NAME

dbus-update-activation-environment - update environment used for D-Bus session services

SYNOPSIS

dbus-update-activation-environment [--systemd] [--verbose] --all | *VAR... | VAR=VAL...*

DESCRIPTION

dbus-update-activation-environment updates the list of environment variables used by **dbus-daemon --session** when it activates session services without using **systemd**.

With the **--systemd** option, if an instance of **systemd --user** is available on D-Bus, it also updates the list of environment variables used by **systemd --user** when it activates user services, including D-Bus session services for which **dbus-daemon** has been configured to delegate activation to **systemd**. This is very similar to the **import-environment** command provided by **systemctl**(1)).

Variables that are special to **dbus-daemon** or **systemd** may be set, but their values will be overridden when a service is started. For instance, it is not useful to add **DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS** to **dbus-daemon**'s activation environment, although it might still be useful to add it to **systemd**'s activation environment.

OPTIONS

--all

Set all environment variables present in the environment used by **dbus-update-activation-environment**.

--systemd

Set environment variables for systemd user services as well as for traditional D-Bus session services.

--verbose

Output messages to standard error explaining what dbus-update-activation-environment is doing.

VAR

If *VAR* is present in the environment of **dbus-update-activation-environment**, set it to the same value for D-Bus services. Its value must be UTF-8 (if not, it is skipped with a warning). If *VAR* is not present in the environment, this argument is silently ignored.

VAR=VAL

Set *VAR* to *VAL*, which must be UTF-8.

EXAMPLES

dbus-update-activation-environment is primarily designed to be used in Linux distributions' X11 session startup scripts, in conjunction with the "user bus" design.

To propagate **DISPLAY** and **XAUTHORITY** to **dbus-daemon** and, if present, **systemd**, and propagate **DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS** to **systemd**:

```
dbus-update-activation-environment --systemd \
    DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS DISPLAY XAUTHORITY
```

To propagate all environment variables except **XDG_SEAT**, **XDG_SESSION_ID** and **XDG_VTNR** to **dbus-daemon** (and, if present, **systemd**) for compatibility with legacy X11 session startup scripts:

```
# in a subshell so the variables remain set in the
# parent script
(
  unset XDG_SEAT
  unset XDG_SESSION_ID
  unset XDG_VTNR

  dbus-update-activation-environment --systemd --all
)
```

EXIT STATUS

dbus-update-activation-environment exits with status 0 on success, EX_USAGE (64) on invalid command-line options, EX_OSERR (71) if unable to connect to the session bus, or EX_UNAVAILABLE (69) if unable to set the environment variables. Other nonzero exit codes might be added in future versions.

ENVIRONMENT

DBUS_SESSION_BUS_ADDRESS, **XDG_RUNTIME_DIR** and/or **DISPLAY** are used to find the address of the session bus.

LIMITATIONS

dbus-daemon does not provide a way to unset environment variables after they have been set (although **systemd** does), so **dbus-update-activation-environment** does not offer this functionality either.

POSIX does not specify the encoding of non-ASCII environment variable names or values and allows them to contain any non-zero byte, but neither **dbus-daemon** nor **systemd** supports environment variables with non-UTF-8 names or values. Accordingly, **dbus-update-activation-environment** assumes that any name or value that appears to be valid UTF-8 is intended to be UTF-8, and ignores other names or values with a warning.

BUGS

Please send bug reports to the D-Bus bug tracker or mailing list. See **http://www.freedesktop.org/software/dbus/**.

SEE ALSO

dbus-daemon(1), **systemd**(1), the **import-environment** command of **systemctl**(1)

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