Subject: ls enhancements

Submitted by: Jason King

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Product Approval Committee:
Solaris PAC
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1. Summary

This project proposes to add enhancements to the ls(1) utility to make it more familiar to users coming from other operating systems such as Linux. Perhaps most notable among those enhancements is addition of support for colorized listings using the --color argument.

2. Decision & Precedence Information

The project is approved as specified in reference [1].

The project may be delivered in a patch release of the ON consolidation.

3. Interfaces

The project exports the following interfaces.

Interfaces Exported		
Interface	Classification	Comments
/usr/bin/ls	Committed	
/usr/xpg4/bin/ls	Committed	
/usr/xpg6/bin/ls	Committed	

4. Opinion

During review, two issues concerning the use of long options (--option) were raised. The first concern pertains to the fact that not all long options have a corresponding short flag. The members of the committee felt that since this is also true of Linux interface being emulated, that this was acceptable.

The second concern pertained to the fact that for some of those same options, the presence of an argument is optional. The members present felt that while such an "optional argument" might be ambiguous for a short flag, for long options there is no ambiguity (because of the separating "="), and hence the behavior is acceptable.

5. Minority Opinion(s)

None.

6. Advisory Information

None.

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7. Appendices

7.1. Appendix A: Technical Changes Required

None.

7.2. Appendix B: Technical Changes Advised

None.

7.3. Appendix C: Reference Material

Unless stated otherwise, path names are relative to the case directory PSARC/2009/228.

3. ls man page File: ls.txt
3. Project proposal File: 20090408_jason.king

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