

## Configuring Accounting-Data Log Files

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An accounting profile specifies what statistics should be collected and written to a log file. To configure an accounting-data log file, include the `file` statement at the [edit accounting-options] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options]
file filename {
  archive-sites {
    site-name;
  }
  files number;
  nonpersistent;
  size bytes;
  start-time time;
  transfer-interval minutes;
}
```

*filename* is the name of the file in which to write accounting data.

If the filename contains spaces, enclose it in quotation marks (" "). The filename cannot contain a forward slash (/);). The file is created in the `/var/log` directory and can contain data from multiple profiles.

All accounting-data log files include header and trailer sections that start with a `#` in the first column. The header contains the file creation time, the hostname, and the columns that appear in the file. The trailer contains the time that the file was closed.

Whenever any configured value changes that affects the columns in a file, the file creates a new profile layout record that contains a new list of columns.

You must configure the file size; all other properties are optional.

- Configuring the Storage Location of the File on page 1
- Configuring the Maximum Size of the File on page 2
- Configuring the Maximum Number of Files on page 2
- Configuring the Start Time for File Transfer on page 2
- Configuring the Transfer Interval of the File on page 2
- Configuring Archive Sites on page 3

### Configuring the Storage Location of the File

On J Series Services Routers, the files are stored by default on the compact flash drive. To configure the storage location of the files in the `mfs/var/log` directory (on DRAM) instead of the `cf/var/log` directory (on the compact flash drive), include the `nonpersistent` statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]
nonpersistent;
```

This feature is useful for minimizing read/write traffic on the router's compact flash drive.



**NOTE:** If log files for accounting data are stored on DRAM, these files are lost when you reboot the router. Therefore, you should back up these files periodically.

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### **Configuring the Maximum Size of the File**

To configure the maximum size of the files, include the **size** statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]  
size bytes;
```

The **size** statement is the maximum size of the log file, in bytes, kilobytes (KB), megabytes (MB), or gigabytes (GB). The minimum value for **bytes** is 256 KB. You must configure **bytes**; the remaining attributes are optional.

### **Configuring the Maximum Number of Files**

To configure the maximum number of files, include the **files** statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]  
files number;
```

When a log file (for example, **profilelog**) reaches its maximum size, it is renamed **profilelog.0**, then **profilelog.1**, and so on, until the maximum number of log files is reached. Then the oldest log file is overwritten. The minimum value for **number** is 3 and the default value is 10.

### **Configuring the Start Time for File Transfer**

To configure the start time for transferring files, include the **start-time** statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]  
start-time time;
```

The **start-time** statement specifies a start time for file transfer (YYYY-MM-DD.hh:mm). For example, 10:00 a.m. on January 30, 2007 is represented as 2007-01-30.10:00.

### **Configuring the Transfer Interval of the File**

To configure the transfer interval of the files, include the **transfer-interval** statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]  
transfer-interval minutes;
```

The range for **transfer-interval** is 5 through 2880 minutes. The default is 30 minutes.

**TIP:**

JUNOS Software saves the existing log file and creates a new file at the configured transfer-intervals irrespective of:

- Whether the file has reached the maximum size or not
- Whether an archive site is configured or not

When you have a relatively smaller transfer-interval configured and if no archive site is configured, there is a possibility of losing data as JUNOS Software overwrites the log files when the maximum number of log files is reached. To ensure that the log information is saved for a reasonably long time:

- Configure an archive site to archive the log files every time a new log file is created.
- Configure the maximum value (2880 minutes) for **transfer-interval** so that new files are created less frequently; that is, only when the file exceeds the maximum size limit or once in 2 days.

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## Configuring Archive Sites

After a file reaches its maximum size or the **transfer-interval** time is exceeded, the file is closed, renamed, and, if you configured an archive site, transferred to a remote host. To configure archive sites, include the **archive-sites** statement at the [edit accounting-options file *filename*] hierarchy level:

```
[edit accounting-options file filename]  
archive-sites {  
    site-name;  
}
```

*site-name* is any valid FTP URL. For more information about specifying valid FTP URLs, see the *JUNOS System Basics Configuration Guide*. You can specify more than one URL, in any order. When a file is archived, the router or switch attempts to transfer the file to the first URL in the list, trying the next site in the list only if the transfer does not succeed. The log file is stored at the archive site with a filename of the format *router-name\_log-filename\_timestamp*.

- Related Topics**
- Accounting Options Overview
  - Understanding Device Management Functions in JUNOS Software
  - Accounting Options Configuration
  - Configuring the Interface Profile

- Configuring the Filter Profile
- Configuration Statements at the [edit accounting-options] Hierarchy Level

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