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
log level = 10
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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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- Samba has an internal registry database
- 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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- There is no order in the registry database like there is the line order in the text file.
- Each value name (parameter) appears exactly once in a registry key, whereas in smb.conf, the last mention wins.
- Synonymous parameters need special treatment.
- Meta directives like include need special treatment



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- Volker Lendecke introduced registry shares
- 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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- stored in subkey global parallel to registry shares
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- accessed with the same functions as other 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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[share1]

path = /data/share1

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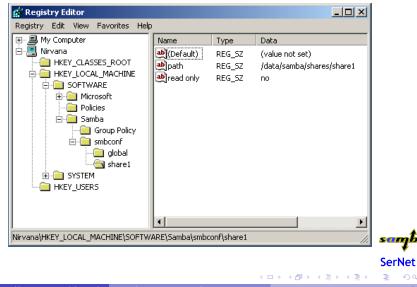
```
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Accessing registry with regedit.exe



- 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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net	conf	list	Dump the complete configuration in smb.conf format.
net	conf	listshares	List the share names.
net	conf	import	Import configuration from file in smb.conf format.
net	conf	drop	Delete the complete configuration.
net	conf	showshare	Show the definition of a share.
net	conf	addshare	Create a new share.
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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
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 - text backend (read-only, based on params.c)
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A small glimpse into the libsmbconf API

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- 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		
	 Domain 		
	ADSVMW		
	 Workgroup 		
	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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- All nodes have their local copy of the data.
- One node holds the authoritative copy of the tdb data master.
- Changes by the data master are propagated to the other cluster nodes.
- Other nodes need to become data master before changing the tdb.
- Handling of the metadata is done by the userspace ctdb daemon (running on each node).
- The ctdb daemons communicate over an internal cluster network and a recovery lock file stored in the cluster file system.
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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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- 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)
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Thank you very much! — Questions?



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

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