
Subject: Re: [-mm PATCH] Memory controller improve user interface

Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 29 Aug 2007 22:27:07 GMT

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Dave Hansen wrote:

> On Thu, 2007-08-30 at 03:34 +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:

>> I've thought about this before. The problem is that a user could
>> set his limit to 10000 bytes, but would then see the usage and
>> limit round to the closest page boundary. This can be confusing
>> to a user.

>

> True, but we're lying if we allow a user to set their limit there,
> because we can't actually enforce a limit at 8,192 bytes vs 10,000.
> They're the same limit as far as the kernel is concerned.

>

> Why not just -EINVAL if the value isn't page-aligned? There are plenty
> of interfaces in the kernel that require userspace to know the page
> size, so this shouldn't be too difficult.

True, mmap() is a good example of such an interface for developers, I
am not sure about system admins though.

To quote Andrew

<quote>

Reporting tools could run getpagesize() and do the arithmetic, but we
generally try to avoid exposing PAGE_SIZE, HZ, etc to userspace in this
manner.

</quote>

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Warm Regards,
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