Tech Info Library

ABS Tech Note: AWS30 /etc/fstab corruption (11/94)

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TOPIC ---

This technical note provides a workaround to the /etc/fstab file corruption
problem.

DISCUSSION --

Overview
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1) After a fresh install of A/UX 3.1 (from the full installer CD, not the
   Upgrade), /etc/fstab is an AppleDouble file, typed 'TEXT', creator
   'iAUX' (the A/UX Installer's signature). Since the creator is not
   'A/UX' or 'tefi' and the Finder cannot find the Installer application,
   the icon for /etc/fstab is the unknown (grey) text document. The system
   behaves correctly as long as /etc/fstab remains an AppleDouble file....

2) If /etc/fstab is then edited and saved with TeachText, TextEditor, or
   any other Macintosh application, the A/UX file manager will convert it
   to AppleSingle format, which is not understood by fsck. This occurs
   because the "TBTRANSLATEUXONLY" environment variable is set (the
   default), and 'iAUX' is not a creator for which the file manager
   handles TEXT files specially (these are 'DOS ', 'tefi' (TextEditor) and
   'A/UX').

The problem is not with TextEditor, but with the A/UX file manager's
handling of the TEXT file type and creator. This behavior was
introduced in A/UX 3.1.

Workaround
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1) Open /etc/fstab with TextEditor (don't use TeachText!).

2) Select and copy the contents of /etc/fstab into the cut-and-paste
   buffer (Command-C).

3) Open a new TextEditor document (Command-N) with a unique name (not
   fstab!); be sure that the "Save Text Only" button is set in the dialog
   box (this is the default).

4) Paste the contents of /etc/fstab into the new document.

5) Save the new document and quit TextEditor.

6) From the Finder, drag /etc/fstab to the Trash and empty the Trash.

7) Rename the new document to /etc/fstab.

It won't work to just do a "Save As..."; TextEditor will preserve the incorrect file creator. The installer of the patch from A/UX 3.1 to A/UX 3.1.1 will also correct this problem if it hasn't already been corrected.

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