

Changing FAT label of mounted file system

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- *Subject:* Changing FAT label of mounted file system
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- *User-agent:* KMail/1.13.7 (Linux/3.13.0-117-generic; KDE/4.14.2; x86_64; ;)

Hello!

On most file system it is possible to change its label at anytime, when mounted or unmounted. But FAT is such special file system on which is label stored in two location, plus one is in directory structure (which cannot be modified when file system is mounted).

I would like to ask what about providing FAT specific IOCTL for vfat kernel driver which would allow to change volume label?

Currently vfat provides FAT_IOCTL_GET_VOLUME_ID which returns volume serial number, so in similar way it could be extended to provide FAT_IOCTL_GET_VOLUME_LABEL and FAT_IOCTL_SET_VOLUME_LABEL.

Now when partition manager program wants to change label of FAT partition, it first needs to unmount it, then change label and after that mount it again. Providing IOCTL would help partition manager programs to implement operation for changing volume label easier. Also unmounting partition is now always possible (when busy).

Next typical usage is opening file manager and in its window "renaming" volume label. Currently such thing is not possible to implement (without hacks) for FAT as once file manager has opened location of FAT partition it needs to be mounted -- and changing volume label is not possible.

Other file systems do not have this problem as label is not stored in directory structure, managed by kernel driver.

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