Creating a RedHat install USB for RHEL-5

This procedure explains preparing a USB pen drive for kickstarting a Linux server.

1. Connect usb pen drive to a working machine.
2. Find out the drive name assigned to the usb drive.

You can use following commands to find out the drive name assigned to usb drive –

fdisk -l

dmesg

As a rule of thumb , in case you have two disk drives sda and sdb in the machine, usb drive would be sdc.

1. You can get the diskboot.image file from appropriate SCCS share.

# ls -la /net/172.23.16.97/vol/vol1/g.scs.redhat/RHEL5/i386/images/diskboot.img

-r--rw-r-- 1 ksa sf 12582912 Jul 11 2011 /net/172.23.16.97/vol/vol1/g.scs.redhat/RHEL5/i386/images/diskboot.img

1. Copy the diskboot.img file under /tmp and issue following command to prepare your USB pen drive as kickstart media –

# dd if=diskboot.img of=/dev/sdc

Miscellaneous Information –

You need to find images/ directory located on CentOS / Fedora / RHEL or any other Linux distribution. This directory contains image files that can be used to create media capable of starting the Linux installation process.

**More about images**

* **boot.iso** - The boot.iso file is an ISO 9660 image of a bootable CD-ROM. It is useful in cases where the CD-ROM installation method is not desired, but the CD-ROM's boot speed would be an advantage. To use this image file, burn the file onto CD-R (or CD-RW) media as you normally would.
* **diskboot.img** - The diskboot.img file is a VFAT file system image that can be written to a USB pen drive or other bootable media larger than a floppy. Note that booting via USB is dependent on your BIOS supporting this. It should be written to the device using dd.