

A husky dog with grey and white fur and blue eyes is holding a large cinnamon stick in its mouth. The dog is looking directly at the camera with a playful expression. The background is a soft-focus green field.

Introducing ZNETBOOT

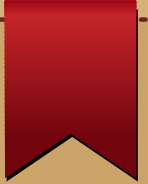
“Easy Linux on z/VM”

Rick Troth

rogue programmer

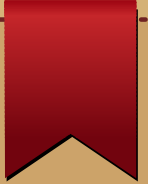
<http://www.casita.net/nord>

Agenda



- Linux on Z, Linux on z/VM (history)
 - z/Linux for non-z people: ZNETBOOT tool
 - ZNETBOOT config file
 - ZNETBOOT Project: z/Linux for non-z people
 - ZNETBOOT Package
- 

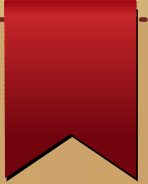
Mainframe Motivation



- S/370 Bigfoot
- S/390 IBM skunkworks
- BMC Software, 1999 December, GCC and Doom
- Obvious use case for VM/ESA, 41000 virtual penguins
- After that, it was easy ...
... ***NOT!!!!***



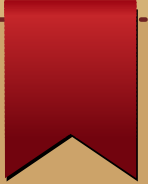
System Z remains Foreign



- What's a 3270? (it's actually a 3215!)
- Was that binary or text?
- I don't know Rexx.
- I *definitely* don't know XEDIT.
- So many steps! I lost track.



Simplify: enter ZNETBOOT



- Familiar configuration format
- One command launches Linux
- Can be re-run any number of times (idempotent)



ZNETBOOT Configuration

- kernel, initrd, parameters

ZNETBOOT_KERNEL=<http://znetboot.casita.net/nord/image>

ZNETBOOT_INITRD=<http://znetboot.casita.net/nord/ramdisk.gz>

... other parameters, not prefixed with “ZNETBOOT_” ...

- Examples: ClefOS, Alpine, Debian, NORD, ...



ZNETBOOT Configuration

- Automatic CMSCONFFILE handling

ZNETBOOT_KERNEL=<http://dl.blah.com/some/place/kernel.img>

ZNETBOOT_INITRD=<http://dl.blah.com/some/place/initrd.img>

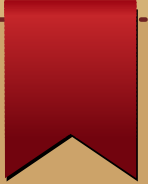
ZNETBOOT_**TOFILE**=NETTYPE=qeth

ZNETBOOT_**TOFILE**=IPADDR=192.168.10.10

... other parameters ...



ZNETBOOT Project



- On GitHub
 - anyone can download and use it
 - anyone can join and contribute
- Community support
- Actually used by real people

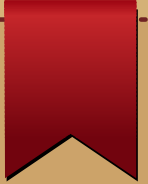


ZNETBOOT Package

- CMS-specific components collected from the project
- Standard VMARC delivery
- Not magic, “it’s just Rexx and Pipelines”



ZNETBOOT Links



<http://www.github.com/trothr/znetboot/>

<http://www.casita.net/pub/znetboot/znetboot.vmarc>

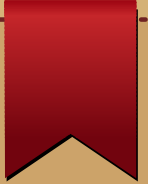
<http://www.casita.net/pub/znetboot/znetboot.tar.gz>

<http://www.casita.net/pub/znetboot/znetboot.odp>

<http://www.casita.net/pub/znetboot/znetboot.ppt>



ZNETBOOT Links



ClefOS on z/VM markdown:

<https://github.com/trothr/znetboot/blob/master/clefonvm.md>

Sir Rob's GitHub repository:

<https://github.com/rvdheij/>

