
Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/4]: Enable multiple mounts of /dev/pts
Posted by [Pavel Emelianov](#) on Thu, 07 Feb 2008 09:43:36 GMT
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Serge E. Hallyn wrote:

> Quoting Pavel Emelianov (xemul@openvz.org):

>> [snip]

>>

>>>> Mmm. I wanted to send one small objection to Cedric's patches with mqns,

>>>> but the thread was abandoned by the time I decided to do-it-right-now.

>>>>

>>>> So I can put it here: forcing the CLONE_NEWNS is not very good, since

>>>> this makes impossible to push a bind mount inside a new namespace, which

>>>> may operate in some chroot environment. But this ability is heavily

>>> Which direction do you want to go? I'm wondering whether mounts

>>> propagation can address it.

>> Hardly. AFAIS there's no way to let the chroot-ed tasks see parts of

>> vfs tree, that left behind them after chroot, unless they are in the

>> same mntns as you, and you bind mount this parts to their tree. No?

>

> Well no, but I suspect I'm just not understanding what you want to do.

> But if the chroot is under /jail1, and you've done, say,

>

> mkdir -p /share/pts

> mkdir -p /jail1/share

> mount --bind /share /share

> mount --make-shared /share

> mount --bind /share /jail1/share

> mount --make-slave /jail1/share

>

> before the chroot-ed tasks were cloned with CLONE_NEWNS, then when you

> do

>

> mount --bind /dev/pts /share/pts

>

> from the parent mntns (not that I know why you'd want to do *that* :)

> then the chroot'ed tasks will see the original mntns's /dev/pts under

> /jail1/share.

I haven't yet tried that, but :(this function

```
static inline int check_mnt(struct vfsmount *mnt)
{
    return mnt->mnt_ns == current->nsproxy->mnt_ns;
}
```

and this code in do_loopback

```
if (!check_mnt(nd->mnt) || !check_mnt(old_nd.mnt))
    goto out;
```

makes me think that trying to bind a mount from another mntns
ot _to_ another is prohibited... Do I miss something?

```
>>> Though really, I think you're right - we shouldn't break the kernel
>>> doing CLONE_NEWMQ or CLONE_NEWPTS without CLONE_NEWNS, so we shouldn't
>>> force the combination.
```

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>>>
```

```
>>>> exploited in OpenVZ, so if we can somehow avoid forcing the NEWNS flag
>>>> that would be very very good :) See my next comment about this issue.
```

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>>>>
```

```
>>>>> Pavel, not long ago you said you were starting to look at tty and pty
>>>>> stuff - did you have any different ideas on devpts virtualization, or
>>>>> are you ok with this minus your comments thus far?
```

```
>>>> I have a similar idea of how to implement this, but I didn't thought
>>>> about the details. As far as this issue is concerned, I see no reasons
>>>> why we need a kern_mount-ed devtpts instance. If we don't make such,
>>>> we may safely hold the ptsns from the superblock and be happy. The
>>>> same seems applicable to the mqns, no?
```

```
>>> But the current->nsproxy->devpts->mnt is used in several functions in
>>> patch 3.
```

```
>> Indeed. I overlooked this. Then we're in a deep ... problem here.
```

```
>>
```

```
>> Breaking this circle was not that easy with pid namespaces, so
>> I put the strut in proc_flush_task - when the last task from the
>> namespace exits the kern-mount-ed vsmnt is dropped, but we can't
>> do the same stuff with devpts.
```

```
>
```

```
> But I still don't see what the problem is with my proposal? So long as
> you agree that if there are no tasks remaining in the devptsns,
> then any task which has its devpts mounted should see an empty directory
> (due to sb->s_info being NULL), I think it works.
```

Well, if we _do_ can handle the races with ns->devpts_mnt switch
from not NULL to NULL, then I'm fine with this approach.

I just remember, that with pid namespaces this caused a complicated
locking and performance degradation. This is the problem I couldn't
remember yesterday.

```
>> I do not remember now what the problem was and it's already quite
>> late in Moscow, so if you don't mind I'll revisit the issue tomorrow.
```

```
>
```

```
> Ok, that's fine. I'll let it sit until then too :) Good night.
```

```
>
```

```
>> Off-topic: does any of you know whether Andrew is willing to accept
```

>> new features in the nearest future? The problem is that I have a
>> device visibility controller fixed and pending to send, but I can't
>> guess a good time for it :)
>
> Well even if Andrew won't take it I'd like to see it, so I'd appreciate
> a resend.
>
>>>> The reason I have the kern_mount-ed instance of proc for pid namespaces
>>>> is that I need a vfstmount to flush task entries from, but allowing
>>>> it to be NULL (i.e. no kern_mount, but optional user mounts) means
>>>> handing all the possible races, which is too heavy. But do we actually
>>>> need the vfstmount for devpts and mqns if no user-space mounts exist?
>>>>
>>>> Besides, I planned to include legacy ptys virtualization and console
>>>> virtualizatin in this namespace, but it seems, that it is not present
>>>> in this particular one.
>>> I had been thinking the consoles would have their own ns, since there's
>>> really nothing linking them, but there really is no good reason why
>>> userspace should ever want them separate. So I'm fine with combining
>>> them.
>> OK.
>

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