

FreeBSD Administration - Support #475

Using Getmail on FreeBSD

11/12/2014 03:17 PM - Daniel Curtis

Status:	Closed	Start date:	11/12/2014
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	Daniel Curtis	% Done:	100%
Category:	Command-Line Help	Estimated time:	0.50 hour
Target version:	FreeBSD 9	Spent time:	1.50 hour

Description

Getmail is a useful tool for fetching mail from a remote mail server and delivering them to local mail account. This is useful for keeping emails concurrent between different mail servers if used as a cron job.

Install Getmail

- Update ports tree:

```
portsnap fetch extract
```

- Install Getmail:

```
cd /usr/ports/mail/getmail  
make install clean
```

- Prepare getmail environment:

```
cd  
mkdir .getmail  
cp /usr/local/share/examples/getmail/getmailrc-examples .getmail/getmailrc
```

- Edit the .getmail/getmailrc file to suit your remote servers information.

Retrieving Emails

- Create a separate getmail rc file for each account, and run getmail with multiple --rcfile options.

```
cd ~/.getmail  
mkdir getmail.d
```

- Create first user and deliver using dovecot

```
vi ~/.getmail/getmail.d/john.getmailrc
```

- And add the following:

```
## john@example.com  
[options]  
verbose = 0  
read_all = false  
delete = false
```

```
[retriever]
type = SimplePOP3Retriever
server = mail.example.com
username = john@example.com
password = Password

[destination]
type = MDA_external
path = /usr/local/libexec/dovecot/deliver
arguments = ("-e", "-f", "%(sender)", "-d", "john@altservice.com")
```

- Create next user and deliver to the users Maildir

```
vi ~/.getmail/getmail.d/bob.getmailrc
```

- And add the following:

```
## bob@example.com
[options]
verbose = 0
read_all = false
delete = false

[retriever]
type = SimplePOP3Retriever
server = mail.example.com
username = bob@example.com
password = Password

[destination]
type = Maildir
path = /var/vmail/vmail1/example.com/b/o/b/bob-2014.03.29.11.08.32/Maildir
```

Automate Getmail

- Of course, it's really easy to script this for a large number of rc-* files. Create a script:

```
vi /usr/local/bin/run-getmail.sh
```

- And add the following containing:

```
#!/bin/sh
set -e
cd /var/vmail
rcfiles=""
for file in `ls /var/vmail/.getmail/*.getmailrc` ; do
    rcfiles="$rcfiles --rcfile $file"
done
exec /usr/local/bin/getmail $rcfiles $@
```

- Make the script executable:

```
chmod +x /usr/local/bin/run-getmail.sh
```

- Edit the vmail crontab:

```
su - vmail
```

```
crontab -e
```

- And add the following to run the run-getmail.sh script every 2 minutes.

```
* /2 * * * * /usr/local/bin/run-getmail.sh
```

History

#1 - 11/12/2014 07:52 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#2 - 12/12/2014 10:47 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

- Status changed from New to Closed

- % Done changed from 0 to 100

#3 - 02/14/2015 10:42 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Target version set to FreeBSD 9

#4 - 02/14/2015 11:52 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Category set to Command-Line Help

#5 - 04/09/2015 11:16 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#6 - 04/09/2015 11:17 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#7 - 04/20/2015 03:06 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#8 - 04/20/2015 03:51 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#9 - 04/20/2015 03:52 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated