

Re: OT: Hard disk mirror with Paragon on USB stick?

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- *From:* John Devereux <john@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 16 Dec 2008 10:06:39 +0000
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Joerg <notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

Archimedes' Lever wrote:

On Sun, 14 Dec 2008 09:41:44 -0800, Joerg
<notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

That boils down to about the same effort as a complete re-install onto a new HD, plus Linux is quite nerdy, requires you to know the magic command line Swahili with which I am not familiar.

Bulloney. Linux distros support archival retrieval, and copying that volume to another will yield a perfect, functional, bootable copy. No re-installs required, no magic words. Linux installations are typically image copies for most applets and applications that get installed. Not much gets compiled during the installation runtime.

Yeah, to a Linux expert probably. But when I looked at an instruction on the web on how to do a mirror archive of a Windows machine using a Knoppix CD in order to dump that back onto a new hard drive that was at least two pages of intricate command line stuff.

You can do it in one line using e.g. ntfscclone. That's what I use to image laptops in their pristine state, before giving them to the user. The man page for ntfscclone gives the required command line for the most common scenarios (backup, restore, to/from a local file, and to/from the network).

Boot from a knoppix CD/DVD and choose from:

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Clone NTFS on /dev/hda1 to /dev/hdc1:

```
ntfsclone --overwrite /dev/hdc1 /dev/hda1
```

Save an NTFS to a file in the special image format:

```
ntfsclone --save-image --output backup.img /dev/hda1
```

Restore an NTFS from a special image file to its original partition:

```
ntfsclone --restore-image --overwrite /dev/hda1 backup.i
```