NAME

watch - snoop on another tty line

SYNOPSIS

watch [**-cinotW**] [**-f** *snpdev*] [*tty*]

DESCRIPTION

The **watch** utility allows the user to examine all data coming through a specified tty using the snp(4) device. If the snp(4) device is not available, **watch** will attempt to load the module (**snp**). The **watch** utility writes to standard output.

The options are as follows:

-c   Reconnect on close. If the tty observed by **watch** is closed, automatically reattach to the same tty. If this option is not specified, **watch** will request a new tty if running in interactive mode or exit if running without a controlling tty.

-f *snpdev*

      If this option is specified, **watch** will use *snpdev* as the snp(4) device. Without this option, **watch** will attempt to find the next available snp(4) device.

-i   Force interactive mode. Interactive mode is a default if **watch** is started from a tty. If output is redirected to a file, interactive mode can still be requested by specifying this option.

-n   Disable the ability to switch the watched tty interactively. This disables both change requests made with <control-X> as well as automatic prompting when the current tty is closed or overflows. In all cases where a prompt would be displayed, **watch** will exit. The reconnect flags are unaffected by this option. When this flag is used, <control-X> is passed through to the terminal.

-o   Reconnect on overflow. The behavior of **watch** if the observed tty overflows is similar to the behavior if the observed tty is closed. For more info see snp(4).

-t   Print the date and time when observation of a given tty is started.

-W   Allow write access to observed tty.

tty   Tty may be specified as a tty-style device, such as a pseudo tty device, a virtual console, or a serial line, etc. Names may be preceded by */dev/*.

OPERATION

While running in interactive mode, all user input is discarded except for:

<control-G>

      Exit **watch**.

<control-W>

      Clear screen.

<control-X>

      Change attached tty, unless this feature is disabled, in which case control-X is passed to the terminal as with other control characters.

SEE ALSO

pty(4), snp(4), kldload(8)

HISTORY

The **watch** utility first appeared in FreeBSD 2.1.

AUTHORS

Ugen J.S. Antsilevich <*ugen@NetVision.net.il*>

BUGS

No terminal emulation is performed. All user output is reproduced as-is.