

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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