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Intro:

This assignment is about the concept behind trused path, and how the OS implements trusted path. I started out trying to look into Android. But I found out that Android is build up on mostly linux, so I figured out I should change it into Solaris instead. Solaris is a Unix operating system[3]. Solaris strongest points are that it scale really good, and have the ability to adapt [1]

Trusted Network:

Solaris has some exstentions that are focusing on security which is called "Trusted Extensions"[4], which can distinguish what kinds of hosts or network that shall be allowed to transmit their IP packets. What makes this special is that with the "Trusted Extentions" it will automaticly sent with the labels of the sender, because it's required by the program. This makes it easy to see that all the packages are coming from a trusted host.

Trusted path:

The trusted path is showing whenever the the user want to change, cut or paste across label boundaries[1], because this require full authorization for the "Object label management". Another thing that is possible to do through the Trusted path menu is to asign different kinds of roles. This is done by estabilishing a new workspace and log into secadmin role, which should as default be the only role available. After the authentification and the trusted path recognince the workspace, this workspace will be locked and set for this specific user.

Basiclly Trusted path is a menu where you can do different kinds of things knowing that it is fully trusted. Another example is that you can access devices from the same menu. From what I understood, by which role you have, you can get access to devices that are plugged physically into the computer. If you don't have that access you won't be able to select the device from the menu.

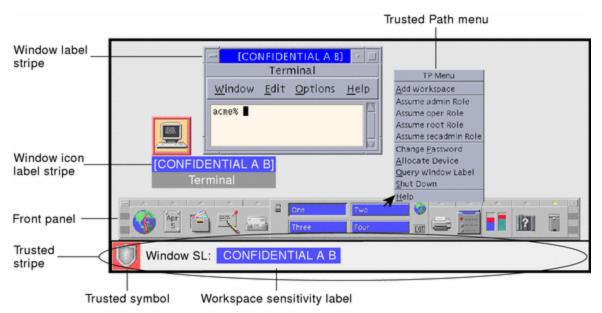


figure 1 [2]: This is the basic setup for the trusted path on Solaris. In the menu you can see what I mentioned earlier bout the admin roles and the choice for accessing devices. You can clearly see the labels which cannot be constructed by any kind of virus and malware.

If by any means the trusted stripe isn't visable, there might be a problem with the system. [2] This should allways be visale when handling a security action. Even if the shild-icon, the trusted symbol is gone, something is probably not right. This is one of the things implemented to help the user to see that he really is using the trusted path.

Things like changing the clock to change some of the files you really need to be an administratior.

Resources:

[1]http://books.google.no/books?id=yXD0O_6f8QUC&pg=PT397&lpg=PT397&dq=trusted+path+solaris&source=bl&ots=vQlbCtPDQ_&sig=vWWIAD_RAwU9QQcdTQZs09b6jbw&hl=no&sa=X&ei=pMMEVIbYH5HmaliagdgJ&ved=0CEYQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=trusted%20path%20solaris&f=false

[2]http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E19109-01/tsolaris8/805-8115-10/6j7klujc1/index.html

[3]http://no.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solaris (operativsystem)

[4]http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solaris Trusted Extensions