Interface Design for Authentication and Session Management

William Jon McCann
<jmccann@redhat.com>

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Personal
Enterprise

#8111, Naval Operating Base, San Diego, Calif., Apr. 1, 1931
Destroyer Base - Building No. 1 - Wash Room, Second Floor - View looking Southeast - Yard Labor - Allotment 71201-40(D.B.)
Multi-Seat
Accessibility
Authorization

ALL CHILDREN BETWEEN 37" TO 54" TALL AND ARE TOILET TRAINED ARE WELCOME TO PLAY HERE!
Privacy
Fast User Switching
Access Control

DISPLAY ONLY
Boundaries

Specially sterilized for you
From a Different Time

- **X Server** - Modernization nearly complete
- **utmp, wtmp** - ConsoleKit
- **Su** - PolicyKit
- VT Subsystem
- Name Service Switch
- Pluggable Authentication Modules
- Secure Attention Key
- getty/login, *dm
- XDMCP
X Server

- Needs to be seat aware
- Needs to know output configuration
- Needs to know the associated input devices
- May not want to run as root
ConsoleKit

- Session and Seat accounting
- Seat is a collection of Sessions and devices
- utmp and wtmp replacement
- Interface for fast user switching
- Interface for System shutdown and reboot
- Currently relies on VT subsystem for Session switching
VT Subsystem, why?

“You actually need the vt layer for a few things
- boot up
- a way to cope when X breaks again (most updates on some boxes)
- a way to undo things when selinux screws up on a package update and breaks pam
- a way for end users to be guided for debugging problems
- a way to reliably see kernel messages

Longer term the last one should go away, but the others won't.”

Alan Cox
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