18 Creating Images with YaST Image Creator

The YaST Image Creator is a graphical interface for the KIWI imaging tool (see http://doc.opensuse.org/projects/kiwi/doc/ for more information on KIWI). With Image Creator, you can create a new KIWI configuration, or import an existing one and modify it, then build the image after the configuration is complete. Advanced users can save the configuration to disk, then modify it and build the image manually.

To be able to use it you need to install the package `yast2-product-creator` from the SUSE Software Development Kit. The SDK is a module for SUSE Linux Enterprise and is available via an online channel from the SUSE Customer Center. Alternatively download it from http://download.suse.com/. (Search for `SUSE Linux Enterprise Software Development Kit`). Refer to *Chapter 8, Installing Modules, Extensions, and Third Party Add-On Products* for details.

18.1 Creating Images

To create an image of a product, proceed as follows:

1. Start YaST and open the *Image Creator* module.

2. The window lists all existing images configuration. You may *Edit* or *Delete* them. Choose *Add* to create a new one.

3. Enter the name for the new *Kiwi Configuration*, and choose whether you want to begin from scratch, or base on existing KIWI configuration. In the latter case, provide a path to the existing KIWI configuration so that Image Creator can import it.

4. Choose the image type you need to build. There are several options - *Live ISO Image, Xen Image*, or *Virtual Disk Image*.

5. Select the output directory where you want to store the KIWI configuration.

6. If you are running Image Creator on a 64-bit architecture, you can force KIWI to configure the image for 32-bit architecture, and, moreover, limit it to i586 only.

7. Add the list of package repositories you need to use for your KIWI configuration. Click *Add* to add a new repository, or *Add from System* to add repositories that are configured in the system where Image Creator is running. If you need to modify details of an existing repository, select it and click *Edit*. To remove an unneeded repository, select it and click *Delete*.

Proceed with *Next*.

FIGURE 18.1: EDITING REPOSITORY IN IMAGE CREATOR

8. There are four tabs in the next screen. Here you can set more configuration options supported by KIWI to fine-tune the resulting image.

In the *Image Configuration* tab, you can set the image version and size, and then modify the software selection for the image in detail. You can specify patterns/packages for three package sections: packages included on the image, in the bootstrap, and packages intended to be deleted from the image.
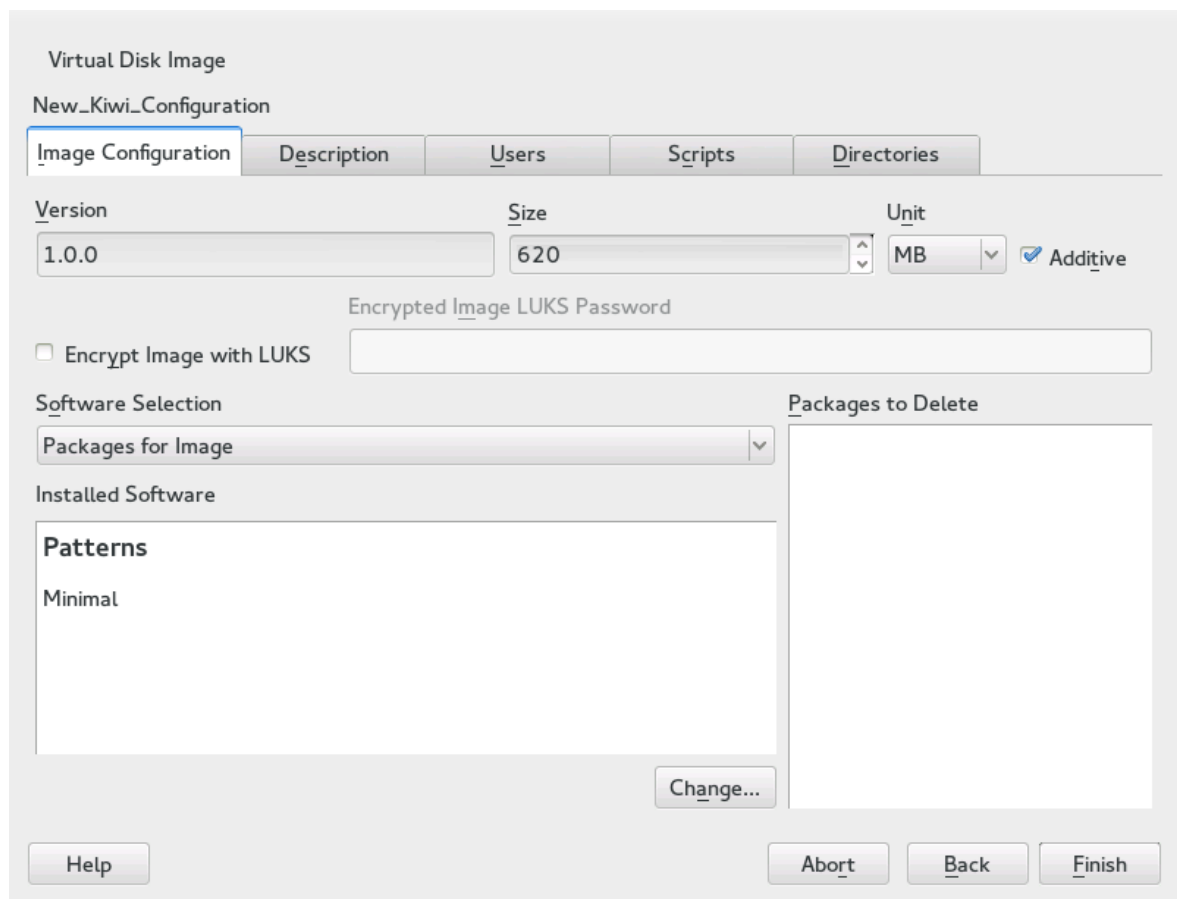
FIGURE 18.2: KIWI DETAILED CONFIGURATION IN IMAGE CREATOR

To change the list of packages and/or patterns intended for installation (or for ignoring), click *Change* and *YaST Package Selector* opens, where you can make your selection.

In the *Description* tab, fill in information about the author of the image, description, and the locale settings.

The *Users* tab lets you add new users who should be available on the target system.

Next, you can edit the configuration *Scripts* used to build your image.

Lastly, configure the directory with system configuration and scripts in the *Directories* tab.

9. After you finish configuring the image, click *Finish* to build it. YaST asks you to confirm your choice. If you decline, the configuration will be saved, and you are returned to the overview screen. If you confirm the build, KIWI is started, and you can see a progress window showing the KIWI log file.

If the image is successfully built, it is saved to the output directory specified earlier.