

---

Subject: Re: [PATCH] net: Add etun driver

Posted by [Patrick McHardy](#) on Mon, 09 Apr 2007 18:45:51 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Ben Greear wrote:

> Patrick McHardy wrote:

>

>> It would be nice if someone would finally come up with a generic  
>> interface based on netlink (RTM\_NEWLINK) instead of adding yet  
>> another couple of homegrown interfaces.

>

>

> My preference is for ioctls, procfs, or similar that does not  
> require extra libraries. Ethtool is an ioctl based approach,  
> so that could potentially be used, though I'm not sure if  
> that's the right place to put it...

Extra libraries is one of the least important points in my opinion,  
I also guess pretty much anyone using a software device already has  
iproute installed, which could easily support all of them.

The more important things to consider are in my opinion extendability  
and atomicity of changes and dumps:

- ioctls: atomicity, not easily extendable
- sysfs: no atomicity, easily extendable
- procfs: if atomicity not easily extendable, but can of course also  
be used similar to sysfs

Only netlink offers both in an easy to use fashion and is already used  
for the main parts of network configuration anyway.

---

Containers mailing list

[Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org](mailto:Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org)

<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---