

Re: Ntbackup seems not to start properly 30 to 50% of the time.

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- *From:* Donald Campbell <[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 29 Apr 2008 18:05:41 +0100
- 

In article <[AzU0Z3R8biEIFAJP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:AzU0Z3R8biEIFAJP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>, Donald Campbell <[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes

In article <[g8eM6pLJc7DIFAFr@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:g8eM6pLJc7DIFAFr@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>, Donald Campbell <[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes

In article <[R0EAY7Kg5jDIFAjM@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:R0EAY7Kg5jDIFAjM@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>, Donald Campbell <[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes

In article  
<[ofW9\\$xAu4+ZCIFAu4@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ofW9$xAu4+ZCIFAu4@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>,  
Donald Campbell <[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> writes

In article  
<[uQ3z#pHnIHA.1204@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:uQ3z#pHnIHA.1204@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>,  
"Pegasus (MVP)" <[I.can@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:I.can@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
writes

"Donald Campbell"  
<[Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Donald@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote in message  
[news:1NHZmTBfno\\$HFAIP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:1NHZmTBfno$HFAIP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Ntbackup  
seems not  
to start  
properly 30  
to 50% of  
the time.

I have a  
simple  
script

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running  
from  
scheduler.  
The script  
runs as  
expected,  
however,  
the ntback  
command in  
it does not  
always run  
properly.

When it  
fails to run  
the log file  
is always  
empty and  
has a time  
stamp 33  
minutes  
after the  
start of the  
script. Also  
when it fails  
there are no  
entries for  
ntback in  
the event  
log.

This  
happens on  
two  
separate  
Win2003  
R2 server  
machines.

There is a  
mention in  
technet that  
someone  
being  
logged in  
can cause  
random  
failures. In  
the case of  
these  
machines

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no-one is  
logged in  
and it  
is almost  
every other  
run that  
fails.

Anyone any  
ideas?

Don C

=====  
Script:

```
echo
%date%
%time%
Start of B02
>>
D:\ServerBackups\BKlog.log
echo
User=%UserName%,
Path=%path%
>>
D:\ServerBackups\BKlog.log

ntbackup
backup
"@D:\ServerBackups\CFP-BK01.bks"
/m normal
/P "4mm
DDS" -j
"CFPBackup"
-d
"CFPBackup"
/v:yes /r:no
/l:s /rs:no
/SNAP:off
/um

echo
%date%
%time%
End of B02
>>
D:\ServerBackups\BKlog.log
```

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=====  
Log:

10/04/2008  
19:30:00.23  
Start of B02  
User=Administrator,  
Path=C:\WINDOWS\system32;C:\WINDOWS;C:\WINDOWS\System  
Files\Intel\DMIX;C:\Program  
Files\Gemplus\GemSafe  
Libraries\Bin;  
10/04/2008  
20:03:02.37  
End of B02

Since this happens quite often, you should try and watch what happens. Set the scheduled backup time to some reasonable hour, then start a console session a few minutes before the scheduled start time, making sure to log on under the same account as the one used for the scheduled job.

This is a frequent subject in this newsgroup and your feedback would be appreciated.

Just been away for 5 days holidays, during which time the backups on the two servers failed.

Each night the script ran as a scheduled task, but the ntbackup routine itself did not. Again it just seems to think about running minutes and then exits. However, there is no entry in the event log.

Last night I RDC into each server in turn and

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waited. Both backups ran without any problems!

Don C

I built a small test server and using AT instead of Windows Scheduler, I had the script successfully run 6 backups per day for the last three days.

However, in the live environment it still failed, again with this strange 33 minutes in which ntback does not start properly.

Today I re-booted both live servers and this evening the backups are running!

Dare I breath? I am sure that one could die of frustration.

Don C

It would appear that a re-boot allows the backup to complete once. Last night worked fine. This evening, again a 33 minute gap, no entry in the backup log and no "ntbackup" entry in the event log.

Don C

According to Remote Storage it is waiting on a mount. I.e. it appears to be ignoring the /UM and waiting for the last tape to be mounted again.

I did modify the script to do a dummy little backup and then do the main backup. This evening the first dummy failed after 33 minutes and then went onto the main event.

So why will it not do the first mount after a tape change?

Don C

With the inclusion of an RSM refresh statement before starting the backup, one site is working. With the inclusion of an RSM eject after the backup, the other site is now working.

I need to wait until they have worked consistently for a couple of weeks before I declare success, but it is looking good so far.

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