NFSv4 ACLs

Recent proposals and their impact on minorversion I IETF 66, July 11, 2006

Our Goals for ACLs in minorversion I

- Clarification of the semantics of ACLs as introduced in RFC 3530
- Compatibility with NFSv4 clients
 - v4.0 clients just as capable as v4.1
- ACL attribute is the authority for security
 - Nothing outside the ACL defines permissions
- Have predictable, reliable behavior when modes interact with ACLs

ACL Model in Current minorversion I Draft

- First introduced late last year as draft-ietffalkner-acl-00.txt
- Currently in minorversion I draft
- Implemented in Solaris 10 Update 2 and Solaris Express

New Proposal

- Proposed by Andreas Gruenbacher
- Not yet fully specified
- Not yet implemented
 - But a prototype is promised

Key Differences

- POSIX requires a concept of a mask
 - Current proposal uses existing file attributes (DENY ACEs in ACLs)
 - Andreas' proposal would use new file attributes
- Need to come to consensus on POSIX categorization
 - e.g. alternate vs. additional file access controls, etc.

Goals

- ACL summit, possibly in person
 - Possibly at Bakeathon, preferably earlier
- Attain rough consensus on these questions
 - Is the current proposal acceptable?
 - Is Andreas' proposal acceptable?
 - If both are acceptable, is one sufficiently better to displace the other?
- Report back to NFSv4 WG ASAP