

# Re: [PATCH] vlan & net drivers: avoid a 4-order allocation

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Kernel/2007-02/msg10260.html>

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- *From:* Stephen Hemminger <[shemminger@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:shemminger@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 28 Feb 2007 14:20:13 -0800
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On Wed, 28 Feb 2007 14:41:57 +0200  
Dan Aloni <[da-x@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:da-x@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Hello,

This patch splits the `vlan_group` struct into a multi-allocated struct. On `x86_64`, the size of the original struct is a little more than 32KB, causing a 4-order allocation, which is prone to problems caused by buddy-system external fragmentation conditions.

I couldn't just use `vmalloc()` because `vfree()` cannot be called in the softirq context of the RCU callback.

Signed-off-by: Dan Aloni <[da-x@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:da-x@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>

Please submit patch to proper place: [netdev@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:netdev@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
and Ben Greear <[greearb@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:greearb@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>

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Stephen Hemminger <[shemminger@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:shemminger@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>

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