Backups – exercises
SA-E Track @ AfNOG 2009

We are going to do something similar to what was done in the slides,
i.e.: take a backup of /etc and /usr/local/etc to ANOTHER machine in the
class, effectively implementing a "remote backup".

Required knowledge - you need to understand:

- manipulating ssh
- also, understanding ssh keys (not mandatory)

Prerequisites:

- you need to have an account on the machine you will backup TO

1. **Find a partner in the class, with whom you will be doing backups**

2. **Agree with this person which account you will use -- ideally, create
   a "backup" user, which you can create with the "pw" user:**

   ```
   # pw useradd backup -m -s /bin/sh
   # passwd backup
   ```

Enter in a password that you will remember :-)

3. **If you understand SSH keys sufficiently, follow these instructions,
   otherwise skip to step 4.**

   You will copy your .ssh/id_rsa.pub key file
   to the ".ssh/authorized_keys" file of the account on the REMOTE machine,
   i.e.: if the machine you will be working with is "pc13", and YOUR machine
   is "pc116" then you will need:

   - an account ("backup") on pc13
   - a generated, passphrase-less key on YOUR machine (pc16) in .ssh/id_rsa.pub
     (remember, that file is in your HOME directory -- under .ssh/)
   - a copy of this key on the account ("backup") on the REMOTE ("pc13")
     machine

4. **Using what you have learned during the presentation, we will attempt
   to backup the /etc and /usr/local/etc directories.**

   We do this as root.

   ```
   # rsync -avzR /etc /usr/local/etc backup@<remotemachine>:
   ```

   ... where <remotemachine> is the name or IP address of the REMOTE machine
   you have created the account on.

5. **Observe what happens, and log on to the remote machine to see that
   the backup has worked:**

   ```
   # ssh backup@<remotemachine>
   ...
   % ls -l
   ```

6. **Did it work ? :)**

7. **You could then use a script (program) to move the backup out of the way,
   and repeat this backup process automatically once every day, or twice
   a day, for example.**