
Subject: Multiple instances of devpts

Posted by [hpa](#) on Sat, 12 Apr 2008 18:54:59 GMT

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Al Viro wrote:

>
> *boggle*
>
> Care to explain how that "namespace" is different from devpts instance?
> IOW, why the devil do you guys ignore Occam's Razor?
>
> Frankly, this nonsense has gone far enough; I can buy the need to compensate
> for shitty APIs (sockets, non-fs-based-IPC, etc.), but devpts *is* *a*
> *fucking* *filesystem*. Already. And as such it's already present in
> normal, real, we-really-shouldn't-have-any-other-if-not-for-ancient-stupidity
> namespace.
>
> Why not simply allow independent instances of devpts and be done with that?

In particular:

/dev/ptmx can be a symlink ptmx -> pts/ptmx, and we add a ptmx instance inside the devpts filesystem. Each devpts filesystem is responsible for its own pool of ptys, with own numbering, etc.

This does mean that entries in /dev/pts are more than just plain device nodes, which they are now (you can cp -a a device node from /dev/pts into another filesystem and it will still "just work"), but I doubt this actually matters to anyone. If anyone cares, now I guess would be a good time to speak up.

-hpa

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