

## GNU/Linux Administration - Bug #391

### HTTP Error 500, SuExec and Fcgi Debugging

05/14/2014 09:20 AM - Daniel Curtis

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	05/14/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	High	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Daniel Curtis	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Category:</b>	Web Server	<b>Estimated time:</b>	1.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>		<b>Spent time:</b>	1.00 hour

#### Description

I have encountered problem where I have been getting error 500 on my webserver. Because the error logs are simply cryptic, general and misleading, or even non-existent, I needed a trick that allowed me to figure out the reason for the errors without relying much on the logs. Here is a short documentation of the method i used:

#### Emulation of suexec + fcgi:

- On the command line, switch to the user that is executing the php scripts:

```
su - user1
```

this might fail because this user might not have a login shell (login shell set to /bin/false for example); thus you might need to edit /etc/passwd and set a loginshell for this user; lets say /bin/bash. its a good idea to use vipw instead of vi (you need to do this as root).

- Now cd to the directory where you have your .php files, and try something like this:

```
cd /var/www/www.example.com  
cat index.php | /var/www/fcgi/www.example.com/php5-fcgi-starter
```

This should reveal more info about the error that what you are getting (or not getting) in the logs or in the browser. the file output is being piped to is the fcgi php wrapper.

#### Resources

- <http://tuxbaby.blogspot.com/2011/06/http-error-500-suexec-and-fcgi.html>

#### History

#1 - 05/25/2014 11:27 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Status changed from New to Closed

- % Done changed from 30 to 100

#2 - 02/15/2015 09:10 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Project changed from 91 to GNU/Linux Administration

- Category set to Web Server