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A/UX: Advantages of dump.bsd (8/94)

Article Created: 3 April 1989

Article Reviewed/Updated: 22 August 1994

TOPIC -----

What are the advantages of using dump.bsd?

DISCUSSION -----

As described in the Local System Administration guide section on Backing Up Your System, the programs "dump.bsd" and "restore" can be used for backup.

The dump.bsd command is used for partial or full file system backups. The restore program is the companion utility of dump.bsd. It retrieves files and directories from a backup medium created with dump.bsd.

The ADVANTAGES of using dump.bsd and restore include the following:

- dump.bsd is generally faster than tar or cpio.
- They allow you to back up only those files modified or created after a certain date.
- The restore command can extract files by their inode numbers.
- A variation of the dump.bsd command, rdump, allows you to back up files over a network.
- You cannot inadvertently backup a file system located on a remote computer.

The DISADVANTAGES of using dump.bsd and restore are as follows:

- They operate only on file systems. As distributed, A/UX has only one file system, so this is not initially a drawback. However, if you add one or more file system, your use of these backup utilities becomes more complicated because you have to backup the file systems individually.
- You must be sure the system's date and time are always correct, or you are likely to lose files when restoring from an incremental backup.
- Backups made with dump.bsd cannot usually be transferred to other systems.

Article Change History:

22 Aug 1994 - Reviewed and updated.

31 Aug 1992 - REVIEWED for technical accuracy.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 3775