
Subject: Re: Multiple instances of devpts
Posted by [hpa](#) on Sat, 12 Apr 2008 19:24:32 GMT
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

>>
>> /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.
>
> Agreed. That is another legitimate path. And if all you care about is
> isolation and not dealing with the general class of problems with the
> global device number to device mapping that is sane. I know we have
> several other virtual devices that we tend to care about but ptys are
> the real world pain point.
>

Thinking about it further, allowing this restriction would also allow a whole lot of cleanups inside the pty setup, since it would eliminate the need to do a separate lookup to find the corresponding devpts entry in pty_open(). The benefit here comes from the closer coupling between the pty and the devpts filesystem and isn't at all related to namespaces, but it's a very nice side benefit.

-hpa

Containers mailing list
Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org
<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>
