# What you most likely did not know about sudo...

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#### About me



- Peter Czanik from Hungary
- Open Source Evangelist at One Identity -- home of syslogng and patron of sudo
- syslog-ng packaging, support, advocacy

syslog-ng originally developed by Balabit, now part of One Identity



### Overview

- What is sudo
- From aliases to plugins
- Alerting with syslog-ng



#### What is sudo?

- Depending on experience and size of environment:
- A tool to complicate life
- A prefix for administrative commands
- A way to see who did what



#### What is sudo?

Sudo allows a system administrator to delegate authority by giving certain users the ability to run some commands as root or another user while providing an audit trail of the commands and their arguments. (<a href="https://www.sudo.ws/">https://www.sudo.ws/</a>)

A lot more, than just a prefix



#### **Basic /etc/sudoers**

%wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL

- Who
- Where
- As which user
- Which command



#### **Aliases**

#### •Aliases:

- Simplify configuration
- Less error-prone

Host\_Alias WEBSERVERS = www1, www2, www3

User\_Alias ADMINS = millert, dowdy, mikef

Cmnd\_Alias REBOOT = /sbin/halt, /sbin/reboot, /sbin/poweroff

**ADMINS WEBSERVERS = REBOOT** 



#### **Defaults**

Changes the default behavior:

Defaults secure\_path="/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin"

Defaults env\_keep = "LANG LC\_ADDRESS LC\_CTYPE"

Defaults !insults

Can be user/host/etc specific Defaults:%wheel insults



#### **Insults**

■ Fun, but not always PC:)

czanik@linux-mewy:~> sudo ls [sudo] password for root: Hold it up to the light --- not a brain in sight! [sudo] password for root: My pet ferret can type better than you! [sudo] password for root: sudo: 3 incorrect password attempts czanik@linux-mewy:~>



#### **Digest verification**

peter ALL = sha244:11925141bb22866afdf257ce7790bd6275feda80b3b241c108b 79c88 /usr/bin/passwd

- Modified binaries do not run
- Difficult to maintain
- Additional layer of protection



## **Session recording**

- Recording the terminal
- Play it back
- Difficult to modify (not cleartext)
- Easy to delete (saved locally) with unlimited access



# **Session recording**

Demo



# Plugin-based architecture

- Starting with version 1.8
- Replace or extend functionality
- Both open source and commercial



#### Plugin-based architecture

- Demo of sudo\_pair
- Making sure that no user can enter commands on their own
- Developed in Rust
- https://github.com/square/sudo\_pair/



# Configuration

- Read from top to bottom
- Start with generic
- Add exceptions at the end



# **Central management**

- Puppet, Ansible, etc.
  - Not real-time
  - Users can modify locally
  - Error-prone
- LDAP
  - Propagates real-time
  - Can't be modified locally
  - Many limitations



#### Sample configuration

```
Defaults !visiblepw
Defaults
         always_set_home
Defaults
         match_group_by_gid
Defaults
         always_query_group_plugin
Defaults env reset
Defaults env keep = "COLORS DISPLAY HOSTNAME HISTSIZE KDEDIR LS COLORS"
Defaults env_keep += "MAIL PS1 PS2 QTDIR USERNAME LANG LC_ADDRESS LC_CTYPE"
Defaults secure_path = /sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin
       ALL=(ALL)
                     ALL
root
%wheel ALL=(ALL)
                     ALL
Defaults !insults
Defaults: wheel insults
Defaults log_output
Host_Alias WEBSERVERS = www1, www2, www3
User_Alias ADMINS = millert, dowdy, mikef
Cmnd_Alias REBOOT = /sbin/halt, /sbin/reboot, /sbin/poweroff
ADMINS WEBSERVERS = REBOOT
```



#### **Logging and alerting**

- E-mail alerts
- All events to syslog
  - Make sure logs are centralized
  - Using syslog-ng sudo logs are automatically parsed and you can also do alerting to Slack, Splunk, Elasticsearch, etc.
- Debug logs
  - Debug rules
  - Report problems



# syslog-ng

Logging Recording events, such as:

Jan 14 11:38:48 linux-0jbu sshd[7716]: Accepted publickey for root from 127.0.0.1 port 48806 ssh2

syslog-ng Enhanced logging daemon with a focus on portability and highperformance central log collection. Originally developed in C.



# Configuring syslog-ng

- "Don't Panic"
- Simple and logical, even if it looks difficult at first

- Pipeline model:
  - Many different building blocks (sources, destinations, filters, parsers, etc.)
  - Connected into a pipeline using "log" statements



# syslog-ng.conf: getting started

```
@version:3.19
@include "scl.conf"
# this is a comment:)
options {flush_lines (0); keep_hostname (yes);};
source s_sys { system(); internal();};
destination d_mesq { file("/var/log/messages"); };
filter f_default { level(info..emerg) and not (facility(mail)); };
log { source(s_sys); filter(f_default); destination(d_mesq); };
```

# syslog-ng.conf: sudo building blocks

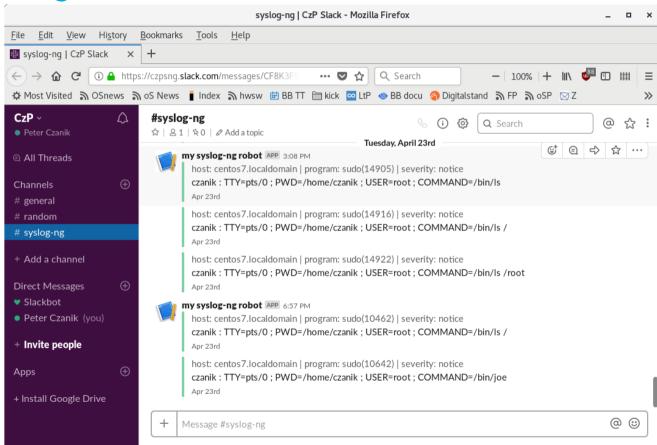
```
filter f_sudo {program(sudo)};
destination d_test {
 file("/var/log/sudo.json"
 template("$(format-json --scope nv_pairs --scope dot_nv_pairs --scope rfc5424)\n\n"));
};
destination d_slack {
 slack(hook-url("https://hooks.slack.com/services/TF8LZ3CSF/BF8CJKVT3/
C2qdnMXCwDD3ATOFVMyxMyHB")
```

# syslog-ng.conf: sudo log statement

```
# name-value pairs come from the sudo parser
log {
  source(s_sys);
  filter(f_sudo);
  if (match("czanik" value(".sudo.SUBJECT"))) {
    destination { file("/var/log/sudo_filtered"); };
    destination(d_slack);
  destination(d_test);
```



# sudo logs in Slack





# Not just a prefix, but...

- Fine tuned permissions
- Aliases
- Defaults
- Digest verification
- Session recording
- LDAP
- Plugins
- Logging and alerting





# Questions?

sudo website: <a href="https://www.sudo.ws/">https://www.sudo.ws/</a>

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