



Using Native System Tools to Automate JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Part II

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E1 Editor's Note: Part I of this article focused on creative batch job scheduling. This Part II goes through some tips on keeping your temp files and log files cleaned up. We'll explore using advanced Find and Find/Delete commands to clean up temp files, and also Logrotate to manage log files. These are standard Unix/Linux tools, but Scotti also discusses how to achieve the same results in a Windows environment.

Introduction

EnterpriseOne creates a variety of files on enterprise servers, web servers, and fat clients. In addition to output PDFs, many different temporary and log files are created in the process of normal operation that are not cleaned up by the system. To avoid running out of server disk space and to simplify finding needed error information among thousands of logs, it is important to regularly clean up older files. This article will enumerate specific locations to focus on, many of which are overlooked until file growth in them causes a critical space issue, and will discuss techniques for automating management of these files using the tools discussed in Part I of this article.

The information contained here is based on an E1 9.0.2 environment with both AIX and Windows enterprise servers; all the web servers are WebSphere on AIX, and WebSphere Express is used for the local web on development clients. The techniques discussed are applicable to any UNIX/Linux/Windows E1 system, however, though some paths and filenames may not be identical depending on the specific operating system or E1 release. Likely variances have been noted wherever possible.

Windows users should refer to Part I of this article for details on installing and running Cygwin, which provides a UNIX-like shell environment and allows the use of the find command and cron scheduling utility discussed here. For both Windows and UNIX/Linux users, Part I provides information on how cron works and how to use it to automate E1 processes.

Using the Find Command

Unix and Linux users are probably familiar with the invaluable find command, which allows searching for files in an extremely flexible and rapid way. It can easily be used in scripts or run from a cron job and provides a method for searching for files based on almost any criteria. Importantly, it also allows the user to run any command on the resulting list of files. For details on all the many options find provides, consult the manual page on your system (or within Cygwin) with the command `man find`; the exact functionality of the find command may vary slightly between operating systems, including differences in how file creation and modification times are calculated, so it's important to make sure you're specifying exactly the criteria you intend. Let's take a look at an example find command to see some of the most common options and consider their functionality individually. The following command finds all files in the directory `/tmp` that are more than seven days old and whose name begins with the letter A and then removes them.

(Windows users, remember that in Cygwin, directories are specified as though each drive on the computer is located under a `/cygwin` root directory, e.g. `/cygwin/c/e900` instead of `C:\e900\`):

```
find /tmp -mtime +7 -prune -type f -name "A*" -exec /bin/rm -ef {} \;
```

- **/tmp** – This is the starting location for the search. It can either be a complete path from the root directory (beginning with a slash) or a path relative to your current directory (beginning without a slash). It is advisable to use complete paths to be sure you are searching the intended location.
- **-mtime +7** – The `-mtime` option allows selection based on the last modification time of files. In this case, only files more than seven days old will be selected; you can also replace the plus sign with a minus to select files newer than a certain number of days (`-mtime -X`), or leave the sign off entirely (`-mtime X`) to find files exactly the given number of days old. Other options are available, such as `-atime` to consider access time instead of modification time and `-mmin` to indicate that the given number is a number of minutes instead of a number of days.
- **-prune** – Directories below the starting directory should not be searched; leave this option off to search the entire tree below the starting location. Fine-grained control over the search depth can be achieved with the `-maxdepth` option. For example, `-maxdepth 2` will search the specified directory and one further level.
- **-type f** – Only regular files, not directories or links, should be selected.
- **-name "A*"** – Find files beginning with the letter A. Letter case matters – for case-insensitive search use the `-iname` option.
- **-exec /bin/rm -ef {} \;** – The `-exec` option allows the execution of another program on each of the files found; in this case, we're using the `/bin/rm` command to remove all the files that were located. The brackets indicate the location where the name of the file discovered by find should be substituted; commands used with the `-exec` option must be terminated by an escaped (i.e., preceded by a backslash) semicolon.

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