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Subject: Re: namespace support requires network modules to say "GPL"

Posted by [Mark Lord](#) on Sat, 01 Dec 2007 13:13:48 GMT

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Mark Lord wrote:

>> Now that we have network namespace support merged it is time to  
>> revisit the sysfs support so we can remove the dependency on !SYSFS.  
> ...  
> Now that the namespace updates are part of 2.6.24,  
> there is a major inconsistency in network EXPORT\_SYMBOLs.  
>  
> It used to be that an external network module could get away without  
> having to add a MODULE\_LICENSE("GPL\*") line to the source.  
>  
> In support of that, common networking functions (still) use EXPORT\_SYMBOL()  
> rather than the more restrictive EXPORT\_SYMBOL\_GPL().  
>  
> Eg. register\_netdev(), sk\_alloc(), \_\_dev\_get\_by\_name().  
>  
> But now, none of those three are actually usable by default,  
> because they all require "init\_net", which is EXPORT\_SYMBOL\_GPL().  
>  
> So.. It appears that one of three things should really happen next:  
>  
> 1) Change the other exports to also be EXPORT\_SYMBOL\_GPL.  
>  
> 2) Have register\_netdev, sk\_alloc, and \_\_dev\_get\_by\_name default  
> to using init\_net when NULL is specified in the namespace field.  
>  
> or  
> 3) Change init\_net to be EXPORT\_SYMBOL\_GPL.  
..

Obviously that should instead say:

3) Change init\_net to be EXPORT\_SYMBOL instead of EXPORT\_SYMBOL\_GPL.

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Containers mailing list

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