

Notify Users

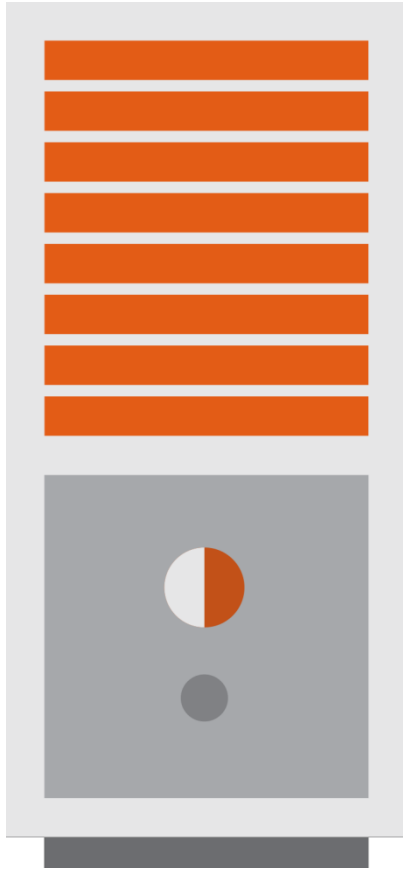


Module Overview



- `/etc/issue` & `/etc/issue.net`
- `/etc/motd` & `pam_motd`
- `wall` and `shutdown`

Used in this Module



For this module we use predominately the **Ubuntu 14.04 LTS**. This is a popular Debian based distribution but many of the demonstrations shown here are not dependent on the distribution

Notify Users on System Related Issues

DIY'R'Us Human Resource Policy



No company is free from the reach of HR these days and “*due diligence*” has encouraged HR to ask Danny for a login banner to display reminding users of the **Acceptable Usage Policy**

Pre-Login



The contents of the file **`/etc/issue`** are displayed on physical consoles prior to login by the program initiating the tty

Support for escape characters that can be read by `agetty`, `getty`, `mingetty` etc

```
$ cat /etc/issue
```

```
Ubuntu 14.04.1 LTS \n \l
```

```
Ubuntu 14.04.1 LTS bacula-server tty1
```

/etc/issue

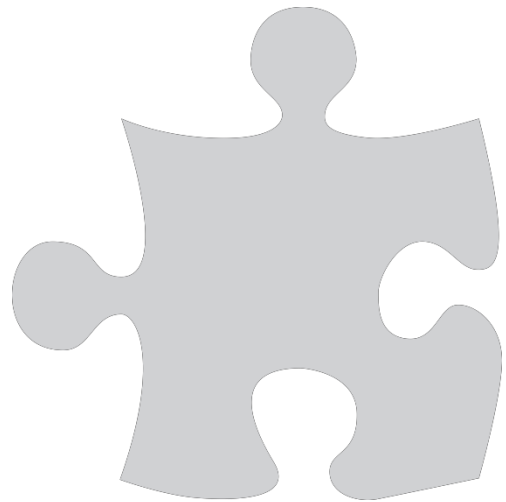
\n Displays the nodename (hostname) as seen from **uname -n**

\l Display the tty name



`/etc/issue.net`

Used for remote connections such as SSH but shows after login and DOES NOT support ESC characters



Demo: Understanding **/etc/issue**

Post-Login



The contents of the file **`/etc/motd`** are displayed on physical consoles and pseudo consoles after login

Controlled via the **`pam_motd`** module

Ubuntu based systems include the directory **`/etc/update-motd.d/`**

Other debian based systems include **`/etc/motd.tail`**



The MOTD system seems correct to remind users of the AUP

Custom MOTD Ubuntu

```
$ sudo vi /etc/update-motd.d/95-aup
```

```
#!/bin/sh
```

```
echo "*****"
```

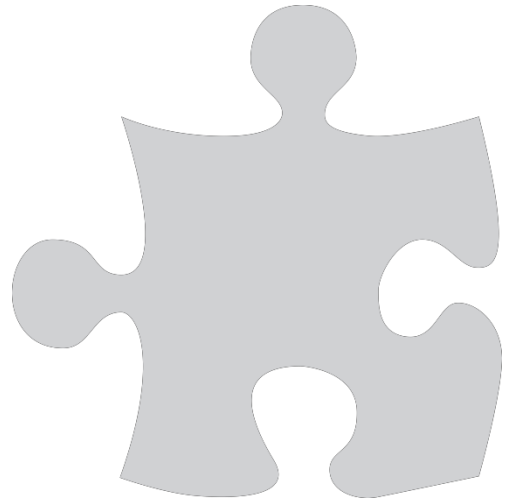
```
echo "***** DIY'r'Us Stores *****"
```

```
echo "***** Remind you to read usage policy **"
```

```
echo "***** http://intranet/aup.html *****"
```

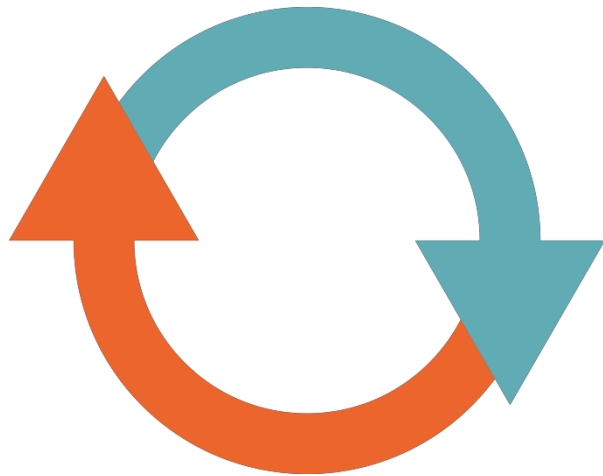
```
echo "*****"
```

```
$ sudo chmod +x /etc/update-motd.d/95-aup
```

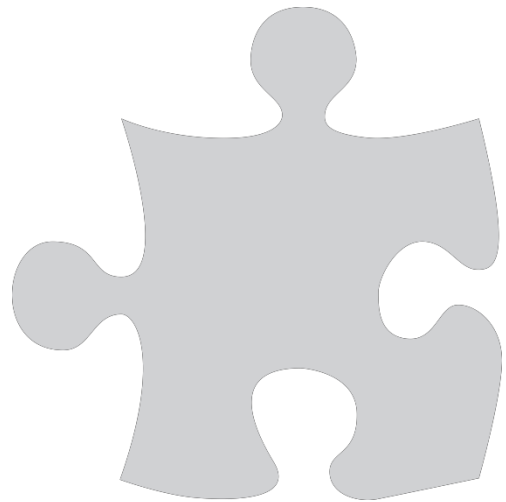


Demo: Customizing the **MOTD**

Send Messages to Logged in Users



- All users can use wall but is more often used by root
- Console messaging needs to be turned on if sent by standard users but not if sent by root
- `sudo wall < MessageFile`

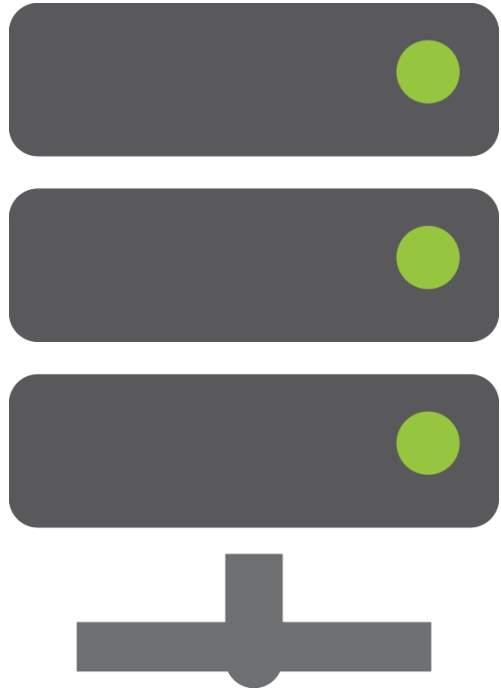


Demo: Using wall to message users

Shutdown

- The shutdown command can include a message to warn users of the impending disaster
- If a time element is used rather than *"now"* logins are disabled 5 minutes before the shutdown by `/etc/nologin`
- **`$ sudo shutdown -h +6 \`
`"Server is being shutdown"`**





Demo: Understanding shutdown

Summary



- Danny has satisfied the HR requirement and in doing so have helped the team in better understanding some common tools and utilities

Message Order

Pre-login
/etc/issue

Post-login
/etc/motd

Session
wall

Notifications
shutdown