NAME

nscd - name service caching daemon

SYNOPSIS

nscd [**-dnst**] [**-i** *cachename*] [**-I** *cachename*]

DESCRIPTION

The **nscd** utility is the system caching daemon. It can cache almost all types of data and is basically intended to be used with the **nsswitch** subsystem. The cache is actually per-user. This means that each user can work only with the cached data that were cached by themselves, and cannot poison the cache of other users. The **nscd** utility supports two types of caching:

Type Description

Common caching

Each cached element is the key+value pair. This type of caching supports policies which are applied when maximum number of cached elements is exceeded. Three policies are available: **FIFO** (first in - first out), **LRU** (least recently used) and **LFU** (least frequently used). This type of caching is used with the **getXXXbyname**() family of functions.

Multipart caching

Each cached element is the part of the elements sequence. This type of caching is intended to be used with the **getXXXent**() family of functions.

The **nscd** utility is able not only to cache elements, but to perform the actual nsswitch lookups by itself. To enable this feature, use the *perform-actual-lookups* parameter in nscd.conf(5).

The **nscd** utility recognizes the following runtime options:

-n   Do not daemonize; **nscd** will not fork or disconnect itself from the terminal.

-s   Single-threaded mode. Forces using only one thread for all processing purposes (it overrides the *threads* parameter in the nscd.conf(5) file).

-t   Trace mode. All trace messages will be written to stdout. This mode is usually used with **-n** and **-s** flags are used for debugging purposes.

-i *cachename*

Invalidates personal cache. When specified, **nscd** acts as the administration tool. It asks the already running **nscd** to invalidate the specified part of the cache of the calling user. For

example, sometimes you may want to invalidate your "hosts" cache. You can specify "all" as the *cachename* to invalidate your personal cache as a whole. You cannot use this option for the *cachename* for which the *perform-actual-lookups* option is enabled.

-I *cachename*
Invalidates the cache for every user. When specified, **nscd** acts as the administration tool. It asks the already running **nscd** to invalidate the specified part of the cache for every user. You can specify "all" as the *cachename* to invalidate the whole cache. Only the root can use this option.

FILES
/etc/nscd.conf The default configuration file.

SEE ALSO
nsdispatch(3), nscd.conf(5), nsswitch.conf(5)

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