



Tech Info Library

A/UX 3.1: /etc/fstab Corruption (9/94)

Revised: 9/21/94
Security: Everyone

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Article Created: 21 September 1994

TOPIC -----

After reformatting my 2 GB hard drive and reinstalling A/UX 3.1 from the CD, I remembered that I forgot to make a copy of fstab. I then edited fstab with TextEditor, but now things don't work correctly. When I did a cat of /etc/fstab, I got nothing but garbage. What's wrong?

DISCUSSION -----

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.

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 which 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, 'iAUX'.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:16343