## NAME

**ipcs** - report System V interprocess communication facilities status

## SYNOPSIS

**ipcs** [**-abcmopqstMQSTy**] [**-C** *core*] [**-N** *system*] [**-u** *user*]

## DESCRIPTION

The **ipcs** utility provides information on System V interprocess communication (IPC) facilities on the system.

The options are as follows:

**-a** Show the maximum amount of information possible when displaying active semaphores, message queues, and shared memory segments. (This is shorthand for specifying the **-b**, **-c**, **-o**, **-p**, and **-t** options.)

**-b** Show the maximum allowed sizes for active semaphores, message queues, and shared memory segments. The "maximum allowed size" is the maximum number of bytes in a message on a message queue, the size of a shared memory segment, or the number of semaphores in a set of semaphores.

**-c** Show the creator’s name and group for active semaphores, message queues, and shared memory segments.

**-m** Display information about active shared memory segments.

**-o** Show outstanding usage for active message queues, and shared memory segments. The "outstanding usage" is the number of messages in a message queue, or the number of processes attached to a shared memory segment.

**-p** Show the process ID information for active semaphores, message queues, and shared memory segments. The "process ID information" is the last process to send a message to or receive a message from a message queue, the process that created a semaphore, or the last process to attach or detach a shared memory segment.

**-q** Display information about active message queues.

**-s** Display information about active semaphores.

**-t** Show access times for active semaphores, message queues, and shared memory segments. The

access times is the time of the last control operation on an IPC object, the last send or receive of a message, the last attach or detach of a shared memory segment, or the last operation on a semaphore.

**-C** *core* Extract values associated with the name list from the specified core instead of the default */dev/kmem*. Implies **-y**.

**-M** Display system information about shared memory.

**-N** *system*
Extract the name list from the specified system instead of the default */boot/kernel/kernel*. Implies **-y**.

**-Q** Display system information about messages queues.

**-S** Display system information about semaphores.

**-T** Display system information about shared memory, message queues and semaphores.

**-y** Use the kvm(3) interface instead of the sysctl(3) interface to extract the required information. If **ipcs** is to operate on the running system, using kvm(3) will require read privileges to */dev/kmem*.

**-u** *user* Display information about IPC mechanisms owned by *user*. User specification can be in the form of a numeric UID or a login name.

If none of the **-M**, **-m**, **-Q**, **-q**, **-S**, or **-s** options are specified, information about all active IPC facilities is listed.

## RESTRICTIONS

System data structures may change while **ipcs** is running; the output of **ipcs** is not guaranteed to be consistent.

## FILES

*/dev/kmem* default kernel memory
*/boot/kernel/kernel* default system name list

## SEE ALSO

ipcrm(1)

## AUTHORS

Thorsten Lockert <*tholo@sigmasoft.com*>

## BUGS

This manual page is woefully incomplete, because it does not at all attempt to explain the information printed by **ipcs**.