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I accidentally removed the /bin directory!

Keywords

rm remove /bin crash installation **disks** 2.3 2.2 xenix restore directory rebuild removed no shell recovery lost accidentally

Release

SCO XENIX Operating System Release 2.3 and 2.2

Problem

I accidentally removed the /bin directory. How can it be recovered from installation **disks**?

Solution

Boot into System Maintenance mode on the hard **disk**. If booting on the hard **disk** is successful, proceed to section (B), below. If the error message "no shell" is encountered when trying to boot into System Maintenance mode, proceed to section (A), below. Otherwise, you may have more corruption on your hard **disk** than a missing /bin directory, and will need more information than what is covered in this document.

- (A) Reboot the machine with the N1 **disk** in the floppy drive, as if installing, and proceed until the message "this installation will overwrite your hard **disk**, do you wish to continue?" appears. At this point, abort the installation by pressing the <delete> key to produce the <installation> prompt.

Issue the following command to clean the root filesystem:

```
/bin/fsck /dev/hd0root
```

If you are prompted for a scratch file, refer to the article in this database on running fsck on a large hard **disk**. After the root filesystem is clean, use the following commands to mount the hard **disk**; copy any files in /bin from the installation **disk** to the hard **disk**:

```
/etc/mount /dev/hd0root /mnt  
cd /mnt/bin  
/bin/cp /bin/* .  
/etc/haltsys
```

When the "Normal System Shutdown" prompt appears, take the installation **disk** out of the floppy drive, and hit any key to reboot on the hard **disk**. Bootup into System Maintenance mode by issuing the root password.

Proceed to section (C), below.

- (B) After successful bootup on the hard **disk**, into System Maintenance mode, copy files from the /bin directory on the root installation **disk** in the following manner.

If you have 96tpi media, insert the N1 into the floppy drive. If you have 135tpi media, insert the N2 into the floppy drive.

Issue the following commands:

```
mount -r /dev/install /mnt
cd /bin
cp /mnt/bin/* .
umount /dev/install
```

Proceed to section (C), below.

- (C) Issue the following commands to retrieve all files from the /bin directory found on the installation **disks**:

```
cd /
tar xvf /dev/install ./bin
```

NOTE: IF YOU HAVE 96tpi MEDIA, the "tar" command must be issued with each installation **disk** in the floppy drive, except N1.

NOTE: IF YOU HAVE 135tpi MEDIA, the "tar" command must be issued with each installation **disk** in the floppy drive, except N1 and N2.

Do not be concerned if tar reports that no /bin files are found on a **disk**, this may be the case for some **disks**. After all /bin files have been tarred from the installation **disks**, use the "fixperm" command to fix the permissions on the files, and find any other inconsistencies in the system:

```
fixperm -csdRTS /etc/perms/*
```

Fixperm may list files that are no longer linked. To relink files, use the following example:

```
rm file1
ln file2 file1
```

You may now issue the command:

```
custom
```

choosing option 1, for Operation System files, and remove any packages which should not be installed.

NOTE: You may experience inconsistencies in your system from the original removal of the /bin directory.

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