

From an Empty PC to a Running Control System: A KNOPPIX Live-CD for DOOCs



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Abstract

Software deployment of operating and control systems is a hard task for beginners and can be an error prone one for experts. As an evaluation of a potential, fast deployment technique, a Linux/KNOPPIX Live-CD for the DOOCS control system software has been developed. This CD contains a DOOCS core system, some example and middle layer server programs and basic client applications. Optionally, one can install a KNOPPIX and DOOCS system directly from the CD. All DOOCS and operating system software are provided as Debian packages. This paper will describe the Live system CD in more detail and discuss the interaction of Java Web-start based applications, other control system client applications, DOOCS name service and device servers.

Motivation

The idea is to run the DOOCS control systems with all major programs directly from a CD. The 'experts' have then an always available and workable system and this e.g. is an USB flash drive on the keychain. It's meant to provide an overview of the entire system, without complex installation and configuration. A beginner receives a fully equipped and functional system. It is possible to start immediately with the development of control system servers and having all tools at hand. The Live-CD also demonstrates the integration of the various controls system architectures, like DOOCS, EPICS [4] or TINE [5], used at modern accelerator facilities.

EPICS [4] or TINE [5]. Features of the CD are:

- Any time, every where available.
 - Quick start for beginners.
 - Debug tool for experts.
 - Demonstrates the whole chain, from the name service, device servers, up to the display.
 - Demonstrates the interaction of the various control systems (DOOCS, TINE, EPICS).

Live-CD Creation

- Setting up for remastering
 - Boot from the KNOPPIX CD
 - Open a root shell
 - Copy the content to an existing disk directory
 - Setup and work in the Chroot environment
 - Internet access is available
 - Install all control system and other software
 - Modify user settings, change KNOPPIX auto-config
 - Change startup text, boot graphics, autostart programs
 - Build compressed CD/DVD boot image
 - Burn the image to CD or DVD
 - http://www.knoppix.net/wiki/Knoppix_Remastering_Howto

jddd GUI with Examples

