# 08-1 BusyBox

### Chapters 9 and 10

- 9: File Systems
  - Partitions
  - ext2, ext3, ext4
  - ReiserFS
  - JFF2
  - NFS
  - /proc, /sys
- 10: Memory Technology Devices (MTD) Subsystem
  - Supports memory-like devices such as Flash
  - Device driver layer that provides an API for raw flash devices
  - Neither block nor char

# Embedded Linux system development

### BusyBox

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Copyright 2004-2009, Free Electrons. Creative Commons BY-SA 3.0 license atest update: 10/28/2013, locument sources, updates and translations:



# General purpose toolbox: BusyBox

### http://www.busybox.net/

- Most Unix command line utilities within a single executable! It even includes a web server!
- Sizes less than < 500 KB (statically compiled with uClibc) or less than 1 MB (statically compiled with glibc)
- Easy to configure which features to include
- The best choice for
  - Initramfs / initrd with complex scripts
  - Small and medium size embedded systems

See http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/linux/library/l-busybox/ for a nice introduction

BusyBox was first written by Bruce Perens in 1996

### BusyBox commands!

[. [], acpid, addgroup, adduser, adjitmex, ar, arp, arping, ash, awk, basename, beep, blkid, brdtl, bunzip2, bzcat, bzip2, cal, cat, catv, chat, chattr, chgrp, chmod, chown, chpasswd, chpst, chroot, chrt, chvt, cksum, clear, cmp, comm, cp, cpio, crond, crontab, cryptpw, cut, date, dc, dd, deallocvt, deligroup, deluser, depmod, devmem, df, othorpetay, dffl, dimame, dmesg, dnsd, dnsdomainname, dos2unix, dbgd, du, dumpkmap, dumpkeases, echo, ed, egrep, eject, env, ervdir, envulgid, expand, expr, fakeldendt, falser, bsest, fixsplash, fdflush, fdformat, fdisk, fgrep, find, findfs, flash lock, flash, unlock, fold, free, freeramdisk, fsck, fsck.minix, fsync, ftpd, ftpget, ftpput, fuser, getopt, egtv, grep, gunzip, gzp, hd, hoparm, head, hexdump, hostid, hostname, httpd, hush, hwclock, id, floorlig, fidown, ffenslave, fiplugd, flup, inetd, init, inotifyd, insmod, install, inoise, ip, japdf, ippact, fippat, fippat

Commands available in BusyBox 1.22

### Applet highlight - BusyBox vi

- If you are using BusyBox, adding vi supports only adds 20K. (built with shared libraries, using uClibc)
- You can select which exact features to compile in
- Users hardly realize that they are using a lightweight vi version!
- Tip: you can learn vi on the desktop, by running the vimtutor command

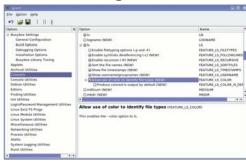
### Configuring BusyBox

- Get the latest stable sources from <a href="http://busybox.net">http://busybox.net</a>
- Configure BusyBox (creates a .COnfig file):
- make defconfig
  Good to begin with BusyBox
  Configures BusyBox with all options for regular users
- make allnoconfig
  Unselects all options. Good to configure only what you need
- make xconfig (graphical) or make menuconfig (text) Same configuration interfaces as the ones used by the Linux kernel

# BusyBox make xconfig

You can choose:

- the commands to compile,
- and even the command options and features that you need!



# Compiling BusyBox

See http://elinux.org/EBC\_Exercise\_27\_BusyBox

# Alternative to BusyBox: embutils

### http://www.fefe.de/embutils/

From the creator of diet libc

- A similar set of tiny utilities for embedded systems. Version 0.19 (Aug. 2008): 90 common commands are implemented
- Can only be built statically with diet libc!
- Compared to BusyBox: Much less momentum, user and developer base. (Last date 2008) Still misses key commands and features (ifconfig, for example)
- But can achieve smaller size than BusyBox on standalone executables

### Alternatives: coreutils

- http://www.gnu.org/software/coreutils/
- Basic file, shell and text manipulation utilities of the GNU operating system
- These are the core utilities which are expected to exist on every operating system
- Previously these utilities were offered as three individual sets of GNU utilities, <u>Fileutils</u>, <u>Shellutils</u>, and <u>Textutils</u>.
  - Those three have been combined into a single set of utilities called Coreutils
- 14-Feb-2013