



Tech Info Library

ABS Tech Note: AWS30 /etc/fstab corruption (11/94)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This technical note provides a workaround to the /etc/fstab file corruption problem.

DISCUSSION -----

Overview

- 1) After a fresh install of A/UX 3.1 (from the full installer CD, not the Upgrade), /etc/fstab is an AppleDouble file, typed 'TEXT', creator 'iAUX' (the A/UX Installer's signature). Since the creator is not 'A/UX' or 'tefi' and the Finder cannot find the Installer application, the icon for /etc/fstab is the unknown (grey) text document. The system behaves correctly as long as /etc/fstab remains an AppleDouble file....
- 2) If /etc/fstab is then edited and saved with TeachText, TextEditor, or any other Macintosh application, the A/UX file manager will convert it to AppleSingle format, which is not understood by fsck. This occurs because the "TBTRANSLATEUXONLY" environment variable is set (the default), and 'iAUX' is not a creator for which the file manager handles TEXT files specially (these are 'DOS ', 'tefi' (TextEditor) and 'A/UX').

The problem is not with TextEditor, but with the A/UX file manager's handling of the TEXT file type and creator. This behavior was introduced in A/UX 3.1.

Workaround

- 1) Open /etc/fstab with TextEditor (don't use TeachText!).
- 2) Select and copy the contents of /etc/fstab into the cut-and-paste buffer (Command-C).

- 3) Open a new TextEditor document (Command-N) with a unique name (not fstab!); be sure that the "Save Text Only" button is set in the dialog box (this is the default).
- 4) Paste the contents of /etc/fstab into the new document.
- 5) Save the new document and quit TextEditor.
- 6) From the Finder, drag /etc/fstab to the Trash and empty the Trash.
- 7) Rename the new document to /etc/fstab.

It won't work to just do a "Save As..."; TextEditor will preserve the incorrect file creator. The installer of the patch from A/UX 3.1 to A/UX 3.1.1 will also correct this problem if it hasn't already been corrected.

Support Information Services

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