Lab 10.2: Configuring a Backup Job
IN719 Systems Administration

Introduction

In the last lab we performed a simple backup and restore to familiarise ourselves with the Bacula tools and processes. Configuring a "real" backup job is a bit more involved, however. Much of the necessary configuration required involves getting the various components to communicate over the network[1].

In this lab we will configure a job to backup files on our `mgmt` servers. After completing this lab you should be ready to cofigure backup jobs on all of your Linux servers.

1 Configure Bacula-fd on mgmt

1. Install the `bacula-client` package on `mgmt`.
2. Modify the configuration file `/etc/bacula/bacula-fd.conf`.
   (a) In the *Director* section, change the name to `backup-dir` (or whatever your Bacula Director's name is configured to be). Change the password value to something you can remember and copy accurately later.
   (b) In the *FileDaemon* section, change the FDAddress to the IP address of your `mgmt` server. If your hosts file is set up properly, then you may be able to use your server's fully qualified name instead.
   (c) In the *Messages* section, change the name of the name of the director.
3. Restart the `bacula-fd` service after modifying the configuration.
4. Create the directory `/home/bacula/restores` and make sure that it is owned by bacula.

2 Configure Bacula-sd on backup

Right now our Bacula storage daemons are not configured to listen on the network. We need to make one small change to `/etc/bacula/bacula-sd.conf` on our `backup` servers.

In the *Storage* section, change the `SDAddress` to the ip address or hostname of your `backup` server. Restart the `bacula-sd` service.

3 Configure the Bacula director on backup

Make the following changes in `/etc/bacula/bacula-dir.conf`.

1. Find the *Storage* section that defines your `File` storage. Modify the `Address` property to use the IP address or hostname of your backup server.
2. Create a new Client definition for your `mgmt-fd` file daemon. The `Name` value should be `mgmt-fd`, the `Address` should match your `mgmt` server address, and the `Password` should match the password value from the bacula-fd.conf file on your `mgmt` server.
3. Create a new *FileSet* definition to identify the files you want backed up on `mgmt`. Set the `File` property to `/etc/puppet` so that your Puppet configuation is backed up. You can add additional `File` properties to the set as well.

[1] You will need to have your hosts files properly set up in order for this lab to work.

4. Create a new *Job* definition for a backup job on `mgmt`. Set the `JobDefs` poperty to `DefaultJob` to inherit the default properties. Then you just need to override the ones that need to change. Override the `Name`, `FileSet`, and `Client` properties to give your new job a unique name, to use the new FileSet you defined, and to use the `mgmt-fd` client.
5. Restart the `bacula-director` service after changing the configuration.

4 Try your new backup job

Using `bconsole` on `backup`, try running your new backup job to be sure that it works. Then try a restore of that backup. Note that the restore process will copy the restored files to `/home/bacula/restores` on *the server from which the files were backed up* by default with our configuration.

Once this is done you are prepared to create backup jobs on all of your Linux servers following the same process described here.