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Subject: Re: [PATCH] net: Add etun driver  
Posted by [Ben Greear](#) on Sat, 07 Apr 2007 07:31:01 GMT  
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Ben Greear <[greearb@candelatech.com](mailto:greearb@candelatech.com)> writes:

>

>

>> I guess that will do, but then if you ever change the strings, any user-space

>> that is

>> depending on this will break or have to be modified with additional cruft. It

>> seems

>> cleaner to me to have an ioctl or a specific place in /proc or some other

>> virtual

>> fs, but I can deal with it either way...

>>

>

> True if the name of the driver changes from etun there is an issue.

>

So, how about a sysfs field for this too, something like 'is-etun' or  
whatever...

Or, IOCTL works fine too, of course.

>

>>>> Also, how do you find the peer device from user-space? This would be very

>>>> useful

>>>> for anyone trying to manage these devices with a user-space program.

>>>>

>>>>

>>> Currently "ethtool -S <interface>"

>>> And read the partner\_ifindex.

>>>

>>>

>> Ok, that will work. Again, my personal preference is for a single specific

>> ioctl or proc'ish file

>> to read the specific value instead of having to parse strings, but this will do.

>>

>

> Hmm. I guess there is string parsing to identify the index.

>

> I guess a sysfs device attribute would work as well.

>

Yes, that would be much appreciated.

>

>>> Further whoever generates the pair specifies the initial set of names.

>>>

>>>

>> Yeah, but you can't depend on knowing that in an interesting environment.

>>

>  
> Frankly. In an interesting environment I haven't been able to think of a  
> way to successfully say anything about the partner device.  
>  
> The problem is that all identifiers are namespace local so the remote side  
> is not in the current namespace the ifindex or the device name mean nothing.  
>  
> In that case the only remotely usable value I can return is the mac address  
> of the other side.  
>  
Couldn't you also show the peer's name-space id in that case?

MAC could be duplicated, so that's not a very good key.

Thanks,  
Ben

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