Jrun Processor Pegging Issues and Solutions

Posted At : May 2, 2006 4:58 PM | Posted By : Mark Kruger
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Lately I've been involved in a couple of troubleshooting sessions where JRUN on a CFMX server was causing 95% to 100% processor utilization. Unfortunately I have not yet stumbled onto a magic bullet for this. Tweaking memory settings, changing garbage collection routines, modifying the threads for the scheduler and the simultaneous requests all seem to help, and in some cases solve the problem. I have never found one single solution that solves this problem. It usually comes down to either JVM arguments or an external process (a database, queue, COM, FTP etc) that is causing a hanging request.

Today, however, I stumbled upon a solution that seemed to solve the problem immediately. If your processor spike is due to this specific issue then this seems to fix it. Keep in mind, that I'm basing that opinion on the fact that taking the following steps seems to have fixed a production server in my care - so take it for what it's worth.

When Log Files Attack

I got a call today from an important customer. This customer was running pretty well on a complicated system for over a year when suddenly, JRUN started running at 90 to 100 percent. After poking around I noticed that the default "out" log (/runtime/logs/*instance*-out.log) was quite large - over 500 megs. I surmised that Coldfusion might struggle a little bit trying to append to such a large file. We stopped the server, cleared the directory and restarted the server. Sure enough, Jrun went back to behaving. I'm quite sure this is not the fix for every situation, but it's definitely something to check - especially if the spike happens on a well-behaved server with no precipitous changes.

For more on log files and where to find them seem my post on **Why is my Jrun Err log so big** and my other post on **Finding all those sneaky log files**.

NOTE: There is a "day after" follow up to this post that is titled **Fixing Locked Jrun Log files Without Restarting Coldfusion**.