

**NAME**

**dbus-update-activation-environment** – update environment used for D-Bus session services

**SYNOPSIS**

**dbus-update-activation-environment** [--systemd] [--verbose] --all | VAR... | VAR=VAL...

**DESCRIPTION**

**dbus-update-activation-environment** updates the list of environment variables used by **dbus-daemon** **--session** when it activates session services without using **systemd**.

With the **--systemd** option, if an instance of **systemd** **--user** is available on D-Bus, it also updates the list of environment variables used by **systemd** **--user** when it activates user services, including D-Bus session services for which **dbus-daemon** has been configured to delegate activation to **systemd**. This is very similar to the **import-environment** command provided by **systemctl**(1).

Variables that are special to **dbus-daemon** or **systemd** may be set, but their values will be overridden when a service is started. For instance, it is not useful to add **DBUS\_SESSION\_BUS\_ADDRESS** to **dbus-daemon**'s activation environment, although it might still be useful to add it to **systemd**'s activation environment.

**OPTIONS****--all**

Set all environment variables present in the environment used by **dbus-update-activation-environment**.

**--systemd**

Set environment variables for systemd user services as well as for traditional D-Bus session services.

**--verbose**

Output messages to standard error explaining what **dbus-update-activation-environment** is doing.

**VAR**

If **VAR** is present in the environment of **dbus-update-activation-environment**, set it to the same value for D-Bus services. Its value must be UTF-8 (if not, it is skipped with a warning). If **VAR** is not present in the environment, this argument is silently ignored.

**VAR=VAL**

Set **VAR** to **VAL**, which must be UTF-8.

**EXAMPLES**

**dbus-update-activation-environment** is primarily designed to be used in Linux distributions' X11 session startup scripts, in conjunction with the "user bus" design.

To propagate **DISPLAY** and **XAUTHORITY** to **dbus-daemon** and, if present, **systemd**, and propagate **DBUS\_SESSION\_BUS\_ADDRESS** to **systemd**:

```
dbus-update-activation-environment --systemd \
    DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS DISPLAY XAUTHORITY
```

To propagate all environment variables except **XDGESEAT**, **XDGESESSIONID** and **XDGEVTNR** to **dbus-daemon** (and, if present, **systemd**) for compatibility with legacy X11 session startup scripts:

```
# in a subshell so the variables remain set in the
# parent script
(
    unset XDGESEAT
    unset XDGESESSIONID
    unset XDGEVTNR

    dbus-update-activation-environment --systemd --all
)
```

## EXIT STATUS

**dbus-update-activation-environment** exits with status 0 on success, EX\_USAGE (64) on invalid command-line options, EX\_OSERR (71) if unable to connect to the session bus, or EX\_UNAVAILABLE (69) if unable to set the environment variables. Other nonzero exit codes might be added in future versions.

## ENVIRONMENT

**DBUS\_SESSION\_BUS\_ADDRESS**, **XDG\_RUNTIME\_DIR** and/or **DISPLAY** are used to find the address of the session bus.

## LIMITATIONS

**dbus-daemon** does not provide a way to unset environment variables after they have been set (although **systemd** does), so **dbus-update-activation-environment** does not offer this functionality either.

POSIX does not specify the encoding of non-ASCII environment variable names or values and allows them to contain any non-zero byte, but neither **dbus-daemon** nor **systemd** supports environment variables with non-UTF-8 names or values. Accordingly, **dbus-update-activation-environment** assumes that any name or value that appears to be valid UTF-8 is intended to be UTF-8, and ignores other names or values with a warning.

## BUGS

Please send bug reports to the D-Bus bug tracker or mailing list. See <http://www.freedesktop.org/software/dbus/>.

## SEE ALSO

**dbus-daemon(1)**, **systemd(1)**, the **import-environment** command of **systemctl(1)**

## COPYRIGHT

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