django-runcommands Documentation

Release 0.2dev

Mathieu Agopian

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runcommands: execute system commands from urls.

- Authors: Mathieu Agopian and contributors
- Licence: BSD
- Compatibility: Django 1.4+, python2.7 and python3.3
- Project URL: https://github.com/magopian/django-runcommands
- Documentation: http://django-runcommands.rtfd.org/

CHAPTER 1

Quickstart

Install the application:

```
pip install django-runcommands
```

And then add an entry for the runcommand's view in your URLCONF, for each command you wish to make accessible:

```
# urls.py
from runcommands.views import RunCommandView


urlpatterns = patterns(
    '',
    url(r'^hello/$', RunCommandView.as_view(command='echo Hello World')),
    url(r'^top/$', RunCommandView.as_view(command='top -b -n1')),
)
```

Your command outputs are now available at `/hello/` and `/top/`.

CHAPTER 2

Hacking

Setup your environment:

```
git clone https://github.com/magopian/django-runcommands.git
cd django-runcommands
```

Hack and run the tests using Tox to test on all the supported python and Django versions:

```
make test
```

CHAPTER 3

Why

Have you every wanted to allow someone to simply run a command on your production server, but without having to provide her with a ssh access, create her a (restricted?) account, train her to connect using ssh...

Let's take a few use cases:

- deploy the latest version of the website: run a `git pull`, send the HUP signal to gunicorn...
- get metrics from the server, the easy and simple way: `du`, `df`, `who`, `top -b -n1`...
- clean sessions, update cache
- plug a web hook (from github or bitbucket) to automatically do something on the server on each commit

CHAPTER 4

Security

Yes, this is a potential security hole. If you configure a url that'll run `rm -rf`, you might have an issue on your hands.

In a more general way, if the command takes some time/cpu/memory, you'll provide an easy way to an attacker to DOS your server.

You should definitely protect those urls, using decorators like `login-required` or `permission_required`...