
Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 18:55:10 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> Oddly, I have NO trouble writing to the stick with my
> SUSE 10.3 installation here.

I take that back, I WAS able to write a file to it
when I first put the stick into my computer just now,
but now it won't let me write anything else to it!!
It tells me I can't copy into a directory to which
I don't have write permission.

You know, Windows has its drawbacks. But you've got
to be pretty crazy to think LINUX is an alternative. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [Greg Hennessy](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 18:58:01 GMT

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On 2007-12-05, David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

> It tells me I can't copy into a directory to which
> I don't have write permission.

Well, that's pretty normal. What is the permissin of the directory you
are trying to copy into?

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:11:26 GMT

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Greg Hennessy writes:

> Well, that's pretty normal. What is the permissin of the directory you

> are trying to copy into?

Permissions are set to drwxr-xr-x for TRAVELDRIVE and all other directories on the TRAVELDRIVE.

I do have two files .hal-mtab and .hal-mtab-lock, which have permissions of -rw-r--r-- and -rw-----, respectively at the same level as TRAVELDRIVE. That is, in /media. Any idea what these are?

David

--

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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:14:01 GMT

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On Dec 5, 1:11 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Greg Hennessy writes:

>> Well, that's pretty normal. What is the permissin of the directory you

>> are trying to copy into?

>

> Permissions are set to drwxr-xr-x for TRAVELDRIVE and all other
> directories on the TRAVELDRIVE.

>

> I do have two files .hal-mtab and .hal-mtab-lock, which
> have permissions of -rw-r--r-- and -rw-----, respectively
> at the same level as TRAVELDRIVE. That is, in /media.

> Any idea what these are?

>

> David

> --

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> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Are you in the same group as the TRAVELDRIVE?

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:19:37 GMT

Vince Hradil writes:

> Are you in the same group as the TRAVELDRIVE?

The only group I know about is the IDL news group. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. I assume this is a computer question, but I don't know what it means. Sorry. I'm sitting at the machine. So I must be in whatever group its in. :-)

--

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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:23:35 GMT

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On Dec 5, 1:19 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Vince Hradil writes:

>> Are you in the same group as the TRAVELDRIVE?

>

> The only group I know about is the IDL news group. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> P.S. I assume this is a computer question, but I don't

> know what it means. Sorry. I'm sitting at the machine.

> So I must be in whatever group its in. :-)

>

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

When you do `ls -la` you'll get a "group" for the TRAVELDRIVE in the

column right after the owner. You have to be in the same group to write to the TRAVELDRIVE. You can figure out your group by typing "groups" and the shell prompt. You may need to change the ownership or group of the TRAVELDRIVE.

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [b_gom](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:28:43 GMT
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On Dec 5, 11:44 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> but you guys are so much more fun than the LINUX crowd,
> who don't seem to have much of a sense of humor.

You just have to remember to treat Linux as a religion and not just a mere OS when making jokes, in order to avoid offending the fundamentalists.

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:35:52 GMT
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Vince Hradil writes:

> When you do ls -la you'll get a "group" for the TRAVELDRIVE in the
> column right after the owner. You have to be in the same group to
> write to the TRAVELDRIVE. You can figure out your group by typing
> "groups" and the shell prompt. You may need to change the ownership
> or group of the TRAVELDRIVE.

OK, yes, the group is "root" for all directories on the TRAVELDRIVE.
I set myself up as root and tried to copy a file to the drive:

```
%su root  
# cp test.pro /media/TRAVELDRIVE
```

And I get the error: "cannot create regular file test.pro on
/media/TRAVEDRIVE: Read-only file system."

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [Greg Hennessy](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:36:18 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 2007-12-05, David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > Greg Hennessy writes:
- >
- >> Well, that's pretty normal. What is the permission of the directory you
- >> are trying to copy into?
- >
- > Permissions are set to drwxr-xr-x for TRAVELDRIVE and all other
- > directories on the TRAVELDRIVE.

I highly suspect that the owner and group info on the TRAVELDRIVE isn't the same as the user you use on linux. Can you check to see if you are the user?

- > I do have two files .hal-mtab and .hal-mtab-lock, which
- > have permissions of -rw-r--r-- and -rw-----, respectively
- > at the same level as TRAVELDRIVE. That is, in /media.
- > Any idea what these are?

HAL is Hardware Abstraction Layer, but otherwise I don't know what those files are.

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:42:08 GMT
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Greg Hennessy writes:

- > I highly suspect that the owner and group info on the TRAVELDRIVE
- > isn't the same as the user you use on linux. Can you check to see if
- > you are the user?

Well, a whoami tells me I'm "david". That seems good. :-)

I'm suspecting another problem. For the record, I did delete a file off the drive (after I had copied it onto the drive). After the delete, I could no longer copy onto the drive. Something about the Trash...?

Weird. I may just try reformatting the stick.

David

--

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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [Greg Hennessy](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:46:19 GMT

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On 2007-12-05, David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

> %su root

> # cp test.pro /media/TRAVELDRIVE

try

touch /tmp/foo

ls -al /tmp/foo

> And I get the error: "cannot create regular file test.pro on

> /media/TRAVEDRIVE: Read-only file system."

Any chance there is a write protect switch on the traveldrive that got toggled?

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:51:26 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> Weird. I may just try reformatting the stick.

Well, before I tried "drastic", I just restarted my machine, plugged the stick in, and now I can write to it all I want. Anyone have any theories about this!?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:56:09 GMT
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Greg Hennessy writes:

> Any chance there is a write protect switch on the traveldrive that got
> toggled?

I thought of this earlier. Although it would be consistent with my ham-handed approach to all things mechanical, there is no switch on the traveldrive.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 19:56:14 GMT
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On Dec 5, 1:42 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Greg Hennessy writes:
>> I highly suspect that the owner and group info on the TRAVELDRIVE
>> isn't the same as the user you use on linux. Can you check to see if
>> you are the user?
>
> Well, a whoami tells me I'm "david". That seems good. :-)
>
> I'm suspecting another problem. For the record, I did
> delete a file off the drive (after I had copied it onto
> the drive). After the delete, I could no longer copy onto
> the drive. Something about the Trash...?
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> Weird. I may just try reformatting the stick.
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> David

- > --
- > David Fanning, Ph.D.
- > Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
- > Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
- > Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

David,

I found this thread elsewhere: <http://suseforums.net/index.php?showtopic=30360>

In particular it says, "SUSE's handling of USB flash memory drives is screwed up, since about two years." With a few suggestions near the bottom. Living both in Windows and Linux is not for the faint of heart...

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 20:11:03 GMT
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Vince Hradil writes:

- > I found this thread elsewhere: <http://suseforums.net/index.php?showtopic=30360>
- >
- > In particular it says, "SUSE's handling of USB flash memory drives is
- > screwed up, since about two years." With a few suggestions near the
- > bottom. Living both in Windows and Linux is not for the faint of
- > heart...

Oh, lovely. What's the delivery time on a Mac? Can I still get one before Christmas?

Cheers,

David

--
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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 20:15:33 GMT

Vince Hradil writes:

> I found this thread elsewhere:[http://suseforums.net/index.php?](http://suseforums.net/index.php?showtopic=30360)
> showtopic=30360

Thanks for the help, by the way. Just to put a finishing touch on all this. Once I copied the files I wanted onto the disk, I can no longer either copy more files or delete the ones I have. :-)

Did anyone buy that Remington Ultra Mag I recommended the other day? I've found another use for it.

Cheers,

David

--
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Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 20:50:18 GMT
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Vince Hradil wrote:

> On Dec 5, 1:42 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>> Greg Hennessy writes:
>>> I highly suspect that the owner and group info on the TRAVELDRIVE
>>> isn't the same as the user you use on linux. Can you check to see if
>>> you are the user?
>> Well, a whoami tells me I'm "david". That seems good. :-)
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>> delete a file off the drive (after I had copied it onto
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> David,
>
> I found this thread elsewhere:<http://suseforums.net/index.php?showtopic=30360>
>
> In particular it says, "SUSE's handling of USB flash memory drives is
> screwed up, since about two years." With a few suggestions near the
> bottom. Living both in Windows and Linux is not for the faint of
> heart...

FWIW, I had a similar problem with my thumb drive under RHE 3.0 - I needed the constant intervention of my sysadmin to "unstick" things so I could again write to it. Moving to RHE 4.0 fixed the problem.

Maybe you simply need to upgrade your work computer to Suse 10.3?

cheers,

paulv

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Thu, 06 Dec 2007 02:36:44 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

...
> You know, Windows has its drawbacks. But you've got
> to be pretty crazy to think LINUX is an alternative. :-(

Well, you would be the first to imply that I'm crazy. :-)

Subject: Re: Off Topic UNIX Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 06 Dec 2007 02:50:44 GMT
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James Kuyper writes:

> Well, you would be the first to imply that I'm crazy. :-)

Present company is *always* excluded, James. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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