

Re: [RFC][PATCH] Way for platforms to alter built-in serial ports

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Kernel/2004-10/0372.html>

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Date: 10/02/04

To: Bjorn Helgaas <bjorn.helgaas@hp.com>

Date: Sat, 02 Oct 2004 16:45:50 +1000

On Sat, 2004-10-02 at 00:58, Bjorn Helgaas wrote:

- > *My main point is that I think the early init stuff (i.e.,*
- > *serial8250_isa_init_ports()) should go away, so we don't have the*
- > *dichotomy of having the compiled-in stuff handled differently than*
- > *the run-time enumerated stuff.*

Right. But that's a long term goal ;)

- > *It really doesn't matter for ia64, since we discover all the ports*
- > *via either PCI enumeration or ACPI. We don't put anything in*
- > *old_serial_port[] at all. For platforms that can't do that,*
- > *there'd still have to be compiled-in tables, but the entries*
- > *should be added using the standard register_serial() interface*
- > *just like everything else.*

I discover everything at boot time via Open Firmware, though on ppc32, embedded platforms have gazillion different ways of getting to them.

- >> *In the meantime, that patch would fix urgent problems for ppc now so*
- >> *I'd appreciate if Russell would consider it for inclusion asap. This*
- >> *is the kind of subject on which everybody comes up with a different*
- >> *"better" way to do it and no code, and nothign ever gets implemented*
- >> *and we end up with no progress...*
- >
- > *We've both posted working code that are at least baby steps toward*
- > *a better solution, so I hope we can make some progress.*

Yes. Well, I suppose having a 8250_ppc{64}.c where I do the discovery a bit like it's done with ACPI would be ok for everything but serial console... I can do an OF plaform device that gets probed a bit late though, and that wouldn't help for embedded stuffs, but then, those people can always still use the hard coded table for a while ... :)

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That would mean though having the kernel serial console for early boot be separate from the 8250 driver... like you proposed. That would work too... I have to ponder this approach, indeed probably better than my patch provided you get your early uart stuff upstream :)

Ben.

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