

## Backups - exercises

### SA-E Track @ AfNOG 2010

We are going to do something similar to what was done in the slides, i.e.: take a backup of /etc and /usr/local/etc to ANOTHER machine in the class, effectively implementing a "remote backup".

#### Required knowledge - you need to understand:

- manipulating ssh
- also, understanding ssh keys (not mandatory)

#### Prerequisites:

- you need to have an account on the machine you will backup TO

1. Find a partner in the class, with whom you will be doing backups
2. Agree with this person which account you will use -- ideally, create a "backup" user, which you can create with the "pw" user:

```
# pw useradd backup -m -s /bin/sh
# passwd backup
```

Enter in a password that you will remember :-)

3. If you understand SSH keys sufficiently, follow these instructions, otherwise skip to step 4.

You will copy your .ssh/id\_rsa.pub key file to the ".ssh/authorized\_keys" file of the account on the REMOTE machine, i.e.: if the machine you will be working with is "pc13", and YOUR machine is "pc16" then you will need:

- an account ("backup") on pc13
- a generated, **passphrase-less** key on YOUR machine (pc16) in .ssh/id\_rsa.pub (remember, that file is in your HOME directory -- under .ssh/)
- a copy of this key on the account ("backup") on the REMOTE ("pc13") machine

4. Using what you have learned during the presentation, we will attempt to backup the /etc and /usr/local/etc directories.

We do this as root.

```
# rsync -avzR /etc /usr/local/etc backup@<remotemachine>:
```

... where <remotemachine> is the name or IP address of the REMOTE machine you have created the account on.

5. Observe what happens, and log on to the remote machine to see that the backup has worked:

```
# ssh backup@<remotemachine>
...
% ls -l
```

6. Did it work ? :)

7. You could then use a script (program) to move the backup out of the way, and repeat this backup process automatically once every day, or twice a day, for example.