# Samba's New Registry Based Configuration

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#### Outline

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- What We Have
- What We Need Beyond That

## 2 Configuration in Samba 3.2

- The Registry
- Storing Configuration in Registry
- The net conf Utility
- The libsmbconf Library

## 3 Configuring Clustered Samba

- Clustered Samba
- Configuring Clustered Samba via Registry

## 4 Current and Ongoing Work

- Rewrite of loadparm
- Plans / TODOs

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- text based configuration in win.ini style: smb.conf file
- modularized by include directives
- dynamic character by macro expansion at runtime
- default config file can be changed by "config file = ..."
- main module for processing configuration: param/loadparm.c, text file parser in param/params.c



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[global]
netbios name = NIRVANA
workgroup = sambaXP
security = user
include = /etc/samba/smb.conf.
[share1]
path = /data/shares/share1
guest ok = yes
read only = no
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#### include file smb.conf.192.168.1.2

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log file = /var/log/log.samba.%u
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debug hires timestamp = yes
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- smbd process builds list of all service structures
- each service struct roughly 1KB (150 parameters)
- $\bullet \ \Rightarrow$  for 1000 shares and 1000 connections 1GB of wasted RAM

## • I/O-bottleneck

- smbd always loads the whole smb.conf
- smb.conf file with 1000 shares typically 250KB
- imagine 1000 clients reloading smb.conf ...

#### • ease of use

- programmatically change the configuration
- change individual parameters
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- distribute configuration in clusters

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- needed for communication with Windows clients
- available on the network over the WINREG rpc pipe
- registry data model: tree structure of keys
  - a key consists of a name, a list of subkeys and a list of values
  - a value consists of a name and the value data
- idea: choose one key for storing samba configuration
  - share  $\Leftrightarrow$  subkey
  - parameter in a share ⇔ value in subkey
- internal storage: tdb database
  - access to individual records (parameters) possible
  - write access protected by locks and transactions



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- Each value name (parameter) appears exactly once in a registry key, whereas in smb.conf, the last mention wins.
- Synonymous parameters need special treatment.
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- located underneath registry key HKLM\Software\Samba\smbconf
- loaded on demand by the server (smbd/service.c)
- registry shares *can* be loaded all at once if required (e.g. for testparm)
- activated by "registry shares = yes" in smb.conf
- no other changes to loadparm.c
- access requires the SeDiskOperatorPrivilege



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- registry shares *can* be loaded all at once if required (e.g. for testparm)
- activated by "registry shares = yes" in smb.conf
- no other changes to loadparm.c
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- stored in subkey global parallel to registry shares
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#### smb.conf - registry only

[global]

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config backend = registry
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#### smb.conf - mixed setup

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[global]
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netbios name = nirvana workgroup = SambaXP include = registry log level = 10

[share1]

path = /data/share1

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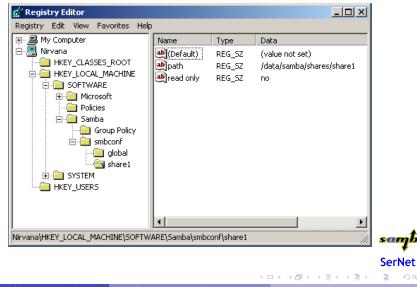
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#### Accessing registry with regedit.exe



- Using regedit.exe from Windows to configure Samba is pretty inconvenient.
- Using regedit.exe from Windows to configure Samba *just feels horribly wrong* :-)
- There is a unix command line version of regedit in new Samba versions: net [rpc] registry. (This is better.)
- The new net conf subcommand of net provides a dedicated and specialized interface to locally read and write the registry based configuration. (Now this is convenient.)

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#### Breakout: Demonstration of usage of net conf / registry config...



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- provide complete and stable API (hopefully achieved now)
- one libsmbconf "object" corresponds to one parsed config source
- delivers configuration as (lists of) strings
- allow different backends behind the API
- backends implemented:
  - registry backend
  - text backend (read-only, based on params.c)
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## A small glimpse into the libsmbconf API

#### smbconf service structure

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- Günther Deschner has developed a NetAPI library.
- We have extended the NetJoinDomain call to modify the registry configuration upon successful join.
- Similar for the unjoin (leave) operation.
- This allows joining a domain with an empty samba configuration.
- The example netdomjoin-gui GTK application lets you set the machine and workgroup name and join or leave an AD domain.

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# The netdomjoin-gui

2	Samba - Join Domain dialogue	_ ×
samba	Samba uses the following information to identify computer on the network.	your
Computer description:	Samba 3.4.0-GIT-920c5ca-devel For example: "Samba %v".	
Full computer name:	nirvana.	
Workgroup:	WORKGROUP	
To rename this compute	er or join a domain, click Change.	Change
	Cancel Apply	<u> </u>
		101

# Application: The netdomjoin-gui

(	Z Computer Name Changes _ ×		
	You can change the name and membership of this computer. Changes may affect access to network ressources.		
	Computer name:		
	nirvana		
	Full computer name:		
	nirvana.		
	Member Of		
	<ul> <li>Domain</li> </ul>		
	ADSVMW		
	<ul> <li>Workgroup</li> </ul>		
	Advanced Options		
	Scan for joinable OUs		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		-
	Modify winbind configuration		anjba
			erNet
	Cancel	► K E ► K E ► E	
ichael Adam (Samba Team / S	erNet) Samba's Registry Configuration	2008-10-10	21 / 33

# Outline

What We Have What We Need Beyond That The Registry Storing Configuration in Registry • The net conf Utility The libsmbconf Library Configuring Clustered Samba Clustered Samba Configuring Clustered Samba via Registry Rewrite of loadparm Plans / TODOs

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- Make Samba daemons on multiple nodes appear as one CIFS server (basically turns your cluster into a NAS).
- Scale in performance with the number of nodes in the cluster.



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- Coherence and scalability of Samba's many internal tdb databases.
- These are used for locking and other runtime data.
- Other, persistent data like passwords and registry configuration is also stored in tdb databases.
- For coherence, this could go into the cluster storage.
- But excessive use of fcntl locks and very many small write operations lead to very bad performance, even negative scaling, since the locks need to be propagated across the cluster nodes.

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- One node holds the authoritative copy of the tdb data master.
- Changes by the data master are propagated to the other cluster nodes.
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- Handling of the metadata is done by the userspace ctdb daemon (running on each node).
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#### Breakout: demo ctdb and configuring clustered Samba...



## Outline

What We Have What We Need Beyond That The Registry Storing Configuration in Registry • The net conf Utility • The libsmbconf Library Clustered Samba Configuring Clustered Samba via Registry Current and Ongoing Work Rewrite of loadparm Plans / TODOs



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- use libsmbconf throughout, i.e. remove all direct references to the parser (param.c)
- This cleans the design of loadparm an separates parsing of parameters from their activation
- replace concept of config file by that config source
- The smb.conf file is no longer necessary the initial config source.
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- make libsmbconf and registry shared libraries
- Add write support to text backend (comment handling?)
- write more backends:
  - GPO backend (with Günther Deschner)
  - LDAP or other DB backend
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## Thank you very much! — Questions?



Michael Adam (Samba Team / SerNet) Samba's Registry Configuration

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