2025/10/27 18:06 1/1 osFree distribution (draft I)

## osFree distribution (draft I)

- osFree must use WarpIN as a package manager, with some enhancements
- support for repositories? A repository client, something like apt or yum, but with OS/2 specifics.
  - 1. This tool must be separate from WarpIN, i.e., it is specific to repositories, not packages format. It's purpose is:
    - 1. understanding the repository format, different protocols support, like ftp, http, etc.
    - 2. maybe, support for handling the different packages formats, other than WPI, i.e., plain ZIP's with metainfo and installation scripts included(like it was in UnixOS/2), or RPM for software ported from UNIX. The repository client will handle different package types via special plugins, and invoke different tools when installing packages (invoke WIC, ZIP, or RPM)
  - 2. WarpIN is for tracking dependencies, maintaining the local packages database, understanding the .WPI format
- response-file-driven installation:
  - 1. response-file can be created manually
  - 2. response-file can be generated by UI (VIO or PM-based)
- so, installer must be divided into four separate parts:
  - 1. UI for choosing user options and generating the response file interactively, it can be:
    - textmode UI with pseudographics
    - graphical, PM-based
  - 2. installation engine, based on invoking the repository client to retrieve the packages. It acts according the response file
    - it can be started by an experienced user, system administrator, or by the installation UI.
    - also, DOS (DPMI)-based version of the installation engine and UI would be desired
    - a Linux- or Win32-based version (?)
  - 3. repository client, handling different repositories:
    - including standard IBM OS/2-style "repository" with bundles and diskette images (so, the installer willbe capable to install old IBM OS/2 distributions as well)
    - different repository types and access protocols are implemented as special plugins
  - 4. enhanced WarpIN as the main package handling tool. The enhancements should include:
    - "Sticky" flag for packages which should not be upgraded
    - Support for simultaneously existing versions of different packages with libraries, which are needed for different applications
    - Maybe, "Unstable" flag for apps and libraries, so, unstable package don't replace stable ones, they only create a separate branch in dependencies tree.
    - Coexistence of several package trees, which are updated separately, and do not influence other trees – some analogies with source code repositories with branches

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