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Problem Statement:

A company frequently updates its database host, username, and password stored in configuration files. Manual updates are error-prone, inconsistent, and may lead to downtime.

To solve this, automation through shell scripting is proposed. Using the Linux sed command, the script will:

- Replace credentials,
- Insert backup information,
- Append connection status,
- Delete outdated entries, and
- Preview changes before applying.

This approach ensures updates are consistent, error-free, and efficient.

Objectives:

The objectives of this case study are to design and implement a shell script that automates database configuration updates. The specific goals are:

- 1. Replace existing database credentials
 - Update database host, username, and password automatically using the s (substitute) operation.
- 2. Insert backup information
 - Ensure reliability by adding backup details into the configuration file using the i (insert) operation.
- 3. Append connection status
 - Record connection details (e.g., CONNECTION=active) at the end of the file using the a (append) operation.
- 4. Delete outdated database entries
 - Remove unnecessary or old entries (such as obsolete database names) using the d (delete) operation.
- 5. Preview updated configuration
 - \circ Display modified lines before deployment using the ρ (print) operation to verify correctness.

Methodology / Workflow:

To automate updates of database configuration files, a shell script was implemented using sed. The workflow reduces manual errors and ensures consistency.

Step	Description
Setup	Created project folder db_case_study and sample config file config.txt.
Script Development	Wrote db_config_update.sh with user input, backup creation, error checking, and logging.
Operations	s: substitute credentials i: insert backup info a: append connection status d: delete outdated entries p: preview changes
Execution	Run script \rightarrow enter new values \rightarrow backup created \rightarrow config updated \rightarrow preview displayed.
Verification	Checked updated file with cat and reviewed backup + log.

Config File (Before Update)

```
/Users/zoro/OS/db_case_study
|zoro~$nano config.txt
|zoro~$cat config.txt
|DB_HOST=localhost
|DB_USER=admin
|DB_PASS=1234
|DB_NAME=testdb
```

Results:

The script db_config_update.sh was executed successfully. The following outputs were observed:

(a) Config File (After Update)

```
■ ■ db_case_study - -zsh - 75×24

|zoro~$cat config.txt

DB_HOST=127.0.0.1

BACKUP=enabled

DB_USER=Sasanka

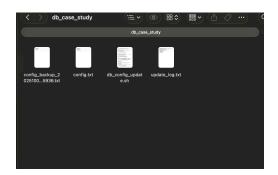
DB_PASS=Panda1234567
```

(b) Execution Log (update_log.txt)

```
|zoro~$./db_config_update.sh
  [INFO] Backup created: config_backup_20251008015936.txt
  Enter new DB Host: 127.0.0.1
  Enter new DB User: Sasanka
  [Enter new DB Password:
  [INFO] Credentials updated
  [INFO] Backup info inserted
  [INFO] Connection status appended
  [INFO] Old DB_NAME entry deleted
  [INFO] Preview of updated config:
```

Verification:

- Updated config file reflected all changes correctly.
- Backup file was generated (config_backup_...).
- Log file confirmed step-by-step execution.



Conclusion:

This case study showed how Linux sed commands can automate database configuration updates. The script replaced credentials, added backup info, appended connection status, deleted outdated entries, and provided a preview. Automation reduces errors, ensures consistency, and improves reliability.

References:

Linux sed Manual

Mastering sed Command in Linux: A Comprehensive Guide

Notebook

Github

THANK YOU.....