

VXWORKS APPLICATION DEBUGGING USE CASES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The VxWorks® Application Debugging Use Cases course provides development and test engineers with a solid foundation in the use of Wind River® Workbench debugging tools in a variety of situations.

After this course, participants will be able to perform the following:

- Identify when VxWorks has generated an exception
- Use the information VxWorks produces as a result of an exception to identify the location and instruction that caused the exception
- Identify a deadlock condition using System Viewer
- Use VxWorks facilities to identify the location of a race condition
- Identify the location and cause of a buffer or stack overflow
- Use System Viewer to track down the cause of a bug in an interrupt service routine
- Use the System Mode debug feature in Workbench to trace a problem ISR and fix the bug
- Use System Viewer to debug a problem that causes a warm boot of VxWorks
- Add data logging code to an application to be used in conjunction with the System Viewer debugging tool

PRODUCTS SUPPORTED

- Wind River VxWorks 6.9
- Wind River Workbench 3.3
- Wind River Simics 4.6

COURSE FORMAT

- One-day set of hands-on use cases covering six topics, with technical assistance and individual guidance available from an expert instructor
- Use of VxWorks 6.9, Workbench 3.3, and Simics 4.6 to gain experience with the topics presented

Course title:	VxWorks Application Debugging Use Cases
Duration:	One day
Format:	Hands-on use case sessions with support from an instructor
Content:	Day 1: Debugging an Application Generating an Exception; Discovering and Fixing a Deadlock Condition; Debugging a Memory Scribbler; Debugging an Interrupt Service Routine; Using System Viewer in Postmortem Mode to Detect an MMU Violation; Using System Viewer Programmatically

AUDIENCE

- Application developers and test engineers faced with diagnosing the cause of an exception
- Application developers and test engineers needing a way to identify and correct deadlock conditions in VxWorks
- Engineers, application developers, and test engineers needing a method to diagnose the causes of warm-start events in VxWorks
- Engineers needing information on how to debug an ISR using Workbench tools
- Application developers requiring highly customized System Viewer data collection schemes

PREREQUISITE SKILLS

- Two to three years of C programming experience
- Solid understanding of VxWorks and the VxWorks kernel programming environment
- Proficiency in the use of the Workbench tool suite, especially Workbench projects and target servers
- Functional knowledge of UNIX/Linux

SYLLABUS

Day 1

USE CASES

DEBUGGING AN APPLICATION GENERATING AN EXCEPTION

- Understand how VxWorks reports exceptions
- Interpret the exception message and use it effectively in debugging

DISCOVERING AND FIXING A DEADLOCK CONDITION

- Use System Viewer to identify and locate the cause of a deadlock condition
- Identify the resources involved in a deadlock without seeing the source code
- Fix the deadlock condition

DEBUGGING A MEMORY SCRIBBLER

- Use an exception message to identify a race condition
- Use the exception message to locate the problem instruction
- Examine the source code associated with the race condition and provide a fix

DEBUGGING AN INTERRUPT SERVICE ROUTINE

- Build and boot a defective application
- Identify the location and context under which the defect manifests
- Perform system-mode debugging to determine where the algorithm can be modified to eliminate the problem

USING SYSTEM VIEWER IN POSTMORTEM MODE TO DETECT AN MMU VIOLATION

- Configure a VxWorks image to set aside memory not to be initialized on a warm start
- Configure System Viewer to acknowledge and place data into the configured memory
- Examine the System Viewer log obtained from the configured memory and determine the location of the offending instruction

USING SYSTEM VIEWER PROGRAMMATICALLY

- Configure and build a VxWorks image that supports System Viewer data collection utilities
- Write a custom application that makes use of System Viewer instrumentation
- Run the application to collect and upload data for examination

PREREQUISITE COURSES

- VxWorks 6.x and Workbench Essentials

RELATED COURSES

- VxWorks Build and Configuration Use Cases
- VxWorks Intermediate Application Development Use Cases

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