Bcdedit

BCDEDIT - Boot Configuration Data Store Editor

The Bcdedit.exe command-line tool modifies the boot configuration data store.

The boot configuration data store contains boot configuration parameters and

controls how the operating system is booted. These parameters were previously

RAM entries (in Extensible Firmware Interface-based operating systems). You can

use Bcdedit.exe to add, delete, edit, and append entries in the boot configuration data store.

For detailed command and option information, type bcdedit.exe /? <command>. For

example, to display detailed information about the /createstore command, type:

bcdedit.exe /? /createstore

For an alphabetical list of topics in this help file, run "bcdedit /? TOPICS".

Commands that operate on a store

/createstore Creates a new and empty boot configuration data store.
/export Exports the contents of the system store to a file. This

file

can be used later to restore the state of the system store. /import Restores the state of the system store using a backup file

created with the /export command.

/sysstore Sets the system store device (only affects EFI systems,

does

not persist across reboots, and is only used in cases where

the system store device is ambiguous).

Commands that operate on entries in a store

/copy Makes copies of entries in the store.
/create Creates new entries in the store.
/delete Deletes entries from the store.

Run bcdedit /? ID for information about identifiers used by these commands.

Commands that operate on entry options

/deletevalue Deletes entry options from the store.
/set Sets entry option values in the store.

Run bcdedit /? TYPES for a list of datatypes used by these commands. Run bcdedit /? FORMATS for a list of valid data formats.

Commands that control output

/enum Lists entries in the store.

/v full, Command-line option that displays entry identifiers in

rather than using names for well-known identifiers. in full for the ACTIVE type.

Running "bcdedit" by itself is equivalent to running "bcdedit /enum ACTIVE".

Commands that control the boot manager

/bootsequence Sets the one-time boot sequence for the boot manager. Sets the default entry that the boot manager will use. /default /displayorder Sets the order in which the boot manager displays the

multiboot menu.

Sets the boot manager time-out value.

/toolsdisplayorder Sets the order in which the boot manager displays the tools menu.

Commands that control Emergency Management Services for a boot application _____

Enables or disables Emergency Management Services /bootems

for a boot application.

/ems Enables or disables Emergency Management Services for an

operating system entry.

/emssettings Sets the global Emergency Management Services parameters.

Command that control debugging

/debug Enables or disables kernel debugging for an operating

system

entry.

/hypervisorsettings Sets the hypervisor parameters.

BCDEDIT - Boot Configuration Data Store Editor

The Bcdedit.exe command-line tool modifies the boot configuration data store. The boot configuration data store contains boot configuration parameters and controls how the operating system is booted. These parameters were previously in the Boot.ini file (in BIOS-based operating systems) or in the nonvolatile RAM entries (in Extensible Firmware Interface-based operating systems). You can use Bcdedit.exe to add, delete, edit, and append entries in the boot configuration data store.

For detailed command and option information, type bcdedit.exe /? <command>. For example, to display detailed information about the /createstore command, type:

bcdedit.exe /? /createstore

For an alphabetical list of topics in this help file, run "bcdedit /? TOPICS".

Commands that operate on a store

/createstore Creates a new and empty boot configuration data store.

/export Exports the contents of the system store to a file. This file

can be used later to restore the state of the system store.

/import Restores the state of the system store using a backup file

created with the /export command.

/sysstore Sets the system store device (only affects EFI systems, does

not persist across reboots, and is only used in cases where

the system store device is ambiguous).

Commands that operate on entries in a store

/copy Makes copies of entries in the store.
/create Creates new entries in the store.
/delete Deletes entries from the store.
/mirror Creates mirror of entries in the store.

Run bcdedit /? ID for information about identifiers used by these commands.

Commands that operate on entry options

/deletevalue Deletes entry options from the store.

/set Sets entry option values in the store.

Run bcdedit /? TYPES for a list of datatypes used by these commands.

Run bcdedit /? FORMATS for a list of valid data formats.

Commands that control output

/enum Lists entries in the store.

/v Command-line option that displays entry identifiers in full, rather than using names for well-known identifiers.

Use /v by itself as a command to display entry identifiers in full for the ACTIVE type.

Running "bcdedit" by itself is equivalent to running "bcdedit /enum ACTIVE".

Commands that control the boot manager

/bootsequence Sets the one-time boot sequence for the boot manager.

/default Sets the default entry that the boot manager will use.

/displayorder Sets the order in which the boot manager displays the multiboot menu.

/timeout Sets the boot manager time-out value.

/toolsdisplayorder Sets the order in which the boot manager displays the tools menu.

Commands that control Emergency Management Services for a boot application

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/bootems Enables or disables Emergency Management Services

for a boot application.

/ems Enables or disables Emergency Management Services for an

operating systementry.

/emssettings Sets the global Emergency Management Services parameters.

Command that control debugging

/bootdebug Enables or disables boot debugging for a boot application.

 ${\small /} dbg settings \quad Sets \; the \; global \; debugger \; parameters. \\$

/debug Enables or disables kernel debugging for an operating system entry.

/hypervisorsettings Sets the hypervisor parameters.

"Oh my!" you eyes pop open as you wonder how you'll ever put a leash on this beast. But it's not so scary.

Really there's only a few options I've had to learn to work with to get the control I need.

Really. That's it.

BCDEDIT /COPY (To make copy of an entry to work it)

BCDEDIT /DELETE (To delete an Entry)

BCDEDIT /SET (To set information within an entry)

So how do we use them? I'll try and keep this as simple as can be.

First you run in that Command Prompt a BCDEDIT /V to see what entries you do have.

```
Send Feedback
Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\Windows\system32>bcdedit /v
Windows Boot Manager
                                 {9dea862c-5cdd-4e70-acc1-f32b344d4795}
identifier
                                 partition=C:
device
path
                                  bootmgr
                                 Windows Boot Manager
description
locale
                                 en-US
                                 [7ea2e1ac-2e61-4728-aaa3-896d9d0a9f0e]

[9414592b-a086-11dd-886e-d5f4e664462e]

{cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}

{b2721d73-1db4-4c62-bf78-c548a880142d}
inherit
resumeobject
displayorder
toolsdisplayorder
timeout
                                 30
custom: 45000001
Windows Boot Loader
identifier
                                 {cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
device
path
                                 partition=C:
                                 \Windows\system32\winload.exe
Windows 7
description
                                 en-US
{6efb52bf-1766-41db-a6b3-0ee5eff72bd7}
{cc5ea390-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
locale
inherit
recoverysequence
recoveryenabled
                                 partition=C:
\Windows
osdevice
systemroot
                                  {9414592b-a086-11dd-886e-d5f4e664462e}
resumeobject
                                 OptIn
custom:42000002
custom:45000001
custom:47000005
                                  \system32\winload.exe
                                 301989892
```

What you're seeing is the equivalent to the old "BOOT.INI" The top half marked "Windows Boot Manager" is similar to the old [boot loader] section

```
[boot loader]
timeout=30
default=multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS
```

The next section marked "Windows Boot Loader" is the equivalent to the individual lines you used to have under the [operating systems] entry in "BOOT.INI" like below

So the basics.

First off, we're going to make a copy of an existing entry and work with that copy.

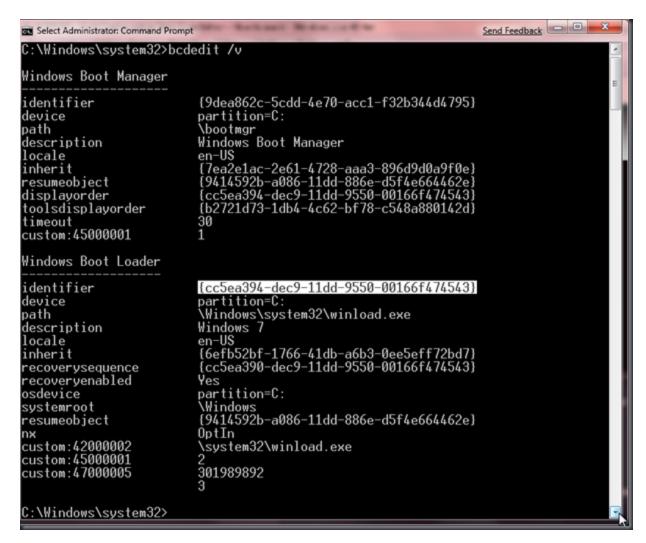
You'll notice in each entry displayed by BCDEDIT is a line marked "identifier". Since we're editing entries for bootable operating system, we're going to copy a "Windows Boot Loader" entry.

The process is dead simple. Execute a

BCDEDIT /COPY {SID} /D "Name of New Entry"

where the {SID} is the unique number to the right of the identifier line in the "Windows Boot Loader" entry you wish to copy and "Name of New Entry" is the description you wish to give that Entry.

Here's an example



The line highlighted in WHITE is the {SID} for the Windows Boot Loader entry.

So to make a copy of that entry execute the following command

BCDEDIT /COPY {cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543} /D "MY NEW WINDOWS 7 ENTRY"

You'll get the following result. Yes I wasn't very creative with my naming was I?:)

```
C:\Windows\system32>bcdedit /copy {cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543} /d "MY NEW WINDOWS 7 ENTRY"
The entry was successfully copied to {cc5ea39d-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}.

C:\Windows\system32>=
```

The new entry will be identified by the line highlighted in White above. The end results can be viewed with a BCDEDIT /V command



The new entry is highlighted in White (Sorry, my command prompt may not be the prettiest environment in colours. But it is incredibly powerful);)

Setting or edit changes, now that you understand where the {SID} is, is quite easy.

To change a value in this entry use the

BCDEDIT /SET {ID} <datatype> <value>

We're going to change the "description" from "MY NEW WINDOWS 7 ENTRY" to something more useful like "WINDOWS 7 TEST"

BCEDIT/SET {cc5ea39d-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543} description "WINDOWS 7 TEST"

You will find the entry is now changed. As can be seen below

```
Select Administrator: Command Prompt
                                                                           Send Feedback
C:\Windows\system32>bcedit /v
'bcedit' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.
C:\Windows\system32>bcdedit /v
Windows Boot Manager
                             {9dea862c-5cdd-4e70-acc1-f32b344d4795}
identifier
                             partition=C:
device
                             bootmgr
path
description
locale
                             Windows Boot Manager
                             en-US
                             {7ea2e1ac-2e61-4728-aaa3-896d9d0a9f0e}
{9414592b-a086-11dd-886e-d5f4e664462e}
{cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
{cc5ea39d-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
inherit
resumeobject
displayorder
                             {b2721d73-1db4-4c62-bf78-c548a880142d}
toolsdisplayorder
timeout
                             30
custom:45000001
Windows Boot Loader
identifier
                             {cc5ea394-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
device
                             partition=C:
                             \Windows\system32\winload.exe
Windows 7
path
description
locale
                             en-US
inherit
                             {6efb52bf-1766-41db-a6b3-0ee5eff72bd7}
                             {cc5ea390-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
recoverysequence
recoveryenabled
                             Yes
osdevice
                             partition=C:
systemroot
                             ∖Windows
                             {9414592b-a086-11dd-886e-d5f4e664462e}
resumeobject
                             OptIn
nx
custom:42000002
custom:45000001
                             \system32\winload.exe
                             301989892
3
custom:47000005
Windows Boot Loader
identifier
                             {cc5ea39d-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
                             partition=C:
device
                             \Windows\system32\winload.exe
path
                             WINDOWS 7 TEST
description
locale
                             {6efb52bf-1766-41db-a6b3-0ee5eff72bd7}
{cc5ea390-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}
inherit
recoverysequence
recoveryenabled
                             Yes
                             partition=C:
osdevice
                             Windows
systemroot
                             {9414592b-a086-11dd-886e-d5f4e664462e}
resumeobject
                             OptIn
nx
custom:42000002
custom:45000001
                             \system32\winload.exe
custom:47000005
                             301989892
C:\Windows\system32>∎
```

BCDEDIT /DELETE {ID}

Like so...

BCDEDIT /DELETE {cc5ea39d-dec9-11dd-9550-00166f474543}

and if you run a BCDEDIT /V you'll find the list is now missing the new entry since we have deleted it.

