NAME

qotd – Quote-of-the-Day

SYNOPSIS

qotd [*dayspec(s)*|*mjd(s) ...*] [**-af** *argfile*] [**-m**] [**-r**] [**-e[=***ttl***]** *] [**-l***qfile] [**-z[=***b***]** *] [**-y***year] [**-of***outfile] [**-ef***errfile] [**-R** programroot] [**-V**]*

DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The *qotd* (Quote-of-the-Day) program retrieves the quote-of-the-day for the specified day and prints it to standard-output. The default specfied day is the current day, but can be changed by specifying a day as a *dayspec*. An alternative to specifying *dayspec(s)* is to specify *mjd(s)* (Modified-Julian-Days). Either *dayspec(s)* or *mjd(s)* may be specified in any single invocation, but nut not both in the same invocation. The exact time definition of a day can be changed by used of the z option. Specifying the z option will use Greenwich-Mean-Time to determine when a day starts. By default, without this option, the current time zone is used to deterine the boundaries between days.

Options

There are a number of options that can be used to tailor the print job in certain ways. Most of the options take an additional value after the key word or letter. The option value is always separated from the key letter with one or more spaces.

-C *filepath* This option allows for the specification of the configuration file for the program. This usually does not have to be specified by may be if an alternate configuration file than the default is desired. Normally, the configuration file is searched for within the program root that is in effect at the time of the invocation of the program. If a rooted filepath is given as an argument, it is used directly. If a non-rooted filepath is given, then a schedule is used to search for the file or non-rooted file path. The resulting file can be found in either the program root area or someplace under the current directory. This option is usually used only for testing purposes.

-R *programroot* This option allows for the specification of the program root that will be used. The program root is basically used as a search are for various PCS related facilities. Usually this option does not need to specified as a program root is often or usually setup or determined by the PCS administrator at installation time. This option is usually used only for testing purposes.

-d[=*time*] This option tells the program to go into daemon mode as a standing server. This is sort of a degenerate case of the main function of this facility. This may be desirable to limit the number of machines that will end up invoking the program. Usually, only one instance of an active PCS poller is allowed in any given PCS cluster. When one of these programs is running in daemon mode, it normally prevents any others from executing with the exception of those invocations that explicitly specify a service at invocation time. Daemon mode operation also, obviously, forces all PCS polling activity to be confined to the program that the *pcspoll* program is executing on (an access table restriction can be used for these types of purposes also). Finally, daemon mode *may* reduce over-all system resources used since all resources are cached locally on the executing system rather than being spread out (as they normally would be) on all participating PCS machines in the current PCS cluster. If the optional time is given along with the key to do into daemon mode, the program will only execute in daemon for the amount of time specified. When no time is given, the program will continue executing in daemon mode indefinely. It is not clear what the benefit might be for executing in daemon mode (standing daemon program) for a limited time but certain systems might benefit if it is known that a flurry of PCS related activity (such as needs the services providing by the polling programs) is to taken place at a certain time (for

example). The program can be executed just before that time with a timeout give for when to leave daemon mode and return to normal operation.

- f This option is used for force the *pcspoll* program to execute even if other heuristis used by the program indicate that an execution at the present time is not particularly needed. Normally the *pcspoll* facility employs a number of hierarchically tiered heuristics that serve to determine when the various configured polling activities should be carried out. The goal is to minimize system resources needed to maintain a reasonably smooth PCS system operation. This option is used to eliminate the first tier heuristics that might otherwise prevent a polling evaluation to occur. Explicit services may or may not be specified with this option.

- m *time* This option sets the minimum time interval that should expire before any polling evaluations are carried out. The **- f**is very similar to (if not identical) as if **- m 0** was given.

- V This option will print the program version to standard error output and then exit.

CONFIGURATION

There are three main files that serve to provide configuration information to the PCSPOLL facility. In addition, there are also some options that can be set in the main PCS site configuration file.

General Configuration

General configuration is provide through the program's main configuration file (also specified through the optional `-C configfile` option at invocation). This file contains information about various general program files. Two of these files are of most importance. The first is the service table file. The second is the access table file. The service table file is required (if a system needs polling at all). The access table file is optional. These files are discussed more in their own sections. Administrators are urged to just look at either some actual or sample files and model their needs after what are in the existing templates.

ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES

The following environment variables may change the default behavior of the program.

PCSPOLL_PROGRAMROOT
This environment variable is taken to contain the program root over any other such environment variable. The **- R**argument overides this environment variable.

PCS This environment variable is normally taken to contain the program root. The **- R** argument overides this environment variable.

PROGRAMROOT
This environment variable is taken to contain the program root if not other suitable environment variable this this purpose are in the environment. The **- R**argument overides this environment variable.

EXAMPLES

☞ poll certain services that are not configured to run automatically:

```
pcspoll serivce_name ...
```

☞ run in daemon mode for two hours:

```
pcspoll -d=2h
```

☞ poll everything configured to run automatically once for work:

```
pcspoll
```

; this is almost the same as what is done with the PCSPOLL facility that is built into many of the PCS programs

SEE ALSO

bb(1), vmail(1), msgs(1)

PATH TO

This program is currently located in `/usr/add-on/pcs/bin` or possibly where ever PCS programs are stored on your system. This is often at `${PCS}/bin` on some systems.

WARNINGS

Be careful to put at one space between all option key letters and the associated key letter parameter.

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AUTHOR

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