
Subject: AW: AW: problems with vzctl init logging patch
Posted by [Dietmar Maurer](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 07:43:18 GMT
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> Adding a check makes sense. But first -- why do you need perl
> at all? Is there something that can't be done in shell?
> >

I just remembered why I hate shell programming ;-)

Please can someone tell me how to do a binary read with a shell. In perl
I simple do:

```
while (my $len = sysread (LOGFIFO, $buf, 4096)) {  
    syswrite (LOGFILE, $buf);  
}
```

How to do that with a shell script? I first tried:

```
cat <$logfifo >>$logfile
```

But that spans a new process, and I do not want that.

Using builtin commands only:

```
while [ 1 ]; do  
    read line || break  
    echo $line  
done < $logfifo >>$logfile
```

Works, but always waits for whole lines (we want to read/write
immediatly instead)

The following code works for bash, but not for other shells:

```
while [ 1 ]; do  
    # -n is not available everywhere (i.e. dash)  
    read -n 1 data || break  
    if [ -z $data ]; then  
        echo  
    else  
        echo -n $data  
    fi  
done < $logfifo >>$logfile
```

Any Ideas?

- Dietmar
