

Study on conflict resolution during the configuration of eCos

Dear eCos user,

we are a team of researchers from the GSD Lab of the University of Waterloo (ON, Canada). We do research on configuration methods and algorithms and are conducting a study on the problems faced by users during conflict resolution with configtool (GUI) or ecosconfig (command-line). We would greatly appreciate it if you could answer the 18 questions below. The whole questionnaire should not take you more than 15 minutes to complete.

Thank you very much for your contribution.

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* Required

What is your level of expertise with eCos? *

- Expert
- Moderate
- Newbie

For how many years have you been using eCos? *

What type of project have you been using eCos for? *

Which configuration tool do you use most frequently?

- configtool (GUI)
- ecosconfig (command-line)

How many changes (e.g. enabling an option or setting an attribute value) to the default template do you usually make in a complete project? Please provide an range (e.g. between 50 and 100). *

Please estimate the number of encountered conflicts per number of changes (e.g. 2 per 10 or 1 per 3). *

How often is the solution proposed by the tool to resolve a conflict the one you need? *

- Never
- Occasionally (3 or less out of 10 conflicts)
- Sometimes (between 4 to 7 out of 10 conflicts)
- Often (7 or more out of 10 conflicts)
- Always
- Other:

If the solution proposed is not the one you need, which of the following alternatives do you most frequently use to solve the conflict? *

- Manually make changes not proposed in the solution
- Select another hardware platform or template
- Ask for a solution on a mailing list/forum
- Other:

Which of these two types of conflict is the most difficult to solve? *

- Enabling/disabling (activating/deactivating) an option
- Setting the correct value of an attribute (e.g. string or integer)

On average, how long does it take to solve a conflict? *

- A few minutes
- A few hours
- A few days
- I do not remember

Do you usually resolve conflicts as soon as they appear or do you postpone the resolution? *

- As soon as they appear
- Postpone

If your answered that you postpone the resolution in the previous question, when do you handle it?

Do you sometimes have difficulties to change options that are not active? *

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the previous question, how do you change these options?

How many users are usually involved in the configuration activity? *

If more than one user is involved, are there conflicts between their decisions?

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes to the previous question, how do you handle these conflicts?

What other difficulties do your encounter during configuration?



We would highly appreciate having an opportunity to follow up on some of your answers. If you do not mind being contacted for further questions, please enter your email address below.

Please enter your initials below. This information will only be used to help us identify double submissions. *

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