NAME

in.rexecd, rexecd – remote execution server

SYNOPSIS

in.rexecd

DESCRIPTION

in.rexecd is the server for the **rexec**(3N) routine. The server provides remote execution facilities with authentication based on user names and passwords. It is invoked automatically as needed by **inetd**(1M), and then executes the following protocol:

1) The server reads characters from the socket up to a null (**\0**) byte. The resultant string is interpreted as an ASCII number, base 10.

2) If the number received in step 1 is non-zero, it is interpreted as the port number of a secondary stream to be used for the **stderr**. A second connection is then created to the specified port on the client's machine.

3) A null terminated user name of at most 16 characters is retrieved on the initial socket.

4) A null terminated password of at most 16 characters is retrieved on the initial socket.

5) A null terminated command to be passed to a shell is retrieved on the initial socket. The length of the command is limited by the upper bound on the size of the system's argument list.

6) **rexecd** then validates the user as is done at login time and, if the authentication was successful, changes to the user's home directory, and establishes the user and group protections of the user. If any of these steps fail the connection is aborted and a diagnostic message is returned.

7) A null byte is returned on the connection associated with the **stderr** and the command line is passed to the normal login shell of the user. The shell inherits the network connections established by **rexecd**.

SEE ALSO

inetd(1M), **rexec**(3N)

DIAGNOSTICS

All diagnostic messages are returned on the connection associated with the **stderr**, after which any network connections are closed. An error is indicated by a leading byte with a value of 1 (0 is returned in step 7 above upon successful completion of all the steps prior to the command execution).

username too long
The name is longer than 16 characters.

password too long
The password is longer than 16 characters.

command too long
The command line passed exceeds the size of the argument list (as configured into the system).

Login incorrect.
No password file entry for the user name existed.

Password incorrect.
The wrong password was supplied.

No remote directory.
The **chdir** command to the home directory failed.

Try again.
A **fork** by the server failed.

/usr/bin/sh: ...
The user's login shell could not be started.