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Subject: Re: [PATCHSET 3/4] sysfs: divorce sysfs from kobject and driver model  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2007 12:12:41 GMT

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Greg KH <[greg@kroah.com](mailto:greg@kroah.com)> writes:

>  
>> Also fun is that the dev file implementation needs to be able to  
>> report different major:minor numbers based on which mount of  
>> sysfs we are dealing with.  
>  
> Um, no, that's not going to happen. /dev/sda will always have the  
> same major:minor number, as defined by the LSB spec. You can not break  
> that at all. So while you might not want to show all mounts  
> /sys/devices/block/sda/ the ones that you do, will all have the LSB  
> defined major:minor number assigned to it.

Hmm. If that is in the LSB it must come from  
Documentation/devices.txt I'm not after changing the user  
visible major/minor assignments.

Let me see if a concrete example will help. Suppose I have  
have a SAN with two disks: disk-1 and disk-2. I have  
two machines A and B. On machine A I get the mapping:  
sda -> disk-1, sdb -> disk-2. On machine B I wind up with  
a different probe order so I get the mapping: sda -> disk-2  
sdb -> disk-1.

To be very clear by sda I mean the block device with major 8 and  
minor 0, and by sdb I mean the block device with major 8 and minor  
16.

So I decide I want an environment on machine B that looks just  
like the environment on machine A, so I can bring transfer over  
a running program or whatever. So I run around looking at UUID  
labels and what not and I discover that the machine B knows disk-1 as  
sdb and that machine A knows disk-1 as sda. So I want to say:  
/sys/devices/block/sdb show up in this other device namespace as  
/sys/devices/block/sda.

In that instance a running program won't notice the difference.

Eric

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