

Soon documentation will be published how to:

- Build Your own LiveCD from trusted source, fully automated(!), with a [hardened toolchain](#)
- No, there is nothing like it yet... while there is other LiveCD distributions none of them is shipped as hardened build, ready to be deployed as Desktop/Workstation or Server system
- Many build flavors are available already
  - AdminCD/Rescue System, also used as build host for automated update builds
  - Desktop flavor shipping everything one would expect
  - Minimal flavor as a baseline used for
    - web server
    - proxy server
    - mail server (todo)
- All LiveCD flavors are providing distinct features such as:
  - removal of systemd!!!
  - removal of dbus, consolekit, policykit, pam, ...
  - removal of Openssl in favor of Libressl and all packages being patched to be compatible with the removal of SSLv3
  - encrypted log files, patch to hide rsyslog key
  - root file system encryption at block layer, and file-system layer encryption on top of it; all supported with sane and simple helper scripts
  - a paranoid-proof firewall ruleset applied by default, particularly suitable for IPsec and Desktop and Server environments; sane logging to encrypted log file by default
  - sane and simple IPsec configuration for road-warrior setups available
  - read-only file system to protect against tampering
  - helper scripts to attach encrypted LVM to persist log and home data or whatever one desires
  - network applications traced and jailed with [systrace](#) and pre-configured profiles for firefox, thunderbird, dhcp, ntp,... and many more security critical exposed network applications
  - ... endlessly more sane and simple solutions
- This LiveCD project's fully automated(!) build system may easily be utilized and configured to assemble custom stripped down minimal ISO-releases (or PXEBoot, thanks again to Gentoo catalyst folks) for specific needs to deploy these as virtual machines which has been tested already with various server installations of mine (this wiki is hosted from a LiveCD, a tor proxy setup, IRC, mail server, ftp server; see the [spec files](#) and [qemu-vm launcher scripts](#) `vm_*.sh` in the git repository what has been tested in production already)
- Custom LiveCDs may be configured and build fast and simple, this can be considered a reasonable alternative to [docker](#) and [libvirt virsh](#) created in just a couple of weeks!
- LiveCDs cannot be tampered with, these are read-only to provide a reliable baseline.

Work is done and I am operating about 15 machines already with it, all booted from ISO LiveCDs. Thanks to Gentoo tooling available it was a pleasure to get things up and running ... there is nothing like it elsewhere. ***But all this has to be and will be documented***, otherwise this work won't be of use to anyone else except me.

Meanwhile, for those keen on digging into this already without documentation the git repos are public already:

<https://www.padwalker.eu/gitweb/?p=catalyst.git>

[https://www.padwalker.eu/gitweb/?p=extra\\_overlay.git](https://www.padwalker.eu/gitweb/?p=extra_overlay.git)

<https://github.com/agg1/catalyst>

[https://github.com/agg1/extra\\_overlay](https://github.com/agg1/extra_overlay)

This month I'll upload stage3 tarballs including hardened toolchain and libressl, just in case some of You would like to spare the time digging into and testing the [bootstrapping process of Libressl](#) With these anyone who would like may easily create custom hardened LiveCDs for himself for any purpose there might be for such a Linux distribution (for example a wiki page like this one).