FreeBSD Administration - Feature #387

Enabling Root Login Over SSH on FreeBSD

05/05/2014 08:07 AM - Daniel Curtis

Status:	Closed	**Start date:**	05/05/2014
Priority:	Normal	**Due date:**	
Assignee:	Daniel Curtis	**% Done:**	100%
Category:	SSH Server	**Estimated time:**	0.20 hour
Target version:	FreeBSD 9	**Spent time:**	0.60 hour

Description

BIG SCARY WARNING!!!

Permitting root logins is a **VERY BAD IDEA**, please consider the security ramifications of allowing root to remotely log in before continuing this guide. Adding a user to the wheel group or using sudo is a better practice.

Unlike many Linux distributions, FreeBSD by default disables 'root' login over SSH, If you do need to enable remote root logins over SSH, using key-based logins would be a good idea; the more secure way of gaining remote admin access to your server would ideally be logging in as an alternative user and then using SUDO to perform any administrative tasks.

- First edit the SSH daemon configuration file:

```
vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

- Find this line:

```
#PermitRootLogin no
```

- and change it to:

```
PermitRootLogin yes
```

Basically you should have removed the hash '#' from the start of the line (uncomment the line basically) and then change 'no' to 'yes', save the file and then restart the SSH daemon like so..

```
service sshd restart
```

And your done, you should now be able to login as 'root' over SSH on your FreeBSD server!

History

#1 - 05/05/2014 08:50 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed

#2 - 02/14/2015 10:36 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Target version set to FreeBSD 9

#3 - 02/14/2015 11:34 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Subject changed from Enable Root Login Over SSH on FreeBSD to Enabling Root Login Over SSH on FreeBSD

- Description updated

- Category set to SSH Server

#4 - 02/14/2015 11:37 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated