

How updating our Yocto layers can go wrong? mind

Charles-Antoine Couret 29/09/2023



Before starting

- Have a complete testing setup
- Have a lot of time
 - Several weeks to months
- List all major features to check
- Read release notes
- Moving from LTS to LTS?

Yocto not backward compatible...

- Major syntax change in honister release:
 - Convert with poky/scripts/contrib/convert-overrides.py <layer_path>
- Variable renaming like this one in kirkstone:
 - BB_ENV_EXTRAWHITE → BB_ENV_PASSTHROUGH_ADDITIONS
- Network disabled by default for non *do_fetch()* tasks in kirkstone
 - Fix: do_taskname[network] = "1"
- End of official support for Python 2 in dunfell

... BSP layer as well

עו

- Read release notes of BSP vendor
 - Introduces SCMI for clock and power management
 - sdma firmware in \rightarrow out of kernel tree
 - Refactored device trees
 - Etc.
- Not too complex, but a lot of little tasks

When kernel is moving fast

- No stable internal API
 - iio subsystem improvements
 - changes in device tree options
 - -OCOTP driver: sysfs files \rightarrow char device file
 - Etc.
- Need to adapt custom patches or drivers
- And to retest them

Toolchain or ecosystem issues

- Examples:
 - API changes for libraries: *openssl* from 1.1 to 3.0
 - GCC stricter by default
 - systemd-boot requires *default* entry with .conf suffix after v245
- Require a lot of testing
- Some code and config changes

Reducing the effort? Contribute!

- Upstreaming: recipes, drivers, own patches
 - Maintainers manage breaking changes
 - Return the favor to OpenSource projects
 - Receive external bug fixes / features
- Testing own software against recent system
- Detect and fix issues before update



Division of **Essensium nv**

Arenberg Science Park Gaston Geenslaan 9 3001 Leuven Belgium +32 16 28 65 00

General enquiries info@mind.be

Employment enquiries **jobs@mind.be**

Questions?