



# Inclusive Language Status and Futures Lightning Rod Talk

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## Caution – This talk contains trigger words

- This talk contains words that may upset or offend some individuals or groups of people
- The intention of this talk is to inform the community of the actions taken to resolve some of these trigger words
- Upsetting people is not my intent!

## Why this important – may not translate

- Language matters in all cultures.
- When ANY institution asks my "mother's maiden name" as a security question. Because it's assumed that I have at least one and no more than one mother in my life AND that she gave up her name AND that part of her identity was erased enough from my public history so as to be a password to access my private information.
- Not directly Inclusive language, but something very important to think about!

# What is Inclusive Language

- Linux Foundation started an effort under the banner of Inclusive Naming Initiative ([inclusivelanguage.org](https://inclusivelanguage.org))
- The Inclusive Naming Initiative's mission is to promote and facilitate replacing harmful and exclusionary language in information technology
- The software industry sometimes uses certain words, like blacklist and slave, that may carry a great deal of emotional and historical baggage. We are encouraging projects to choose phrases that clearly communicate the technical meaning, without using metaphors or colloquialisms.
- IBM calls it conscious language

# What was problematic

- **Tier 1 words as described by the Inclusive Language Initiative**
  - <https://inclusivenaming.org/word-lists/tier-1/>
- **Blacklist / Whitelist**
- **Master / Slave**
  - addressed by pidge in autobuilder
- **Abort**

# How does this apply to the Yocto Project

- The project has been looking at the idea of inclusive language for a couple of years
- A group got together last year to identify the set of words to focus on
  - [https://wiki.yoctoproject.org/wiki/Inclusive\\_language](https://wiki.yoctoproject.org/wiki/Inclusive_language)
- An initial pass was done by the group
- Richard did a review to ensure the renames were descriptive and technically valid.

# Renamed bbclasses, variables & functions

- **BB\_RENAMED\_VARIABLES**
  - Used to report errors
  - `BB_RENAMED_VARIABLES[<broke name>] = "<woke name>"`
- **Many of the changes were straight forward**
  - Renames to more descriptive variable or function
- **Some required more structural changes to code**
  - INCOMPATIBLE\_LICENSE handling
  - `WHITELIST_GPL-3.0 -> INCOMPATIBLE_LICENSE_EXCEPTIONS = '<pkg>:GPL-3.0-only'`
- **Blacklist.bbclass**

# BB\_RENAMED\_VARIABLES

- PNBLACKLIST
  - SKIP\_RECIPE
- CVE\_CHECK\_PN\_WHITELIST
  - CVE\_CHECK\_SKIP\_RECIPE
- CVECHECK\_WHITELIST
  - CVE\_CHECK\_IGNORE
- MULTI\_PROVIDER\_WHITELIST
  - BB\_MULTI\_PROVIDER\_ALLOWED
- SDK\_LOCAL\_CONF\_BLACKLIST
  - ESDK\_LOCALCONF\_REMOVE
- SDK\_LOCAL\_CONF\_WHITELIST
  - ESDK\_LOCALCONF\_ALLOW
- SDK\_INHERIT\_BLACKLIST
- SYSROOT\_DIRS\_BLACKLIST
  - SYSROOT\_DIRS\_IGNORE
- UNKNOWN\_CONFIGURE\_WHITELIST
  - UNKNOWN\_CONFIGURE\_OPT\_IGNORE
- ICECC\_USER\_CLASS\_BL
  - ICECC\_CLASS\_DISABLE
- ICECC\_SYSTEM\_CLASS\_BL
  - ICECC\_CLASS\_DISABLE
- ICECC\_USER\_PACKAGE\_WL
  - ICECC\_RECIPE\_ENABLE
- ICECC\_USER\_PACKAGE\_BL
  - ICECC\_RECIPE\_DISABLE
- ICECC\_USER\_PACKAGE\_DISABLE



# Current Status

- **Tier 1 Re-Naming complete**
- **Tool to assist layers rename**
  - `scripts/contrib/convert-variable-renames.py`
  - Uses `BB_RENAMED_VARIABLES`, but there might be some exception
- **A small number of tier 1 words remain**
  - Upstream patches
  - Configuration file names
  - Get example

# Next Steps - 1

- **Review Tier 2 & 3 words list (to be changed)**
  - Sanity Check / Test (tier 2)
  - Segregate (tier 3)
  - Tribe (tier 3)
- **Status**
  - We currently don't use Segregate or Tribe
  - The usage of sanity is pervasive around our validation testing including the `sanity.bbclass` and `recipe_sanity.bbclass`

## Next Steps - 2

- **Examine our sanity more deeply**
- **Create a new wiki page with suggestions**
  - confidence check
  - coherence check
  - test
  - verification
- **Git branch renaming – master vs (main/dev)**
- **Timing of the next steps are still TDB**
  - Resources are needed
  - Technical and Testing

# Thanks to the community effort

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- Others who I probably forgot!



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