NAME

nscd – name service cache daemon

SYNOPSIS

/usr/sbin/nscd [−**f** *configuration-file*] [−**g**] [−**e** *cachename*, **yes** | **no**] [−**i** *cachename*]

DESCRIPTION

nscd is a process that provides a cache for the most common name service requests. It is started up during multi-user boot. The default *configuration-file* **/etc/nscd.conf** determines the behavior of the cache daemon. See **nscd.conf**(4).

nscd provides cacheing for the **passwd**(4), **group**(4)**, hosts**(4)**, exec_attr**(4), **prof_attr**(4), and **user_attr**(4) databases through standard **libc** interfaces, such as **gethostbyname**(3N), **gethostbyaddr**(3N), and others. Each cache has a separate time-to-live for its data; modifying the local database (**/etc/hosts**, and so forth) causes that cache to become invalidated within ten seconds. Note that the shadow file is specifically not cached. **getspnam**(3C) calls remain uncached as a result.

nscd also acts as its own administration tool. If an instance of **nscd** is already running, commands are passed to the running version transparently.

In order to preserve NIS+ security, the startup script for **nscd** (**/etc/init.d/nscd**) checks the permissions on the **passwd**, **group**, **hosts**, **exec_attr**, **prof_attr**, and **user_attr** tables if NIS+ is being used. If those tables are not readable by unauthenticated users, then cacheing is disabled so that each process continues to authenticate itself as before.

OPTIONS

Several of the options described below require a *cachename* specification. Supported values are **passwd**, **group**, **hosts**, **exec_attr**, **prof_attr** and **user_attr**.

-f *configuration-file*
: Causes **nscd** to read its configuration data from the specified file.

-g
: Prints current configuration and statistics to standard output. This is the only option executable by non-root users.

-e *cachename***, yes** | **no**
: Enables or disables the specified cache.

-i *cachename*
: Invalidates the specified cache.

EXAMPLES

Stopping and restarting the **nscd** daemon.

```
# /etc/init.d/nscd stop
# /etc/init.d/nscd start
```

FILES

/etc/nscd.conf determines the behavior of cache daemon

ATTRIBUTES

See **attributes**(5) for descriptions of the following attributes:

ATTRIBUTE TYPE	ATTRIBUTE VALUE
Availability	SUNWcsu

SEE ALSO

getspnam(3C), **gethostbyname**(3N), **getexecattr**(3), **getprofattr**(3), **getuserattr**(3), **exec_attr**(4), **group**(4), **hosts**(4), **nscd.conf**(4), **nsswitch.conf**(4), **passwd**(4), **prof_attr**(4), **user_attr**(4), **attributes**(5)

WARNINGS

The **nscd** interface is included in this release on an uncommitted basis only, and it is subject to change or removal in a future minor release.