

NAME

systemd-machine-id-setup – Initialize the machine ID in /etc/machine-id

SYNOPSIS

systemd-machine-id-setup

DESCRIPTION

systemd-machine-id-setup may be used by system installer tools to initialize the machine ID stored in /etc/machine-id at install time, with a provisioned or randomly generated ID. See **machine-id(5)** for more information about this file.

If the tool is invoked without the **—commit** switch, /etc/machine-id is initialized with a valid, new machined ID if it is missing or empty. The new machine ID will be acquired in the following fashion:

1. If a valid D-Bus machine ID is already configured for the system, the D-Bus machine ID is copied and used to initialize the machine ID in /etc/machine-id.
2. If run inside a KVM virtual machine and a UUID is configured (via the **—uuid** option), this UUID is used to initialize the machine ID. The caller must ensure that the UUID passed is sufficiently unique and is different for every booted instance of the VM.
3. Similarly, if run inside a Linux container environment and a UUID is configured for the container, this is used to initialize the machine ID. For details, see the documentation of the [Container Interface](#)^[1].
4. Otherwise, a new ID is randomly generated.

The **—commit** switch may be used to commit a transient machined ID to disk, making it persistent. For details, see below.

Use **systemd-firstboot(1)** to initialize the machine ID on mounted (but not booted) system images.

OPTIONS

The following options are understood:

—root=path

Takes a directory path as argument. All paths operated on will be prefixed with the given alternate *root* path, including the path for /etc/machine-id itself.

—image=path

Takes a path to a device node or regular file as argument. This is similar to **—root=** as described above, but operates on a disk image instead of a directory tree.

—commit

Commit a transient machine ID to disk. This command may be used to convert a transient machine ID into a persistent one. A transient machine ID file is one that was bind mounted from a memory file system (usually "tmpfs") to /etc/machine-id during the early phase of the boot process. This may happen because /etc/ is initially read-only and was missing a valid machine ID file at that point.

This command will execute no operation if /etc/machine-id is not mounted from a memory file system, or if /etc/ is read-only. The command will write the current transient machine ID to disk and unmount the /etc/machine-id mount point in a race-free manner to ensure that this file is always valid and accessible for other processes.

This command is primarily used by the **systemd-machine-id-commit.service(8)** early boot service.

—print

Print the machine ID generated or committed after the operation is complete.

-h, —help

Print a short help text and exit.

—version

Print a short version string and exit.

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EXIT STATUS

On success, 0 is returned, a non-zero failure code otherwise.

SEE ALSO

systemd(1), **machine-id(5)**, **systemd-machine-id-commit.service(8)**, **dbus-uuidgen(1)**, **systemd-firstboot(1)**

NOTES

1. Container Interface
https://systemd.io/CONTAINER_INTERFACE