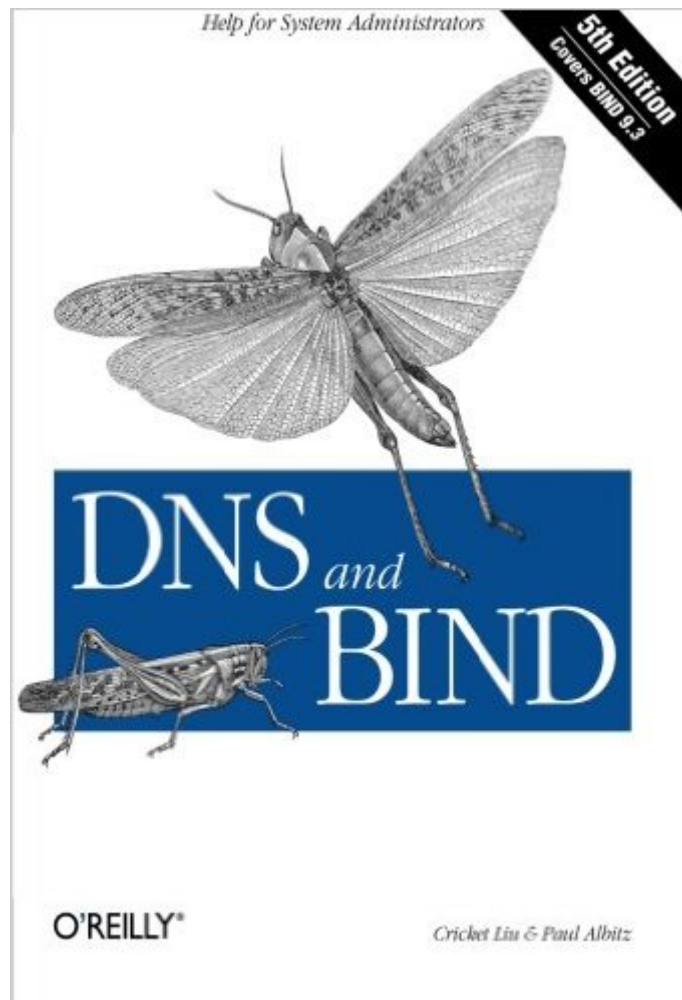


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DNS And BIND (5th Edition)



Synopsis

DNS and BIND tells you everything you need to work with one of the Internet's fundamental building blocks: the distributed host information database that's responsible for translating names into addresses, routing mail to its proper destination, and even listing phone numbers with the new ENUM standard. This book brings you up-to-date with the latest changes in this crucial service. The fifth edition covers BIND 9.3.2, the most recent release of the BIND 9 series, as well as BIND 8.4.7. BIND 9.3.2 contains further improvements in security and IPv6 support, and important new features such as internationalized domain names, ENUM (electronic numbering), and SPF (the Sender Policy Framework). Whether you're an administrator involved with DNS on a daily basis or a user who wants to be more informed about the Internet and how it works, you'll find that this book is essential reading. Topics include: What DNS does, how it works, and when you need to use it How to find your own place in the Internet's namespace Setting up name servers Using MX records to route mail Configuring hosts to use DNS name servers Subdividing domains (parenting) Securing your name server: restricting who can query your server, preventing unauthorized zone transfers, avoiding bogus servers, etc. The DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and Transaction Signatures (TSIG) Mapping one name to several servers for load sharing Dynamic updates, asynchronous notification of change to a zone, and incremental zone transfers Troubleshooting: using nslookup and dig, reading debugging output, common problems DNS programming using the resolver library and Perl's Net::DNS module

Book Information

Paperback: 642 pages

Publisher: O'Reilly Media; 5 edition (June 5, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0596100574

ISBN-13: 978-0596100575

Product Dimensions: 7 x 1.3 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (69 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #45,879 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Â Books > Computers & Technology > Operating Systems > Unix > DNS & Bind #2 in Â Books > Computers & Technology > Operating Systems > Unix > Administration #3 in Â Books > Computers & Technology > Networking & Cloud Computing > Networks, Protocols & APIs > LAN

Customer Reviews

First off, the most recent edition of this book was published in May 2006, so all reviews prior to that are discussing previous editions of this book. The domain name system or domain name server (DNS) is a system that stores and associates many types of information with domain names, but, most important, it translates the domain name (computer hostnames) to IP addresses. It also lists mail exchange servers accepting e-mail for each domain. In providing a worldwide keyword-based redirection service, DNS is an essential component of contemporary Internet use. DNS is most well-known for making it possible to attach easy-to-remember domain names to hard-to-remember IP addresses. BIND (Berkeley Internet Name Domain) is the most commonly used DNS server on the Internet, especially on Unix-like systems, where it is a de facto standard. A new version of BIND (BIND 9) was written from scratch in part to address the architectural difficulties with auditing the earlier BIND code bases, and also to support DNSSEC (DNS Security Extensions). Other important features of BIND 9 include: TSIG, DNS notify, nsupdate, IPv6, rndc flush, views, multiprocessor support, and an improved portability architecture. This book was written to address these changes. DNS is being used for many more applications than in the past. With ENUM (electronic numbering), DNS is used by voice-over-IP gear. With SPF (the Sender Policy Framework), mailers look up information in DNS to check for mail spoofing. This makes DNS more critical than ever, and a target for hackers. To handle these additional applications and increased threats, DNS has had to be extended, adding cryptographic security, for example. These topics and others are covered in the new edition of DNS and BIND.

Changing from a pre-8 version of BIND to version 8 of BIND is not as straightforward as previous upgrades have been. Then ``named.boot'` file is entirely different, among other changes. This book is great at identifying the required changes and assisting in making those changes. DNS and BIND clarifies all the mysteries associated with BIND (named) and DNS. Easy to read. Covers every detail from getting and installing the latest BIND, to configuration and troubleshooting. Has a great chapter on nslookup and another that gives detailed explanations of just about every BIND related error message. The only thing they left out is info on configuring syslog to manipulate in a usable manner the BIND generated messages. For some reason, DNS seems to be a mystery to so many sysadmins. If it were as simple as people often pretend it is (typical system admin person: "Oh, I already know everything about DNS that I need to know... so why read a book or take a course?"), then why do I see 15,000+ lame server messages and 250+ mail CNAME messages every month? These errors are only the result of DNS configuration errors! Very few sysadmin people REALLY

know as much about BIND and DNS as they should. If you are a sysadmin person, do yourself a favor and buy and read this book. If you are an IT manager, check your system administrator's book shelf. If this book is missing, then buy it for them and make them read it! (You should read it first, then develop some test questions to see if they really did read it!) This BOOK MUST BE REQUIRED READING for EVERY system administrator on any type of system connected to the Internet. If everyone that administered an Internet site read this book, we could probably reduce the error traffic on the Internet by 50% or more!

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