Remote Booting With DOS/Win Client 32 (Last modified: 11MAY1998)

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Symptom

The customer wants to use the DOS/WIN Client 32 over VIms because of its smaller footprint in conventional memory. He wants to use Diskless workstations to combat problems of rampant virus infection. He needs to configure a remote boot of WIN 3.11 with the DOS/WIN Client 32. However, the current version of DOS/WIN Client 32 does not support remote booting:

Solution

This is a work-around rather than a solution. For this work-around to work all workstations must have a minimum of 16MB of RAM. The idea is to create a boot image using VLMs (which does support remote booting). One of the things that the boot image does is to create a 9MB RAM Drive (Drive C:) on the workstation to simulate a hard disk. During the boot-up process the files contained in the boot image and files placed in the login directory are copied to the C: Drive (which is the RAM Drive). Once the machine has booted, the C: Drive now has all the software components necessary to run the Client 32. The VLMs are unloaded and the Client32.NLM is loaded, freeing a huge amount of conventional memory.

Setup a diskette with the following files and boot files:

CONFIG.SYS: device=himem.sys device=emm386.exe noems device=ramdrive.sys 9000 512 256 /e dos=high,umb lastdrive=Z

AUTOEXEC.BAT:
@ECHO OFF
copy *.* c:\>NUL
set comspec=C:\COMMAND.COM
C:
STARTNET

STARTNET.BAT:
SET NWLANGUAGE=ENGLISH
NIOS.EXE
LOAD LSLC32.NLM
LOAD CMSM.NLM
LOAD ETHERTSM.NLM
LOAD 3C59X.LAN FRAME=ETHERNET_II
LOAD IPX.NLM
REM LOAD CLIENT32.NLM
VLM
COPY F:CLIENT32.NLM C:\ > NUL
VLM /U

REN net.cfg net.one > NUL REN net.two net.cfg > NUL Load Client32.NLM Login

Dir A:

Volume in drive A has no label Volume Serial Number is 1915-11F2 Directory of A:\

COMMAND COM 54,619 09-30-93 6:20a COMMAND.COM HIMEM SYS 29,136 09-30-93 6:20a HIMEM.SYS EMM386 EXE 120,926 05-31-94 6:22a EMM386.EXE NET CFG 3,675 05-21-96 11:54a NET.CFG AUTOEXEC BAT 72 05-17-96 4:23p AUTOEXEC.BAT NIOS EXE 239,117 04-18-96 3:26p NIOS.EXE LSLC32 NLM 18,571 02-27-96 10:31a LSLC32.NLM CMSM NLM 57,120 03-28-96 2:41p CMSM.NLM ETHERTSM NLM 14,411 03-11-96 3:40p ETHERTSM.NLM 3C59X LAN 26,863 02-02-96 3:12p 3C59X.LAN IPX NLM 113,726 03-19-96 9:09a IPX.NLM VLM EXE 37,651 06-16-95 12:39p VLM.EXE NBIHW CFG 0 05-17-96 12:12p NBIHW.CFG STARTNET BAT 166 05-21-96 11:55a STARTNET.BAT RAMDRIVE SYS 5,873 03-10-93 6:00a RAMDRIVE.SYS CONFIG SYS 109 05-17-96 4:20p CONFIG.SYS 3,675 05-20-96 4:18p NET.TWO NET TWO CONN VLM 10,850 06-16-95 12:40p CONN.VLM IPXNCP VLM 10,116 06-16-95 12:40p IPXNCP.VLM TRAN VLM 1,562 06-16-95 12:40p TRAN.VLM SECURITY VLM 8,011 06-16-95 12:40p SECURITY.VLM BIND VLM 4,713 06-16-95 12:40p BIND.VLM NWP VLM 6,661 06-16-95 12:40p NWP.VLM FIO VLM 18,250 06-16-95 12:41p FIO.VLM GENERAL VLM 4,958 06-16-95 12:41p GENERAL.VLM REDIR VLM 14,842 06-16-95 12:40p REDIR.VLM PRINT VLM 8,005 06-16-95 12:40p PRINT.VLM NETX VLM 17,230 06-16-95 12:41p NETX.VLM

Notes:

- 1) Note that in the config.sys file the RAMDRIVE is 9MB.
- 2) This requires machine to have at least 16MB of RAM.
- 3) There are two "net.cfg" files; the first one is the net.cfg file used by the VLMs during remote boot. This one has "Packet Burst = 0" to avoid the FIO.VLM error.
- 4) There second "net.cfg" "net.two" has "Packet Burst = 1" this is used by the Client32.
- 5)Place the Client32.NLM and its message files in the F:\Login Directory

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