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Subject: Re: [BRIDGE] Unaligned access on IA64 when comparing ethernet addresses

Posted by [Stephen Hemminger](#) on Wed, 18 Apr 2007 14:44:39 GMT

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On Wed, 18 Apr 2007 01:28:04 -0700 (PDT)

David Miller <davem@davemloft.net> wrote:

```
> From: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>
> Date: Wed, 18 Apr 2007 10:43:56 +0400
>
> > [snip]
> >
> > > --- linux-2.6.orig/net/bridge/br_private.h 2007-04-17
> > > 13:26:48.000000000 -0700 +++ linux-2.6/net/bridge/br_private.h
> > > 2007-04-17 13:30:29.000000000 -0700 @@ -36,7 +36,7 @@
> > > {
> > > unsigned char prio[2];
> > > unsigned char addr[6];
> > > -};
> > > +} __attribute__((aligned(8)));
> >
> > Why "8"? Mustn't it be "16"? Address is to be 2-bytes aligned...
>
> Actually it could be made "2", the aligned() attribute is
> in bytes, not bits.
```

It could be 2 but 8 might allow a compiler on a 64 bit platform to be smarter in comparisons and assignments. For 2.6.22, I'll make a nicer version similar to `ktime_t`.

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