Linux Hints, Top Tips, and FAQs

Here are some of the Linux hints and documentation that seems to be woefully lacking or just mis-leading on the greater wider Internet.

Setting iDRAC8 Server info

This applies to Dell servers of course. First off, install `ipmitools`:

```
apt-get update; apt-get install ipmitools
```

To find out the options available in `ipmitools`, run:

```
ipmitools help
```

and there is a manpage available too.

To set the iDRAC8 System Host Name, you want:

```
ipmitools mc setsysinfo system_name HOSTNAME
```

To set the iDRAC8 Operating System, you want:

```
ipmitools mc setsysinfo os_name OSNAME
```

To set the iDRAC8 Operating System Version, you want:

```
ipmitools mc setsysinfo delloem_os_version OSVERSION
```

And that's it - after that, if you refresh the iDRAC8 Server Overview screen you will see the changes you made.

Ubuntu LACP with Cisco Catalyst Switches

This will of course depend on the switch model you are using and the IOS version, but I've documented here what works in the installations I've been assisting with.

Ubuntu LACP Configuration

This example shows the `/etc/network/interfaces` configuration using two ethernet interfaces on a server to be combined to form a LAG, and using LACP.

Cisco Catalyst 2950-48 Configuration

Configuration snipped for a Catalyst 2950-48 running '12.1(22)EA13'. Note that the 2950-48 needs the `flowcontrol send off` command - other switches don't seem to need this.

For security reasons, I've made the native VLAN on the trunk to be 999, rather than the default VLAN of 1. I strongly recommend never to use VLAN1 for anything.

```
interface Port-channel2
 description V2 Trunk
 switchport trunk native vlan 999
 switchport mode trunk
 load-interval 30
 flowcontrol send off
!
interface FastEthernet0/1
 description LAG-PORT1
 switchport trunk native vlan 999
 switchport mode trunk
 load-interval 30
 channel-group 2 mode active
!
interface FastEthernet0/2
 description LAG-PORT2
 switchport trunk native vlan 999
 switchport mode trunk
 load-interval 30
 channel-group 2 mode active
!
```

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Last update: **2020/07/14 07:45**