System administration – A Broad Topic To Discuss

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ABSTRACT:-
System Administration is planning, installing, and maintaining computer systems. If that seems like a very generalized answer, it's because "What is System Administration" is a broad question.

This is a typical "Help Wanted" advertisement for a System Administration position. A System Administrator has to install and configure the operating system, add new users, back up the system, keep the systems secure, and make sure they stay running. Setting up Internet access and keeping it running is part of the job too.

Being an expert on installing, running, and maintaining all of the major variants isn't enough to be a truly good system administrator. There is a significant nontechnical component to being a system administrator, especially in terms of planning, organizational, and people skills.

As computers become more and more pervasive in business, system administration becomes a mission critical position in more and more organizations. The administrator has to understand the systems that he is responsible for, the people who use them, and the nature of the business that they are used for. A key skill in administration is planning, because at the rate that systems are being created, overhauled, and expanded, trying to improvise and design a network "on the fly" just doesn't work.

Companies are moving more and more processes not just to computers, but to point of sale systems, such as Web commerce and sophisticated in-store systems, such as electronic catalogs and cash registers that are directly connected to both inventory and credit systems. Companies that may have moved their inventory control to computers five years ago are scrambling to get order entry computerized and on the Web, while companies that haven't automated their inventory and ordering systems yet are scrambling to do so in order to remain competitive. E-mail is now regarded as just as important as faxes and telephones, while every part of customer service that can be manned by a computer and fax retrieval system already is. These companies are almost completely dependent on their computers, and their system administrators need to understand a lot more than how to partition a disk drive, add memory, and install Adobe PhotoShop.

This paper introduces some of the basic technical and organizational concepts that a system administrator needs to know in order to perform his job well. It also covers a few key system administration tools that are already found with most systems.

The paper is divided into the following sections:

- Technical Concepts for System Administrators--in this section we introduce some of the important characteristics and how they differ from operating systems like Windows and Macintosh.
- System Administration Tasks--this part of the chapter is where basic administration tasks and responsibilities are introduced.
- Administration Resources--both the operating system itself and the Internet...
provide a wide variety of information for administrators. This section provides a few pointers to these resources.

INTRODUCTION:- System administration is basically a huge platform where one get acknowledged about the various programs which are related to the main programming part. In other words, it is also an overview of the main programming done in the system itself. So, it would also bring a new field to development area and also specific part of system administrator too. The administrator will make assumptions that about the hardware and the other properties on the system that the administrator runs on, and will often exploit the properties in use. Usually a low-level programming language or programming language dialect is used that:

- It can be operated in resource-constrained environments.
- It is very efficient and has a little runtime overhead.
- It has a small runtime library.
- It allows for direct and "raw" control over memory access and control flow.
- It makes the programmer write parts of the program directly in assembly language.
- The often systems which programs cannot be run in a debugger. Running the program in the simulated environment can sometimes be used to reduce this problem.

Systems administration is sufficiently different from application administration that the administrator tend to specialize in one or the other.

In system programming, often limited programming facilities are available. The use of garbage collection is not common and debugging is sometimes hard to do. The runtime library if available at all, is usually far less powerful, and does less error checking. Because of these limitations, monitoring and logging are often used; operating systems may have extremely elaborate logging subsystems.

Implementing certain parts of the operating system and the networking requires systems programming, for example, implementing Paging (virtual memory) or a device manager for an operating system.

Originally systems programmers invariably wrote in assembly language. Experiments with hardware support in high level languages in the late 1960s led to such languages as PL/S, BLISS, BCPL and extended ALGOL for Burroughs large systems. Forth also has applications as a systems language. In the 1980s, C became ubiquitous, aided by the growth of Unix. More recently C++ has seen some use, for instance a subset of it is used in the I/O kit drivers of Mac OS X.

Technical Aspect:-

For historical reasons, some organizations use the term systems programmer to describe a job function which would be more accurately termed system administrator. This is particularly true in organizations whose computer resources have historically been dominated by mainframes, although the term is even used to describe job functions which do not involve mainframes. This usage arose because administration of IBM mainframes often involved the writing of custom assembler code (IBM's Basic Assembly Language -...
"BAL"), which integrated with the operating system such as OS/MVS, DOS/vcs or v's/vcms. Indeed, some IBM software products had substantial code contributions from customer programming staff. This type of programming is progressively less common, but the term systems programmer is still the defacto job title for staff directly administering IBM mainframes.

The earliest system software was written in assembly language for reasons including efficiency of object code, compilation time, and ease of debugging. Application languages such as FORTAN were used for system programming, although they usually still required some routines to be written in assembly language.

**Mid-level languages**

Mid-level languages have the much of the syntax and facilities of the higher level language, but also provide the direct access to the language (as well as providing assembly language) to machine features. One of the earliest of these mid-level programming languages was PL360, which had the general syntax of ALGOL 60, but whose statements directly manipulated CPU registers and memory. Other languages in this category are MOL-360 and PL/S.

As an example, a typical PL360 statement is $R9 := R8 \text{ and } R7 \text{ shell 8 or } R6$, signifying that registers 8 and 7 should be ended together, the result shifted left 8 bits, the result of that or'ed with the contents of register 6, and the result placed into register 9.

**Higher-level languages**

While programming language 360 is the semantic level of the assembly language which is another kind of a system programming language which operates at a higher semantic level, but it has a specific extension which is designed to make the language suitable for the system programming. An example of this kind of the language is LRLTRAN, which is extended Fortran with features for character and bit manipulation, pointers, and directly-addressed jump tables.

Sequentially, a languages such as C were developed, which is a combination of the features and it was sufficient to write the system software, and a compiler could be developed that generated efficient object programs on modest hardware. Such a language generally omits features that cannot be implemented efficiently, and adds a small number of machine-dependent features needed to access specific hardware capabilities; inline assembly code, such as a C's asm statement, is often used for this purpose. Although many such languages were developed, C and C++ are the ones that have survived.

System Programming Language (SPL) is also the name of a specific language on the HP 3000 computer series, used for its operating system HP Multiprogramming Executive, and other parts of its system software.

E.G:- Work of a system administrator in Email.
Conclusion :-

System administrator radially many numerous tasks which is to be performed. Therework can be divided into several groups according to the way they are carried out. Following is the list of tasks which ranges from those tasks that must be performed radially more often than once a day respective to those that need be performed less often than once a month. System administrator need to do some of the tasks in the following list more or less often which depends upon the size and complexity of the system. System administration of the WebLogic server supplies a wide range of tasks which creates a WebLogic Server domains which deploys the applications and migrating domains from development environments to production environments which monitors and manages the performance of runtime system, configuring and the managing security for the applications and the system resources, and diagnosing and troubleshooting problems.

WebLogic Server provides the several number of tools for system administrators to help these taskswhich includes a browser-based
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Administration Console, WebLogic Scripting Tool (WLST), scripting language for automation of WebLogic system administration tasks which is based on Jython, SNMP, the Configuration Wizard, and command-line utilities.

Because of the WebLogic Server management system which is based on Java EE and too on other standards which integrates with the systems that are frequently used for to manage the other software and the hardware components. In addition to it, WebLogic Server implements the Java Management Extension (JMX) specification, which also allows the programmatic access to the WebLogic Server management system.

Reference:-

[7]. UvA Master SNE homepage