat box and changed authentication on said box to LDAP (rather than flat, <TT>/etc/</TT>, files); changed a Solaris 8 box to authenticate as a client of the RedHat box — this a first step to getting Solaris 7 boxes (Eric and Cosmos) doing the same thing (tried Solaris 8 first as this was reputed to be *much* easier than Solaris 7); changed a Solaris 7 box to do the same thing — this *was* much harder; changed Cosmos to do the same.

This is the long version:

• LDAP-based authentication

Cosmos Printing — and Printing via Cosmos

Many of the applications and utilities on Cosmos "print" by exporting to generic Postscript which can either be saved to a file or streamed directly to a printer (or print queue); these apps and utils do not come with drivers suitable for printing transparencies, A3, duplex-A4, etc.

So I wrote suitable drivers — essentially wrappers for the generic Postscript:

• Printing

Anyone registered in the Unicon NIS database can print from a *trusted host* (i.e., a machine registered...). In practice only eUMIST usernames are to be registered.

The problem of which machines can actually be trusted remains! A workaround is to use this script on non-trusted machines:

• Printing via Cosmos

Cosmos: General

• Nicks Doc

Cosmos: Applications

• Applications, compilers, etc.

Plans for Autumn 2002

• Plans

Eric

• Tony's Doc

System Monitoring

Eric is currently watched by SyMon:

• SyMon

ISD Handbook

• ISD Handbook

Admin Objects

Nick Blackaby wrote a bunch of Perl scripts to facilitate account creation and management on Cosmos (to be found in <TT>/usr/userreg</TT>). With a change of authentication from NIS to LDAP these needed updating. I took the opportunity to re-write the scripts an OO collection of modules — these should be more easily maintable and extendable:

• Admin Objects

These are two be found in <TT>/usr/userreg_AO</TT> — accessible via <TT>/usr/local/bin/admin_objects</TT>.

<TT>sshd</TT>

The SSH2 stuff (from SSH Communications, rather than OpenSSH) is installed on Cosmos (<TT>/usr/local/sbin</TT> and <TT>/etc/ssh2</TT>):

• <TT>sshd</TT>

Since Cosmos uses PAM to do the LDAP authentication SSH clients *must* use **keyboard_interactice** as the authentication method:

• Using <TT>ssh</TT> clients to connect to Cosmos.

<TT>rexec</TT>

This really needs to be disabled:

• <TT>rexec</TT>

Logs in Cosmos and Eric: <TT>newsyslog</TT>

To satisfy the requirements of the Data Protection Act the default logging configuration on Cosmos has been changed.

TCP Wrappers

... are installed and in use on Eric:

-- tcp wrappers: /opt/tcp_wrappers

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