

NEXTSTEP

Title:NetInfo Clone Bug in 3.3 Intel

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Question

Why can **SimpleNetworkStarter** create a NetInfo clone on Intel hardware, but using **NetInfoManager** doesn't work in NEXTSTEP 3.3 for Intel?

Answer

When you use the "Manage Hierarchy" menu in **NetInfoManager** to make a clone, it actually invokes **nidomain -c**. When **nidomain -c** invokes **netinfod -c**, a byte ordering problem occurs: the byte order of the master's address is reversed.

For example, you clone the **/ts** domain on the local host **rhino**. The master of **/ts** is running on **sabre**, with a tag of **network**. Assuming you want to your clone domain to have the same tag as the master, uniform tagging, the **nidomain** command that gets invoked is:

```
nidomain -c network sabre/network
```

nidomain will translate **sabre** to the IP address **192.42.172.66**, and will invoke **netinfod** as:

```
/usr/etc/netinfod -c sabre 66.172.42.192 network network
```

The arguments after the **-c** are the master's host's name, the master's host's IP address, the master's tag, and the new clone's tag. The bug is the reversed byte ordering of the IP address after "sabre".

Solution

-Copying the Database

Login as root and launch **Terminal**. If you just tried using **NetInfoManager**'s Manage Hierarchy menu to create the clone, kill (**kill -TERM**) the **netinfod -c** process.

```
rhino] ps -aux | grep netinfod
root      3938    1.6   0.6 1.66M   200K p3  S      0:00 grep netinfod
root      219     0.0   1.3 1.64M   424K ?   SW      0:12 /usr/etc/netinfod local
root      220     0.0   0.8 2.22M   264K ?   SW      0:03 /usr/etc/netinfod -c sabre 66

rhino] kill -TERM 220
```

Now change directory to **/etc/netinfo**, remove **network.nidb** (or **network.mov**, or **network.tmp**) if it exists and run **netinfod -c** by hand, giving the IP address of the master's host in the correct order. The arguments after the **-c** are the master's host's name, the master's host's IP address, the master's tag, and the new clone's tag.

```
rhino]/usr/etc/netinfod -c sabre 192.42.172.66 network network &
```

-Adding the Serves Property

Next, add a serves property of **./network** to the **/machines/rhino** entry of the NetInfo domain you are cloning.

```
rhino] niutil -appendprop -t saber/network /machines/rhino serves ./network
```

Do the following until you get **./network** on the **serves:** line in the output,

```
rhino] niutil -read -t localhost/network /machines/rhino
```

Once the database is updated, reboot the clone machine because the new **netinfod**, the one started by hand with **/usr/etc/netinfod -c**, isn't a child of **nibindd**.

Reminder: If you have a three level or greater NetInfo hierarchy, you may need to modify the child as well as the parent domains. See the **System Administration Guide, Chapter 10: Configuring a Large Network**, located online in **/NextLibrary/Documentation/NextAdmin**.

See Also:

1278_The_Tough_Stuff