Subject: Running FlexLM on OS X

Posted by K. Bowman on Wed, 04 Dec 2002 13:55:08 GMT

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This will likely be of interest only to those running OS X.

We have been working to get our IDL licensing running on our OS X
machines. The FlexLM license manager runs fine if you start it
manually, the trick has been to get it to start up at boot time under
the (peculiar) OS X boot sequence. The documentation from IDL and
Globetrotter (the FlexLM folks) is ... ah ... sparse, and neither has
startup scripts for OS X that I can find.

After some poking around, I found the following fairly useful how-to
page at Apple:

 http://developer.apple.com/techpubs/macosx/Darwin/howto/syst em_starter_ho
wto/system_starter_howto.html

The following seems to be working for us. No guarantees! Please let me
know if you find problems or better ways to do it.

In /Library/StartupItems create a directory "FlexLM". In this directory
are two files, the script to actually run lmgrd (must also be named
"FlexLM") and a property list (StartupParameters.plist).

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Below is the FlexLM file. The file belongs to "adminuser". Lmgrd
should not be run as root for security reasons. In the file, change
"adminuser" to the name of the administrative user for your machine.
The test for whether lmgrd is already running is not elegant, but it
works. This script assumes that the license file is in the default
location.


```
#!/bin/sh

##
# FlexLM license manager daemon
##

. /etc/rc.common

StartService ()
```

```
{
  if [ `/usr/local/rsi/idl_5.6/bin/lmstat | grep -c UP` = "0" ]; then
    ConsoleMessage "Starting FlexLM license manager"
    /usr/bin/su adminuser -c '/usr/local/rsi/idl_5.6/bin/lmgrd >>
/dev/console'
  else
    ConsoleMessage "FlexLM license manager already running"
  fi
}

StopService ()
{
  if [ `/usr/local/rsi/idl_5.6/bin/lmstat | grep -c UP` != "0" ]; then
    ConsoleMessage "Stopping FlexLM license manager"
    /usr/local/rsi/idl_5.6/bin/lmdown -q
  else
    ConsoleMessage "FlexLM license manager already stopped"
  fi
}

RestartService () { StopService; /bin/sleep 5; StartService; }

RunService "$1"
```

Below is the StartupParameters.plist file. If anyone has a better idea
what these parameters should be, please let us know!

```
{
  Description     = "FlexLM License Manager";
  Provides        = ("lmgrd");
  Requires        = ("Network");
  Uses            = ("");
  OrderPreference = "Late";
}
```