



MKS Toolkit for System Administrators

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MKS Toolkit for System Administrators

The growth of Windows and the continued demand for UNIX in today's global organizations has created a need for a robust and reliable administrative solution. A mixed computing environment, by consequence, demands a consistent set of commands, utilities, and processes to successfully control the interactions of the various systems.

MKS Toolkit® for System Administrators is a powerful administration suite that gives users the ability to remotely administer systems, perform backups across multiple platforms, and automate repetitive tasks using graphical Windows utilities.

Benefits of MKS Toolkit for System Administrators

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators provides IT organizations with:

- Interactive Access to Remote Systems.
- System Backup and File Archiving.
- Automation and Task Scheduling.
- Effortless Control Over the Quality of your System Configuration.
- Communication and Process Notification.

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators allows you to increase productivity and automate tasks like:

- Password synchronization.
- Setting up new machines.
- Cloning a system file or a document tree on local or remote systems.

- Deploying applications throughout the enterprise.
- Distributing data to remote file stores.
- Performing complex file searches.
- Copying permissions between objects from a single desktop.

Interactive Access to Remote Systems

Much of what routinely needs to be done on a remote system, whether it is a UNIX or Windows system, can be done via the command-line.

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators allows users to easily access remote UNIX and Windows systems with a complete suite of connectivity tools¹ allowing remote and secure remote command-line connectivity. This gives the administrators freedom to access mission-critical systems even when they are away from the office while ensuring the security and integrity of the data they are accessing.

- A telnet server, allowing remote access to the Windows machine.
- Secure shell client/service as well as other secure utilities (*scp*, *sftp*, *sftp-service*).
- Remote shell, *rlogind* and *rexecd* services, for remote access to Windows systems.
- Remote utilities (*rsh*, *rexec*, *rcp*, *rlogin*) for accessing other UNIX and Windows machines.

¹ A single connect version of the connectivity services is included with this product. Unlimited connect versions are also available.

- Secure Visual SFTP - transfer and manipulate files to and from remote UNIX/Windows systems with the confidence that business assets are secure and encrypted.

System Backup and File Archiving

Hardware failure, virus attacks, theft, and even natural disasters can cause organizations to lose considerable amounts of their most valuable asset, not to mention the loss in employee productivity during the time it takes to restore or recreate the information.

Data loss is a real and significant problem in today's computing environments and can occur for a variety of different reasons. MKS Toolkit for System Administrators includes all the tools necessary to implement a complete file archiving and backup system.

A good back up solution should be an essential component of any administrative infrastructure. It can minimize down time and preserve the integrity of the data. It is not a matter of if corporations back up their systems, but rather a matter of what data they should back up, what tools they should use to do it, and how they use those tools.

- MKS Toolkit provides a solution that allows for cross platform compatible backups.
- MKS Toolkit provides the ability to script and schedule repetitive backup processes.
- MKS Toolkit allows users to properly determine what data needs to be backed up.

The system back-up component available in MKS Toolkit for System Administrators provides the means to implement and

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automate a complete back-up strategy across Windows, UNIX and Linux networks.

Automation and Task Scheduling

In today's busy enterprise, individuals do not usually have the time or the availability to run routine tasks on a regular basis nor do most enterprises desire to have staff dedicated to running such tasks. As a result, there is a strong need to automate repetitive processes so that they can be run without any input from users. At the heart of automating these tasks are scripting and scheduling utilities.

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators provides a complete tool set for scripting system administration tasks. It increases the command-line and batch automation capabilities of the Windows environment and decreases downtime by using over 70 commands that aide in Windows administration. Use utilities such as `groupinfo`, `userinfo`, and `member` to help create and maintain a systems user and group environment. The `registry` command allows system administrators to safely and easily manipulate the Windows registry.

Several commands are available to display or manipulate Windows information from the command-line and from scripts such as:

- `dev` command for device driver information.
- `domain` command for Windows domain information.
- `filever` command for file version information.
- `ftype` to set file type associations in the registry.
- `halt` to shutdown Windows.

With the scheduling utilities included with MKS Toolkit for System Administrators, users can

easily set up tasks to run automatically at specific times. Whether a task needs to run once at 9:00 p.m. that night, every Thursday night at 11:30 p.m., or every 5 minutes between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m., administrators can use scripting and scheduling utilities to create an automated solution to handle the situation.

Such automated solutions can include but are not limited to:

- Automating software deployment and updates.
- Setting and implementing corporate standards.
- Forwarding weekend and off-hours e-mail to your home email address.
- Backing up data on a weekly basis.

Effortless Control Over the Quality of your System Configuration

A significant number of System Administrators are fluent in the UNIX environment, so utilities that are UNIX-based and follow the UNIX philosophy, yet operate in the Windows environment, can easily leverage the skills of these people on the Windows platform.

Harness the power of UNIX on Windows...

- MKS Toolkit for System Administrators contains hundreds of authentic UNIX utilities such as `df`, `du`, and `ls`, as well as `ksh`, `csh`, and `bash` shells. Therefore, you can immediately start using your UNIX skills and scripts on Windows.
- Administer both Windows and UNIX systems using the Interoperability capabilities such as password synchronization and remote utilities and daemons.

- Using powerful UNIX commands such as `awk` or Perl supplemented with our KornShell's `dlg` dialog building utility, you can get all the information you need about your Windows system, and you can avoid going to the registry to find what you want.
- Use UNIX commands to perform file backups across multiple platforms.

UNIX system administrators will appreciate a set of familiar commands on Windows and UNIX-style command-line utilities for interacting with Windows features. Windows system administrators will appreciate the increased flexibility of traditional UNIX command-line tools in their Windows environment. Easily control mail administration, file management, registry editing, server management with MKS Toolkit for System Administrators.

Communication and Process Notification

React before problems get out of hand by integrating automatic notification and communication into automated processes and scripts. The command-line tools included in MKS Toolkit for System Administrators allow administrators to easily incorporate email, news, and Web

MKS has been a lifesaver for us. My team has a "ton" of experience on UNIX platforms and very little to none on NT. MKS has allowed us to do our work on an NT box very quickly.

Gail Wilson,
First American National Bank

communication into their systems, dramatically improving awareness of the state of mission-critical applications.

No organization today can afford any downtime of their corporate

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systems as it equates to significant loss of business and lost revenue. Incorporating automated communication into administrative and operational processes provides administrators with peace of mind and better awareness of system status.

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators Features

- A wide selection of command environments, (KornShell, CShell, *bash*, *tcsh*) offering greater control, flexibility, and a wider range of functionality than the traditional Windows Command Prompt.
- Over 450 UNIX and Windows command-line utilities (full POSIX.2 specification).
- Visual SFTP Explorer extension allowing drag/drop and other file operations through the graphical Windows interface.
- Create and manage users, groups, and permissions on Windows (*userinfo*, *groupinfo*, *member*).
- Copy permissions between objects and manipulate Win32 file and user security attributes (*chacl*, *lsacl*, *su*).
- Start, stop, and query Windows services and processes (*service*, *ps*).
- SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) services and utilities that allow users to control network devices and their functions.
- MKS utilities and APIs now support multibyte/Unicode characters within file content, file and directory names, pipes, environment variables, console displays, and other areas.
- File system handling commands (*mount*, *umount*) and symbolic link support.
- Clone system file or document tree (*tar*, *scp*, *sftp*, *cp*, *ls*, *find*).
- Create and control Windows desktops, shortcuts, and appearances (*desktop*, *shortcut*).
- Query and manipulate the Windows registry.
- Compression utilities (*zip*, *unzip*, *gzip*, *gunzip*) to complement the *mkszip* and *uncompress* commands.
- Manipulate device drivers, Windows domains, and file associations (*dev*, *domain*, *ftype*).

In a Nutshell

MKS Toolkit for System Administrators is built on a solid foundation of robust tools and engines that have been optimized for building best-of-breed system administration solutions. Whether administering a Windows environment or one that mixes Windows and UNIX systems, this consistent set of tools allows organizations to effectively manage their network environment.

Request an evaluation copy of MKS Toolkit for System Administrators and learn more about the rest of the MKS Toolkit line of products and services by pointing your browser to www.mkssoftware.com.



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