Bacula® Miscellaneous Guide

Kern Sibbald

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Chapter 1

Variable Expansion

Variable expansion is somewhat similar to Unix shell variable expansion. Currently (version 1.31), it is used only in format labels, but in the future, it will most likely be used in more places.

1.1 General Functionality

This is basically a string expansion capability that permits referencing variables, indexing arrays, conditional replacement of variables, case conversion, substring selection, regular expression matching and replacement, character class replacement, padding strings, repeated expansion in a user controlled loop, support of arithmetic expressions in the loop start, step and end conditions, and recursive expansion.

When using variable expansion characters in a Volume Label Format record, the format should always be enclosed in double quotes ("").

For example, \$\{HOME\} will be replaced by your home directory as defined in the environment. If you have defined the variable xxx to be Test, then the reference \$\{xxx:p/7/Y/r\} will right pad the contents of xxx to a length of seven characters filling with the character Y giving YYYYTest.

1.2 Bacula Variables

Within Bacula, there are three main classes of variables with some minor variations within the classes. The classes are:

- **Counters** Counters are defined by the Counter resources in the Director’s conf file. The counter can either be a temporary counter that lasts for the duration of Bacula’s execution, or it can be a variable that is stored in the catalog, and thus retains its value from one Bacula execution to another. Counter variables may be incremented by postfixing a plus sign (+ after the variable name).

- **Internal Variables** Internal variables are read-only, and may be related to the current job (i.e. Job name), or maybe special variables such as the date and time. The following variables are available:
  - Year – the full year
  - Month – the current month 1-12
  - Day – the day of the month 1-31
  - Hour – the hour 0-24
  - Minute – the current minute 0-59
  - Second – the current second 0-59
  - WeekDay – the current day of the week 0-6 with 0 being Sunday
Job – the job name
general – the Director’s name
Level – the Job Level
Type – the Job type
JobId – the JobId
JobName – the unique job name composed of Job and date
Storage – the Storage daemon’s name
Client – the Client’s name
NumVols – the current number of Volumes in the Pool
Pool – the Pool name
Catalog – the Catalog name
MediaType – the Media Type

Environment Variables Environment variables are read-only, and must be defined in the environment prior to executing Bacula. Environment variables may be either scalar or an array, where the elements of the array are referenced by subscripting the variable name (e.g. $\{Months[3]\}$). Environment variable arrays are defined by separating the elements with a vertical bar (|), thus set Months="Jan—Feb—Mar—Apr—..." defines an environment variable named Month that will be treated as an array, and the reference $\{Months[3]\}$ will yield Mar. The elements of the array can have differing lengths.

1.3 Full Syntax

Since the syntax is quite extensive, below, you will find the pseudo BNF. The special characters have the following meaning:

```
 ::= definition
 ( ) grouping if the parens are not quoted
 | separates alternatives
 , literal / (or any other character)
 CAPS a character or character sequence
 * preceding item can be repeated zero or more times
 ? preceding item can appear zero or one time
 + preceding item must appear one or more times
```

And the pseudo BNF describing the syntax is:

```
 input ::= ( TEXT
   | variable
   | INDEX_OPEN input INDEX_CLOSE (loop_limits)?
   )*

 variable ::= DELIM_INIT (name|expression)
 name ::= (NAME_CHARS)+
 expression ::= DELIM_OPEN
   (name|variable)+
   (INDEX_OPEN num_exp INDEX_CLOSE)?
   (':' command)*
   DELIM_CLOSE

 command ::= 'o' NUMBER ('-'|',') (NUMBER)?
   | '#'
   | '*' (TEXT_EXP|variable)+
   | 's' '/' (TEXT_PATTERN)*
   | '/' (variable|TEXT_SUBST)+
   | '/' ('m'|'g'|'i'|'t')*
   | '/' (variable|TEXT_SUBST)+
   | '/' (variable|TEXT_SUBST)+
```

1.4 Semantics

The items listed in `command` above, which always follow a colon (:) have the following meanings:

- perform substitution if variable is empty
- perform substitution if variable is not empty
- cut out substring of the variable value
- length of the variable value
- substitute empty string if the variable value is not empty, otherwise substitute the trailing parameter
- regular expression search and replace. The trailing options are: m = multiline, i = case insensitive, g = global, t = plain text (no regexp)
- transpose characters from class A to class B
- pad variable to l = left, r = right or c = center, with second value.
- special function call (none implemented)
- lower case the variable value
- upper case the variable value

The `loop_limits` are start, step, and end values.

A counter variable name followed immediately by a plus (+) will cause the counter to be incremented by one.

1.5 Examples

To create an ISO date:

```
DLT-$\{Year\}-$\{Month:p/2/0/r\}-$\{Day:p/2/0/r\}
```

on 20 June 2003 would give `DLT-2003-06-20`

If you set the environment variable `mon` to
January|February|March|April|May|...
File-{$mon[${Month}]}}/${Day}/${Year}

on the first of March would give File-March/1/2003
Chapter 2

Using Stunnel to Encrypt Communications

Prior to version 1.37, Bacula did not have built-in communications encryption. Please see the TLS chapter (chapter 40 on page 361) of the Bacula Community Main Manual if you are using Bacula 1.37 or greater.

Without too much effort, it is possible to encrypt the communications between any of the daemons. This chapter will show you how to use stunnel to encrypt communications to your client programs. We assume the Director and the Storage daemon are running on one machine that will be called server and the Client or File daemon is running on a different machine called client. Although the details may be slightly different, the same principles apply whether you are encrypting between Unix, Linux, or Win32 machines. This example was developed between two Linux machines running stunnel version 4.04-4 on a Red Hat Enterprise 3.0 system.

2.1 Communications Ports Used

First, you must know that with the standard Bacula configuration, the Director will contact the File daemon on port 9102. The File daemon then contacts the Storage daemon using the address and port parameters supplied by the Director. The standard port used will be 9103. This is the typical server/client view of the world, the File daemon is a server to the Director (i.e. listens for the Director to contact it), and the Storage daemon is a server to the File daemon.

2.2 Encryption

The encryption is accomplished between the Director and the File daemon by using an stunnel on the Director’s machine (server) to encrypt the data and to contact an stunnel on the File daemon’s machine (client), which decrypts the data and passes it to the client.

Between the File daemon and the Storage daemon, we use an stunnel on the File daemon’s machine to encrypt the data and another stunnel on the Storage daemon’s machine to decrypt the data.

As a consequence, there are actually four copies of stunnel running, two on the server and two on the client. This may sound a bit complicated, but it really isn’t. To accomplish this, we will need to construct four separate conf files for stunnel, and we will need to make some minor modifications to the Director’s conf file. None of the other conf files need to be changed.
2.3 A Picture

Since pictures usually help a lot, here is an overview of what we will be doing. Don’t worry about all the
details of the port numbers and such for the moment.

File daemon (client):
- stunnel-fd1.conf
  └── Port 29102 >----| Stunnel 1 |----> Port 9102
  └── stunnel-fd2.conf
  └── Port 9103 >----| Stunnel 2 |----> server:29103
Director (server):
- stunnel-dir.conf
  └── Port 29102 >----| Stunnel 3 |----> client:29102
  └── stunnel-sd.conf
  └── Port 29103 >----| Stunnel 4 |----> 9103

2.4 Certificates

In order for stunnel to function as a server, which it does in our diagram for Stunnel 1 and Stunnel 4, you
must have a certificate and the key. It is possible to keep the two in separate files, but normally, you keep
them in one single .pem file. You may create this certificate yourself in which case, it will be self-signed, or
you may have it signed by a CA.

If you want your clients to verify that the server is in fact valid (Stunnel 2 and Stunnel 3), you will need
to have the server certificates signed by a CA (Certificate Authority), and you will need to have the CA’s
public certificate (contains the CA’s public key).

Having a CA signed certificate is highly recommended if you are using your client across the Internet,
otherwise you are exposed to the man in the middle attack and hence loss of your data.

See below for how to create a self-signed certificate.

2.5 Securing the Data Channel

To simplify things a bit, let’s for the moment consider only the data channel. That is the connection between
the File daemon and the Storage daemon, which takes place on port 9103. In fact, in a minimalist solution,
this is the only connection that needs to be encrypted, because it is the one that transports your data. The
connection between the Director and the File daemon is simply a control channel used to start the job and
get the job status.

Normally the File daemon will contact the Storage daemon on port 9103 (supplied by the Director), so we
need an stunnel that listens on port 9103 on the File daemon’s machine, encrypts the data and sends it
to the Storage daemon. This is depicted by Stunnel 2 above. Note that this stunnel is listening on port
9103 and sending to server:29103. We use port 29103 on the server because if we would send the data to
port 9103, it would go directly to the Storage daemon, which doesn’t understand encrypted data. On the
server machine, we run Stunnel 4, which listens on port 29103, decrypts the data and sends it to the Storage
daemon, which is listening on port 9103.
2.6 Data Channel Configuration

The Storage resource of the bacula-dir.conf normally looks something like the following:

Storage {
    Name = File
    Address = server
    SDPort = 9103
    Password = storage_password
    Device = File
    Media Type = File
}

Notice that this is running on the server machine, and it points the File daemon back to server:9103, which is where our Storage daemon is listening. We modify this to be:

Storage {
    Name = File
    Address = localhost
    SDPort = 9103
    Password = storage_password
    Device = File
    Media Type = File
}

This causes the File daemon to send the data to the stunnel running on localhost (the client machine). We could have used client as the address as well.

2.7 Stunnel Configuration for the Data Channel

In the diagram above, we see above Stunnel 2 that we use stunnel-fd2.conf on the client. A pretty much minimal config file would look like the following:

client = yes
[29103]
accept = localhost:9103
connect = server:29103

The above config file does encrypt the data but it does not require a certificate, so it is subject to the man in the middle attack. The file I actually used, stunnel-fd2.conf, looked like this:

```
# Stunnel conf for Bacula client -> SD
#
pid = /home/kern/bacula/bin/working/stunnel.pid
#
A cert is not mandatory here. If verify=2, a
cert signed by a CA must be specified, and
either CAfile or CApath must point to the CA's
cert
#
cert = /home/kern/stunnel/stunnel.pem
CAfile = /home/kern/ssl/cacert.pem
verify = 2
client = yes
# debug = 7
# foreground = yes
[29103]
accept = localhost:9103
connect = server:29103
```
You will notice that I specified a pid file location because I ran stunnel under my own userid so I could not use the default, which requires root permission. I also specified a certificate that I have as well as verify level 2 so that the certificate is required and verified, and I must supply the location of the CA (Certificate Authority) certificate so that the stunnel certificate can be verified. Finally, you will see that there are two lines commented out, which when enabled, produce a lot of nice debug info in the command window.

If you do not have a signed certificate (stunnel.pem), you need to delete the cert, CAfile, and verify lines.

Note that the stunnel.pem, is actually a private key and a certificate in a single file. These two can be kept and specified individually, but keeping them in one file is more convenient.

The config file, stunnel-sd.conf, needed for Stunnel 4 on the server machine is:

```
# Bacula stunnel conf for Storage daemon
# pid = /home/kern/bacula/bin/working/stunnel.pid
# A cert is mandatory here, it may be self signed
# If it is self signed, the client may not use
# verify
# cert = /home/kern/stunnel/stunnel.pem
client = no
# debug = 7
# foreground = yes
[29103]
accept = 29103
connect = 9103
```

### 2.8 Starting and Testing the Data Encryption

It will most likely be the simplest to implement the Data Channel encryption in the following order:

- Setup and run Bacula backing up some data on your client machine without encryption.
- Stop Bacula.
- Modify the Storage resource in the Director’s conf file.
- Start Bacula
- Start stunnel on the server with:
  
  stunnel stunnel-sd.conf

- Start stunnel on the client with:
  
  stunnel stunnel-fd2.conf

- Run a job.
- If it doesn’t work, turn debug on in both stunnel conf files, restart the stunnels, rerun the job, repeat until it works.

### 2.9 Encrypting the Control Channel

The Job control channel is between the Director and the File daemon, and as mentioned above, it is not really necessary to encrypt, but it is good practice to encrypt it as well. The two stunnels that are used in
this case will be Stunnel 1 and Stunnel 3 in the diagram above. Stunnel 3 on the server might normally
listen on port 9102, but if you have a local File daemon, this will not work, so we make it listen on port
29102. It then sends the data to client:29102. Again we use port 29102 so that the stunnel on the client
machine can decrypt the data before passing it on to port 9102 where the File daemon is listening.

2.10 Control Channel Configuration

We need to modify the standard Client resource, which would normally look something like:

Client {
    Name = client-fd
    Address = client
    FDPort = 9102
    Catalog = BackupDB
    Password = "xxx"
}

to be:

Client {
    Name = client-fd
    Address = localhost
    FDPort = 29102
    Catalog = BackupDB
    Password = "xxx"
}

This will cause the Director to send the control information to localhost:29102 instead of directly to the
client.

2.11 Stunnel Configuration for the Control Channel

The stunnel config file, stunnel-dir.conf, for the Director’s machine would look like the following:

```
# Bacula stunnel conf for the Directory to contact a client
# pid = /home/kern/bacula/bin/working/stunnel.pid
#
# A cert is not mandatory here. If verify=2, a
# cert signed by a CA must be specified, and
# either CAfile or CAPath must point to the CA’s
# cert
#
cert = /home/kern/stunnel/stunnel.pem
CAfile = /home/kern/ssl/cacert.pem
verify = 2
client = yes
# debug = 7
# foreground = yes
[29102]
accept = localhost:29102
connect = client:29102
```

and the config file, stunnel-fd1.conf, needed to run stunnel on the Client would be:

```
# Bacula stunnel conf for the Directory to contact a client
#```
### 2.12 Starting and Testing the Control Channel

It will most likely be the simplest to implement the Control Channel encryption in the following order:

- Stop Bacula.
- Modify the Client resource in the Director’s conf file.
- Start Bacula
- Start stunnel on the server with:
  ```
  stunnel stunnel-dir.conf
  ```
- Start stunnel on the client with:
  ```
  stunnel stunnel-fd1.conf
  ```
- Run a job.
- If it doesn’t work, turn debug on in both stunnel conf files, restart the stunnels, rerun the job, repeat until it works.

### 2.13 Using stunnel to Encrypt to a Second Client

On the client machine, you can just duplicate the setup that you have on the first client file for file and it should work fine.

In the bacula-dir.conf file, you will want to create a second client pretty much identical to how you did for the first one, but the port number must be unique. We previously used:

```plaintext
Client {
Name = client-fd
Address = localhost
FDPort = 29102
Catalog = BackupDB
Password = "xxx"
}
```

so for the second client, we will, of course, have a different name, and we will also need a different port. Remember that we used port 29103 for the Storage daemon, so for the second client, we can use port 29104, and the Client resource would look like:

```plaintext
Client {
Name = client-fd2
Address = localhost
FDPort = 29104
Catalog = BackupDB
Password = "xxx"
}
```
Now, fortunately, we do not need a third stunnel to on the Director’s machine, we can just add the new port to the config file, stunnel-dir.conf, to make:

```
# Bacula stunnel conf for the Directory to contact a client
# pid = /home/kern/bacula/bin/working/stunnel.pid
#
# A cert is not mandatory here. If verify=2, a
# cert signed by a CA must be specified, and
# either CAfile or CApath must point to the CA’s
# cert
#
cert = /home/kern/stunnel/stunnel.pem
CAfile = /home/kern/ssl/cacert.pem
verify = 2
client = yes
# debug = 7
# foreground = yes
[29102]
accept = localhost:29102
connect = client:29102
[29104]
accept = localhost:29102
connect = client2:29102
```

There are no changes necessary to the Storage daemon or the other stunnel so that this new client can talk to our Storage daemon.

### 2.14 Creating a Self-signed Certificate

You may create a self-signed certificate for use with stunnel that will permit you to make it function, but will not allow certificate validation. The .pem file containing both the certificate and the key can be made with the following, which I put in a file named `makepem`:

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# Simple shell script to make a .pem file that can be used
# with stunnel and Bacula
#
OPENSSL=/bin/openssl
umask 77
PEM1="/bin/mktemp openssl.XXXXXX"
PEM2="/bin/mktemp openssl.XXXXXX"
${OPENSSL} req -newkey rsa:1024 -keyout $PEM1 -nodes \ -x509 -days 365 -out $PEM2
cat $PEM1 > stunnel.pem
echo "" >>stunnel.pem
cat $PEM2 >>stunnel.pem
rm $PEM1 $PEM2
```

The above script will ask you a number of questions. You may simply answer each of them by entering a return, or if you wish you may enter your own data.
2.15 Getting a CA Signed Certificate

The process of getting a certificate that is signed by a CA is quite a bit more complicated. You can purchase one from quite a number of PKI vendors, but that is not at all necessary for use with Bacula.

To get a CA signed certificate, you will either need to find a friend that has setup his own CA or to become a CA yourself, and thus you can sign all your own certificates. The book OpenSSL by John Viega, Matt Mesier & Pravir Chandra from O'Reilly explains how to do it, or you can read the documentation provided in the Open-source PKI Book project at Source Forge: [http://ospkibook.sourceforge.net/docs/OSPKI-2.4.7/OSPKI-html/ospki-book.htm](http://ospkibook.sourceforge.net/docs/OSPKI-2.4.7/OSPKI-html/ospki-book.htm). Note, this link may change.

2.16 Using ssh to Secure the Communications

Please see the script `ssh-tunnel.sh` in the `examples` directory. It was contributed by Stephan Holl.
Chapter 3

Bacula Projects

Once a new major version of Bacula is released, the Bacula users will vote on a list of new features. This vote is used as the main element determining what new features will be implemented for the next version. Generally, the development time for a new release is between four to nine months. Sometimes it may be a bit longer, but in that case, there will be a number of bug fix updates to the currently released version.

For the current list of project, please see the projects page in the CVS at: [http://cvs.sourceforge.net/viewcvs.py/*checkout*/bacula/bacula/projects](http://cvs.sourceforge.net/viewcvs.py/*checkout*/bacula/bacula/projects) see the projects file in the main source directory. The projects file is updated approximately once every six months.

Separately from the project list, Kern maintains a current list of tasks as well as ideas, feature requests, and occasionally design notes. This list is updated roughly weekly (sometimes more often). For a current list of tasks you can see kernstodo in the Source Forge CVS at [http://cvs.sourceforge.net/viewcvs.py/*checkout*/bacula/bacula/kernstodo](http://cvs.sourceforge.net/viewcvs.py/*checkout*/bacula/bacula/kernstodo).
Chapter 4

The internal database is not supported, please do not use it.

4.1 Internal Bacula Database

Previously it was intended to be used primarily by Bacula developers for testing; although SQLite is also a good choice for this. We do not recommend its use in general.

This database is simplistic in that it consists entirely of Bacula’s internal structures appended sequentially to a file. Consequently, it is in most cases inappropriate for sites with many clients or systems with large numbers of files, or long-term production environments.

Below, you will find a table comparing the features available with SQLite and MySQL and with the internal Bacula database. At the current time, you cannot dynamically switch from one to the other, but must rebuild the Bacula source code. If you wish to experiment with both, it is possible to build both versions of Bacula and install them into separate directories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>SQLite or MySQL</th>
<th>Bacula</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FileName Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FileSet Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JobMedia Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Job Records</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Media Records</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Pool Records</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List JobMedia Records</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delete Pool Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delete Media Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update Pool Record</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement Verify</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD5 Signatures</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, since there is no SQL available, the Console commands: sqlquery, query, retention, and any other command that directly uses SQL are not available with the Internal database.
Chapter 5

Bacula Copyright, Trademark, and Licenses

There are a number of different licenses that are used in Bacula. If you have a printed copy of this manual, the details of each of the licenses referred to in this chapter can be found in the online version of the manual at http://www.bacula.org.

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5.3 LGPL

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and if you are submitting code, you should fill it out then sent to:

Kern Sibbald
Cotes-de-Montmoiret 9
1012 Lausanne
Switzerland

When you send in such a complete document, please notify me: kern at sibbald dot com.

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5.8 Authors

The following people below have contributed to making this document what it is today:

Alexandre Baron ¡balexfr at users dot sourceforge dot net¡ Arno Lehmann ¡arnol at users dot sourceforge dot net¡ Bastian Friedrich ¡bastian dot friedrich at collax dot com¡ Christopher S dot Hull ¡esh at raidersolutions
dot com; Dan Langille Davide Franco ¡dfranco at dflic dot ch; Dirk H Bartley ¡dbartley at schupan dot com; Eric Bollengier ¡eric.bollengier at baculasystems dot com; Frank Sweetser James Harper bendigoit dot com; dot au; Jeremy C dot Reed ¡jeremy-c-reed at users dot sourceforge dot net; Jose Herrera ¡herrerajs at yahoo dot com; Jo Simoens Juan Luis Francis ¡indpnday at users dot sourceforge dot net; Karl Cunningham ¡karlec at users dot sourceforge dot net; Kern Sibbald ¡kern at sibbald dot com; Landon Fuller ¡landonf at opendarwin dot org; Lucas Di Pentima Ludovic Strappazon Meno Abels Nicolas Boichat Peter Buschman Philipp Chauvat ¡philippe.chauvat at baculasystems dot com; Philipp Storz Richard Mortimer ¡richm at oldelvet dot org dot uk; Robert Nelson ¡robertn at the-nelsons dot org; Scott Barninger Sebastien Guilbaud Thomas Glatthor Thomas Mueller ¡thomas at chaschperli dot ch; Thorsten Engel ¡thorsten dot engel at matrix-computer dot com; Victor Hugo dos Santos ¡victorhugops at users dot sourceforge dot net
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5.10 GNU LESSER GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE

Version 2.1, February 1999

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