New installation: Unable to write entry

Posted by geoff97 - 2010/11/03 18:01

I have just installed a new version of Joomla 1.5.21.
After installing the Multi Sites component and going to install the patches, I get the error message "Unable to write entry" for the file administrator/includes/defines.php.
I have set all of the permissions on this path to be 777, but still the message persists, together with a whole list of other errors.
None of the error messages now relate to file permissions (except the "unable to write entry" message in red at the top) as I changed the relevant permissions when these messages originally appeared in the patches error list.

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry

Posted by seanwhe - 2010/11/03 20:10

For now set all your folders and files to 775. You can get more specific with permissions later.

Also ensure that your user and group settings on the folders are correct.

On Ubuntu I have to chown root:www-data my files and folders on the master.
Since the slaves are created by the www-data user their folders and files are owned by www-data:www-data.

Hope this helps

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry

Posted by edwin2win - 2010/11/03 20:28

Check effectivelly the ownership of the the files and folder.

This symptom let suppose that you might have files and folder created with one user and later you could have a "apache" user that try to access your files without the permission.

Sometime, this can be solved when using the Joomla FTP Layer that you can configure in the Global Configuration.

This error message is also documented in the user manual.

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry

Posted by geoff97 - 2010/11/03 23:24

Thank you. I had read the documentation and checked the permissions of all of the relevant files, as the documentation suggested, and they were OK.

The problem was solved by setting up the Joomla ftp, and letting Check Patches run with Joomla ftp enabled.

Geoff

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by edwin2win - 2010/11/03 23:37

So if the problem is solved with the Jooma FTP Layer, this seems confirme the problem of ownership that is not the same as the one used by your HTTP Server.

Try to check that because you could encounter problem with the Symbolic Link that might not work when permission are not OK.

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by geoff97 - 2010/11/04 01:53

Indeed files created by the HTTP server have a different owner than those created via ftp., and this does give me a problem when trying to create a slave website with error messages that symbolic links cannot be created.

I cannot see how to change the ownership of either the ftp account or the HTTP server, though.

Geoff

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by geoff97 - 2010/11/04 19:29

I have managed to get the symbolic links created in the slave website directory by changing the permissions ion the directory.
However, it seems that sometimes they are not always followed.
For example when going through the install process for the slave site it stalled (nothing happened when clicking on 'next') on the step to create the database parameters.

The reason was that the Javascript library to do the validation had not been loaded because it was accessed through a symbolic link to the /media directory, and that did not load.
I ensured that the relevant htaccess file had symbolic links followed (and my ISP does allow symbolic links), but this made no difference.

When I replaced the symbolic link with the actual library there was no problem and the install process continued successfully.

Now I am finding that the site is accessible, but the administrator part is not, because that part is accessed through a symbolic link.

Any advice would be most appreciated.

Geoff

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by edwin2win - 2010/11/05 00:17

Change the owner ship can be done from a SSH terminal.
Use the "chown" linux command.

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by geoff97 - 2010/11/05 19:51

Correct me if I am wrong, but I do not believe that this is generally possible on a shared server from an ISP.

Thanks,

Geoff

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Re: New installation: Unable to write entry
Posted by edwin2win - 2010/11/05 21:13

The owner ship can be modifed with a linux command like "chown".
You need a SSH terminal to change that.
If you have such "ownership" problem this probably mean that your hosting company didn't have installl an apache module such as suPHP to guarantee the consistency of the ownership.

If you don't have access to SSH, perhaps you should report the problem of ownership to your hosting company that have all the rights to fix the permissions of the files and folders.

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