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Network Server: Standard AIX System Management Tools (2/96)

Article Created: 19 February 1996

Article Reviewed/Updated: 26 February 1996

TOPIC -----

This article briefly describes the standard AIX system management tools found on the Network Server 500 and Network Server 700.

DISCUSSION -----

In addition to conventional command-line system administration, AIX includes several system management tools and installation utilities, including the Install Assistant, System Management Interface Tool (SMIT), and Visual System Manager (VSM).

Installation Assistant

The Installation Assistant application guides you through customization tasks. The interface for Install Assistant provides step-by-step instructions for completing each task. The application tells you why you would want to perform certain tasks. If you are familiar with the tasks, you can skip the instructions.

SMIT

SMIT is a menu-based tool that constructs and executes commands from the options you choose. With SMIT you can:

- install, update, and maintain software
- configure devices
- configure disk storage units in volume groups and logical volumes
- make and extend file systems and paging space
- manage users and groups
- configure networks and communication applications
- configure printers
- identify system problems

VSM

VSM provides a graphical interface that lets you manage your system by directly manipulating icons. You can use tools in VSM to perform many of the same tasks as the SMIT application. The VSM tool includes the following applications:

- Device Manager, which displays system objects and dialog boxes that represent your system's device configuration database. This allows you to manage objects such as graphic adapters, ports, buses, and memory cards.
- Print Manager, which allows you to perform basic SMIT tasks on printer and print queues.
- Storage Manager, which lets you manage physical volumes, volume groups, logical volumes, and file systems through manipulation of icons.
- Users & Groups Manager, which lets you add users with simple templates. You can also set passwords and the default interface for users.

For information on using VSM, see Chapter 6, "Using System Administration Tools" in the "Using AIX, AppleTalk Services, and Mac OS Utilities on the Apple Network Server" manual.

The software for the Network Server also provides Mac OS utilities that provide a Macintosh interface for logical volume management, the Disk Management Utility, and terminal emulation, CommandShell.

Article Change History:

26 Feb 1996 - Changed distribution status.
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Keywords: <None>

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19960226 16:03:23.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 19368