

Advanced Event 5

The Logfile Labyrinth

Dr. Scripto finds himself in possession of a bunch of IIS log files, much like the one at http://morelunches.com/files/powershell3/LogFiles.zip, if you need one to practice with. He's keeping all of the log files in a folder, and he's left the log files with their default filenames, which he's given a .LOG filename extension. All of the files are for a single Web site, on a single Web server.

He'd like you to write a tool that accepts a path, and then simply scans through each file in that path somehow, generating a list of each unique client IP address that have been used to access the Web site. No IP address should appear more than once in your output, and you don't need to sort the output in any way.

Your tool should optionally accept an IP address mask like "192.0.1.*" and only display IP addresses that match the specified pattern. If run without a pattern, display all IP addresses.

Regardless of the addresses found in the sample file linked above, you should assume that any legal IP address may appear in the files Dr. Scripto needs to scan. Your command should scan *all* of the files in the folder (and the folder doesn't contain any other kind of file) and produce a single set of results. If an IP address appears in multiple log files – and it's likely that will be the case – then your final output should still only list that IP address one time.