Subject: Re: namespace support requires network modules to say "GPL"
Posted by Ben Greear on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 18:44:53 GMT
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:
> However there also seem to be simpler cases like Ben's bridge module,
> that don't appear to have any global state.
>
Well, my module has some global state, but I don't think it needs to
care about
namespaces. My first impression is that my module should be able to bridge
namespaces...not be contained within one.   I can have user-space make
sure that I don't bridge between
devices in different name-spaces, or perhaps bridging between namespaces
wouldn't be a problem anyway. If I *do* need to add some sort of namespace
awareness to just achieve today's functionality, I don't mind making the
changes,
so long as I don't need to change to GPL licensing. Perhaps at the
least you
can export enough symbols w/out GPL tag to achieve backwards compat with .23
and previous kernels, or rework dev_get_by_* etc to not need GPL'd namespace
symbols and just return the device in the default namespace?
> Ben I don't have a clue how your user space interface works. My gut
> feel is that you can likely use sk->sk_net (if your configuration is
> through a socket), or failing that current->nsproxy->net_ns. To get
> the network namespace to look up "eth0" and "eth1".
>
Currently I use procfs and ioctls bound to a procfs file descriptor.

For namespaces in general, will there be a way to just do a dev_get_by_*
and find the
device in *any* namespace and query the device to see what namespace it
is in?
Then my module or some other more clever piece of code can determine the
namespaces
(by comparing pointers if nothing else) and make proper decision. For
instance, maybe
we want to bridge two namespaces, or maybe we want to forbid that ever
happening...
> This however still begs the question how do we want to handle this
> so there is a minimum of pain.
>
> Since using register_pernet_subsys implies you need your own member
> in struct net. I am inclined to leave that with the GPL hint on
> the EXPORT as you need to be really tight with the system to use that.
>
I certainly don't want to have to muck with struct net unless you have
some way to

register anonymous (and non GPL) subsystems. I'm guessing you do not
want to
support that....

Thanks,
Ben

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