Introduction To CRON

CRON is the command for periodic processing in linux .periodic processing is necessary to make sure that the system is behaving properly.for windows server it is don by a scheduler but in the linux system it is done by the command cron .Cron allow use to execute anything we want to at a certain time in a day ,or certain time in a week or month, or whenever you want to run.Its more powerfull than other peocess
to open a cron tab we executed the comamnd

=>crontab -e

this will open a cron tab for everyone
in the cron tab you use a specfic syntax for using this

```
*    *    *   *    *         command to be executed

-    -    -   -    -

|    |    |   |    |

|    |    |   |    +----- day of week (0 - 6) (Sunday=0)

|    |    |   +------- month (1 - 12)

|    |    +--------- day of        month (1 - 31)

|    +----------- hour (0 - 23)

+------------- min (0 - 59)
```

first is the minute (0-59)
second is the hour (0-23)
third is the date (1-31)
fourth is the month(1-12)
and the fifth is the day of the week(0-6) [sunday = 0]

if you want to run a process every minute then you need to add

*/60 * * * * <command>

to see what process is running you can use the

=> **crontab -l**

it allows to test the network,make the backup,restart any system

By default the cron send en email to the user that is affected by this cron.if you want to receive an email you have to modify this command

*/60 * * * * command > /dev/null 2>&1

to see if the command is working or see the log file you need to go to the cron log file

=>tail -f /var/log/cron