NAME

gzexe – compress executable files in place

SYNOPSIS

gzexe *name* . . .

DESCRIPTION

The *gzexe* utility allows you to compress executables in place and have them automatically uncompress and execute when you run them (at a penalty in performance). For example if you execute "gzexe /usr/bin/gdb" it will create the following two files:

    -rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1026675 Jun 7 13:53 /usr/bin/gdb
    -rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 2304524 May 30 13:02 /usr/bin/gdb˜

/usr/bin/gdb˜ is the original file and /usr/bin/gdb is the self-uncompressing executable file. You can remove /usr/bin/gdb˜ once you are sure that /usr/bin/gdb works properly.

This utility is most useful on systems with very small disks.

OPTIONS

−d   Decompress the given executables instead of compressing them.

SEE ALSO

gzip(1), znew(1), zmore(1), zcmp(1), zforce(1)

CAVEATS

The compressed executable is a shell script. This may create some security holes. In particular, the compressed executable relies on the PATH environment variable to find *gzip* and some standard utilities (*basename*, *chmod*, *ln*, *mkdir*, *mktemp*, *rm*, *sleep*, and *tail*).

BUGS

gzexe attempts to retain the original file attributes on the compressed executable, but you may have to fix them manually in some cases, using *chmod* or *chown*.