

E. Upgrading RedHat Linux

Overview

This appendix gives advise about how to upgrade the Linux on your IRIS and RDA systems. Some of the comments may be applicable to other platforms. The recommended procedure is to back up important files, install the OS, install the Sigmet software, then restore the backup of the config directory. It is assumed that you will be upgrading the version of IRIS and RDA at the same time, but it is not necessary.

E.1 Check your disk first

Type “fdisk -l”. The output will show all the disk partitions on your system. You should jot down the partition table, and your IP address for reference later. If your disk is smaller than 20 GB, now is a convenient time to replace it with a larger disk considering that disks are such low cost.

E.2 Backing up important files

Before upgrading, examine you home directory, and your IRIS data directories and delete anything which is not needed. You could backup your whole system in case there is a problem, but it is convenient to backup the following directories onto separate media because you may want to restore them: /usr/sigmet/config, /usr/iris_data, /home, /etc. We recommend using **sigbru** to do this. Alternatively you can use the UNIX **tar** command. It is fastest to backup to a disk file on a partition which will be preserved, or to a neighboring computer.

E.3 Do the OS install

Do a full Linux install, following Appendix A. If you are keeping the same partitions, then you can preserve partitions such as /usr/iris_data. If possible, use our boot-and-go cdrom feature which will also install Sigmet code. In this case you can skip the next step.

E.4 Do the IRIS or RDA install

Do a full IRIS and/or RDA install, following Chapter 1. Immediately after section 1.3.3, perform step E.5 below, then continue with the post installation configuration from Chapter 1.

E.5 Restoring from backup

Delete the just installed config directory with:

```
$ rm -rf /usr/sigmet/config
```

Replace it using **sigbru** to restore your previous setup configuration. You might also consider restoring: /home and /usr/iris_data if you have important files there. Do not restore /etc. You can run **sigbru** from the IRIS cdrom as discussed in Appendix D.

Next run:

```
$ makeAsciiSetups
```

This will upgrade you older configuration files, if appropriate.

E.6 Upgrade release notes

Even though you did a new IRIS install in section E.4, in effect you have done an upgrade. Please read all the release notes covering the upgrade span. You may need to do some of the *Important Upgrade Notes* mentioned.

E.7 Done

You are now done. If you discover any obscure OS problems after the upgrade, you should consider the following special files. Some of these you may want to edit or restore as appropriate:

```
/etc/hosts  
/etc/rc.d/rc.local  
/etc/ftpaccess  
/etc/ftpusers  
/etc/group  
/etc/resolv.conf  
/etc/initab
```