



# Tech Info Library

## A/UX adduser: passwd file busy, try later. Message (2/95)

Revised: 2/22/95  
Security: Everyone

A/UX "adduser: passwd file busy, try later." Message (2/95)

=====

Article Created: 22 February 1995

TOPIC -----

I'm getting, "adduser: passwd file busy, try later.", when I try to add a user to my AWS (Workgroup Server) 95 with A/UX 3.0.1. Do you know what this is? Have I exceeded my license count? Below is the message along with the active processes, and my /etc/passwd file.

```
AWS95.root # adduser
adduser: passwd file busy, try later.
AWS95.root # ps -ef
```

UID	PID	PPID	C	STIME	TTY	TIME	COMMAND
root	0	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	swapper
root	1	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	/etc/init
root	2	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	vhand
root	3	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	kmemd
root	4	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	asiod
root	5	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	asiod
root	6	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	asiod
root	7	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	asiod
root	8	0	0	12:29:46	?	0:00	syncd
root	156	1	0	12:30:13	console	0:01	-sh -c /mac/bin/mac32
root	11	1	0	12:29:47	?	0:00	/etc/fidd
root	154	1	0	12:30:12	?	0:00	/usr/lib/sendmail -bd -q30m
root	127	1	0	12:30:09	?	0:00	/usr/lib/errdemon
root	153	1	0	12:30:11	?	0:28	/etc/catsearchd
root	132	1	0	12:30:09	?	0:00	/etc/portmap
root	135	1	0	12:30:10	?	0:00	/etc/cron
root	138	1	0	12:30:10	?	0:00	/etc/in.routed
root	142	1	0	12:30:10	?	0:00	/etc/inetd
root	157	1	0	12:30:13	iw2	0:00	/etc/getty tty1 at_9600
root	145	1	0	12:30:10	?	0:00	/etc/syslogd
root	171	156	0	12:30:17	console	0:00	sh /mac/bin/mac32
root	173	171	2	12:30:17	console	2:16	/mac/bin/startmac
root	174	171	22	12:30:17	console	0:20	/mac/bin/CommandShell -u

```
root 175 142 0 12:31:09 ? 0:00 rpc.mountd
root 187 174 0 12:34:29 C1 0:00 /bin/sh
root 196 174 0 12:39:49 C2 0:00 /bin/sh
root 225 196 2 13:09:03 C2 0:00 ps -ef
AWS95.root # cat /etc/passwd
root:EZGqjzTuZJ8Ns:0:0:::/bin/sh
daemon:*:1:1:::/:
bin:*:2:2::/bin:
sys:*:3:3::/bin:
adm:*:4:4::/usr/adm:
uucp:*:5:5:UUCP Administrator:/usr/lib/uucp:
nuucp:*:10:10:UUCP User:/usr/spool/uucppublic:/usr/lib/uucp/uucico
lp:*:7:7:lp:/usr/spool/lp:
nobody:*:60001:60001:NFS generic user:/tmp:/bin/noshell
dan:elw5oOC71pmU2:1000:1000:Dan S,,,:/users/dan:/bin/csh
eddie:jnb7McFx5xnaI:1001:1001:Eddie L,,,:/users/eddie:/bin/csh
elut:woXd0MzMJT76:1002:1002:Eddie L,,,:/users/elut:/bin/csh
manuel:EYOOGuBmQxPnU:1003:1003:Manuel S,,,:/users/manuel:/bin/csh
eric:flwBFKi07P.tI:1005:1005:Eric D,,,:/users/eric:/bin/csh
rick:MIaUtdPAJ6/F6:1006:0:Rick H,,,:/users/rick:/bin/csh
pat::1007:1006:Pat S,,,:/users/pat:/bin/csh
charles:iEsGPQynYEm8c:1008:1007:Charles B,,,:/users/charles:/bin/csh
dave::1009:1008:David S,,,:/users/dave:/bin/csh
andres:pwENfvAx3Wago:1010:1009:Andres,,,:/users/andres:/bin/csh
sofia:Fkzh0A8Rt50JA:1012:1011:Sof,,,:/users/sofia:/bin/csh
rich:wmnERRhZmwaFA:1013:1012:Richard H,,,:/users/rich:/bin/csh
brinkley::1014:1013:Brinkley,,,:users/brinkley:/bin/csh
steve:wHfLlYSHyAl/k:1015:1014:Steve B,,,:/users/steve:/bin/csh
mark:sho7IYFHj.Lr6:1016:1015:,,,:/users/mark:/bin/csh
hackett:FAlSZeEsY.3FU:1017:1016:Elaine W,,,:/users/hackett:/bin/csh
chuck:.DTH.csvi4oQY:1018:1017:Chuck P,,,:/users/chuck:/bin/csh
mart:tESvwlB14R4/A:1019:1018:Mart S,,,:/users/mart:/bin/csh
AWS95.root #
```

DISCUSSION -----

We believe you unsuccessfully added a user with "adduser" involving "vipw" while setting the user password, or there was other user or process activity modifying the password file at the same time. This in turn, created a "ptmp" or "gtmp" locked file in the /etc directory.

We suggest stopping other users or processes from modifying the password file, and removing the /etc/ptmp or /etc/gtmp locked file, if there are any. This should take care of your problem.

Support Information Services

Copyright 1995, Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:17253