

System Initialization

Video: Module 3 Overview
1 min

Video: System Boot
3 min

Reading: /boot Directory
10 min

Video: Using GRUB (Demo)
2 min

Video: System Initialization
3 min

Reading: System Runlevels
10 min

Reading: Killing the Graphical User Interface (Lab)
15 min

System Boot

GRUB

- Virtually all x86-based physical Linux systems (outside the embedded sphere) today use **GRUB** (**GR**and **U**nified **B**ootloader) to handle the early phases of system startup
- Other platforms may have other equivalents, such as ELILO used on IA64 (Itanium), and Das U-Boot used on many embedded configurations
- Some important features of GRUB are:
 - Alternative operating systems can be chosen at boot time
 - Alternative kernels and/or initial ramdisks can be chosen at boot time for a given operating system
 - Boot parameters can be easily changed at boot time without having to edit configuration files in advance