Morten Boot Menfl product from

Introduction

Purpose

purposeofthisproductistoenafllePfluserstoalternatefletfleenseveral opsystemfl fl Pfl can have several operating systems installed on diflerent hard-drives or hard-drive partitionsfl The floot menu takes control of the Pflfls floot sequence an enaflles the user to select flhat operating system to flootfl

Features

Some operating systems come flith their ofln floot manager programsfl These include OS/2fl Linux and to a certain degree Windofls NT and Solarisfl These are often tied to their speciflc operating systems and restrictions usually apply to the flay they can fle installedfl conflgured and usedfl Hofleverfl similar commercial products are availaflle and provide more flexiflle solutions for multi-OS Pflsfl One very good example is System flommander from fl flommunicationsfl The draflflacflith this program are flrstly that it costs moneyfl and also its large si fllesyouflillneedtodofln-loadarefl

flootmenuflexefl	to make install floppy from MS DOS/Win
flootmenuflflinfl	to make install floppy from UNIfl
flootmenuflflflflpsflg	

Installation

Preparing your computer for the boot menu

is normally no need to prepare your computer for the boot menu. Read about hard-drive partitioning in the Problem Solving chapter if you are not familiar with the way PC hard-drives are structured.

Creating an installation floppy

An installation diskette can be created either from the MS-DOS executable bootmenu.exe or from the binary image bootmenu.bin.

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still flant to proceed flith the installationfl fleinstalling the program flill erase any existing floot menu conflgurationfl Note that the partition-taflle is left intact fl no partitions flill fle touchedfl

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flonflguration

flonflguration menu

The conflguration menu is invoked automatically flhen the Pfl is flrst flooted after installationfl flou can enter the menu later fly pressing the flF1fl key flhile flithin the main menufl Here is a flrief explanation to the entries in the menufl

Add partition lets you select one partition from your hard-drives and add it to the boot menufi fiwillbeaskedtoenteradescription/nameforthe operatingsysteminstalledonthispartitionfi

Deletepartition removes one entry from the boot menufi This does not remove the actual partition from your diskfi Only the boot menu configuration data is removedfi the partition itself is left untouchedfi fiou need a program such as fdisk or System Commander to add, remove and resi

#Linux20##. #ou can add additional #arameters that #ill be #assed to the actual

saythatyouhavetfloLinuxkernelsinstalledfl flou flrst add these tflo kernels to your /etc/liloflconf flefl like thisfl

```
boot=/dev/hda3
# Entry for first Linux Letsimage=/boot/kernel-2.2.5

   label=Linux22
   root=/dev/hda3
   read-only
# Entry for second Linux kernel
image=/boot/kernel-2.0.32
   label=Linux20
   root=/dev/hda3
   read-only
```

prompt you for logical disk swapping when you add such a MS-DOS partition

you install entries in the bootmenu for the t#o kernels you #ill need to #ass the kernel label as the #rst #arameter #in this case either #Linux22#

kernel# such as #vga=3# to use a 50-line ### text mode for the consoles.

MS-DOS

can initially boot only from the first primary partition on the first hard-drivefi The boot menu has a feature that can do a logical swap the first two hard-drives on your fiC at boot timefi will allow you to boot MS-DOS from the first primary partition of the second hard-drive by fooling MS-DOS to believe that it is booted from the first hard-drivefi The configuration menu will

to the boot menufi fiou must also make sure that the MS-DOS partition on the second hard-drive is bootablefi ficandothisbybootingfromanMS-DOS fioppy and then running the command fi`sys A: D:.`

Tis feature is andy if you ant bot indos and MDO installed on a sinle C. ames and oter CUintensive alications run faster under M DO but indos is fairly user friemdly so a combination of te to is often desirable.

are a fe limitations to tis aroac. f you are usin some secic DE C or arddisk drivers in your con.sys le you mit not be able to erform te sain roerly. Tis is because te residemt art of te boot menu tat andles te disk sain is overritten by suc drivers. a virus mit intercet and corrut te residemt art of te boot menAlso**Windows 95**

Windows 95 can only be booted from the first primary partition on the first hard-drivefi fiarly versions of Windows 95 can be forced to boot from the second hard-drive[1]

Windows NT

Windows NT can be booted from the boot menu as long as it does not coexist with Windows 95 or MS-DOSfi If you have Windows NT installed with Windows 95 and/or MS-DOS you will probably have to boot Windows 95 first proceed to boot Windo

Windows 95 partition when installing Windows NT, then un-hide the Windows 95 partition and install the boot menufi

OS/2

Some OS/2 partitions can only be booted from the OS/2 boot managerfi The boot menu can be used to boot the OS/2 boot manager which then fires up OS/2fi

Solaris

Solaris can only reside in primary partitions, and a hard-drive can only hold one installation of Solaris

Problem solving

Hard-drive partitioning

The partition table in the master boot record[4]

The BIOS interface for this addressing is limitedfl The highest value for cylinders is fl02flfl the highest value for heads is 256 and the highest value for sectors is 6flfl fllsofl very fefl hard-drives have more than 16 heads flmeaning it has fl discs flith 2 heads eachflfl The maximum addressaflle si