NAME

sulogin - single-user login

SYNOPSIS

sulogin [options] [*tty*]

DESCRIPTION

sulogin is invoked by **init** when the system goes into single-user mode.

The user is prompted:

> Give root password for system maintenance
> (or type Control-D for normal startup):

If the root account is locked and --force is specified, no password is required.

sulogin will be connected to the current terminal, or to the optional *tty* device that can be specified on the command line (typically */dev/console*).

When the user exits from the single-user shell, or presses control-D at the prompt, the system will continue to boot.

OPTIONS

-e, **--force**

If the default method of obtaining the root password from the system via getpwnam(3) fails, then examine */etc/passwd* and */etc/shadow* to get the password. If these files are damaged or nonexistent, or when root account is locked by '!' or '*' at the begin of the password then **sulogin** will **start a root shell without asking for a password**.

Only use the **-e** option if you are sure the console is physically protected against unauthorized access.

-p, **--login-shell**

Specifying this option causes **sulogin** to start the shell process as a login shell.

-t, **--timeout** *seconds*

Specify the maximum amount of time to wait for user input. By default, **sulogin** will wait forever.

-h, **--help**

Display help text and exit.

-V, **--version**

Display version information and exit.

ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES

sulogin looks for the environment variable **SUSHELL** or **sushell** to determine what shell to start. If the environment variable is not set, it will try to execute root's shell from */etc/passwd*. If that fails, it will fall back to */bin/sh*.

AUTHOR

sulogin was written by Miquel van Smoorenburg for sysvinit and later ported to util-linux by Dave Reisner and Karel Zak.

AVAILABILITY

The sulogin command is part of the util-linux package and is available from Linux Kernel Archive.