NAME

mcs – manipulate the comment section of an object file

SYNOPSIS

mcs [**–a** *string*] [**–c**] [**–d**] [**–n** *name*] [**–p**] [**–V**] *filename*. . .

DESCRIPTION

The **mcs** command is used to manipulate a section, by default the **.comment** section, in an ELF object file. It is used to add to, delete, print, and compress the contents of a section in an ELF object file, and only print the contents of a section in a COFF object file. **mcs** must be given one or more of the options described below. It applies each of the options in order to each file.

OPTIONS

–a *string* Append *string* to the comment section of the ELF object files. If *string* contains embedded blanks, it must be enclosed in quotation marks.

–c Compress the contents of the comment section of the ELF object files. All duplicate entries are removed. The ordering of the remaining entries is not disturbed.

–d Delete the contents of the comment section from the ELF object files. The section header for the comment section is also removed.

–n *name* Specify the name of the comment section to access if other than **.comment**. By default, **mcs** deals with the section named **.comment**. This option can be used to specify another section.

–p Print the contents of the comment section on the standard output. Each section printed is tagged by the name of the file from which it was extracted, using the format *filename*[*member_name*]**:** for archive files; and *filename***:** for other files.

–V Print, on standard error, the version number of **mcs**.

If the input file is an archive (see **ar**(4)), the archive is treated as a set of individual files. For example, if the **–a** option is specified, the string is appended to the comment section of each ELF object file in the archive; if the archive member is not an ELF object file, then it is left unchanged.

If **mcs** is executed on an archive file the archive symbol table will be removed, unless only the **–p** option has been specified. The archive symbol table must be restored by executing the **ar** command with the **–s** option before the archive can be linked by the **ld** command. **mcs** will produce appropriate warning messages when this situation arises.

EXAMPLES

The following example:

example% mcs –p *filename*

prints filename's comment section.

The next example:

example% mcs –a *string filename*

appends string to filename's comment section.

FILES

/tmp/mcs* temporary files

SEE ALSO

ar(1), **as**(1), **ld**(1), **tmpnam**(3S), **a.out**(4), **ar**(4)

NOTES

mcs cannot add to, delete or compress the contents of a section that is contained within a segment.