

Using RANCID!  
interERLab AIT March 2008

#### 1. Install Rancid

```
# apt-get install rancid-core
# apt-get install rancid-cgi
# apt-get install rancid-util
```

- Answer "Yes" when asked

#### 2. Edit /etc/rancid/rancid.conf

Fine the line with the parameter LIST\_OF\_GROUPS, and set it to:

```
LIST_OF_GROUPS="all"
```

#### 3. Choose which switch you will manage (10.10.2.253 or 10.10.1.253) depending on which side of the room you are in.

Create /var/lib/rancid/.cloginrc

```
# vi /var/lib/rancid/.cloginrc
```

```
add      user 10.10.?.253 inst
add password 10.10.?.253 interl4b interl4b
```

(Remember to replace ? with 1 or 2)

- Save the file and change its owner to "rancid"

```
# chmod 600 .cloginrc
# chown rancid .cloginrc
```

#### 4. Change to the rancid user

```
# su - rancid
```

- Check that you ARE the rancid user:

```
> id
```

- You should see this:

```
uid=1001(rancid) gid=1001(rancid) groups=1001(rancid)
```

#### 5. Initialize the CVS repository for rancid:

```
> /usr/lib/rancid/bin/rancid-cvs
```

- You should see something similar to this:

```
cvs checkout: Updating all
Directory /usr/../../var/lib/rancid/CVS/all/configs added to the repository
cvs commit: Examining configs
cvs add: scheduling file `router.db' for addition
cvs add: use `cvs commit' to add this file permanently
/usr/../../var/lib/rancid/CVS/all/router.db,v <-- router.db
initial revision: 1.1
```

#### 6. Let's add our switch to the config:

```
> cd /var/lib/rancid
> vi all/router.db
```

... add this info:

```
10.10.?.253:cisco:up
```

Also, there is a small bug in the file /usr/lib/rancid/bin/control\_rancid, so edit it and add:

```
PATH=$PATH:/usr/sbin
```

... just UNDER the first line (#!/bin/sh at the top)

7. Test login to the switch!

```
> /usr/lib/rancid/bin/clogin 10.10.?.253
```

- You should now be logged in to the switch, and see something like:

```
lan?-sw#
```

- Type 'exit' to logout

8. Let's run rancid!

```
> /usr/lib/rancid/bin/rancid-run
```

(Should take a few seconds)

9. Check out the logs:

```
> cd /var/lib/rancid/logs
> ls -l
```

... View the contents of the file:

```
> more all.*
```

10. Look at the configs

```
> cd /var/lib/rancid/all/configs
> more 10.10.?.253
```

- If all went well, you can see the config of the router.

11. Let's modify something on the router...

```
> /usr/lib/rancid/bin/clogin 10.10.?.253
```

- At the "lan?-sw#" prompt, enter the command:

```
config terminal
```

- You should see:

Enter configuration commands, one per line. End with CNTL/Z.

```
lan?-sw(config)#
```

- Enter:

```
interface FastEthernet 0/X
```

```
# X = 1 - 24
```

- You should get this prompt:

```
lan?-sw(config-if)#
```

- Enter:

```
description port for PC Y # Y = the number of your PC
```

- Then type CTRL-Z (press Control + the Z key)

- You should now have this prompt:

```
lan?-sw#
```

- Type to save the config to memory:

```
write memory
```

- The switch should say:

```
Building configuration...  
[OK]
```

- Type to exit:

```
exit
```

12. Let's run rancid again:

```
> /usr/lib/rancid/bin/rancid-run
```

Repeats Steps 9. - 10. -- look at the config and logs

13. Let's see the differences

```
> cd /var/lib/rancid/all/configs
```

```
> cvs log 10.10.?.253
```

```
cvs diff -r 1.2 -r 1.3 10.10.?.253
```

... your change should appear in the output...

14. Finally, let's make rancid run automatically every 30 minutes from cron

```
> crontab -e
```

- Add this line:

```
*/30 * * * * /usr/lib/rancid/bin/rancid-run
```

... then save and quit

15. Repeat step 3, adding more hosts (other routers and switches)