

Re: [PATCH] 9p: create separate 9p client interface

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- *From:* "Latchesar Ionkov" <lucho@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 30 Apr 2007 11:00:20 -0600
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Hi,

On 4/30/07, Christoph Hellwig <hch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Mon, Apr 30, 2007 at 09:32:41AM -0600, Latchesar Ionkov wrote:
> Create a separate 9P client interface that can be used outside the VFS
> layer. In addition to VFS, the new interface can be used to export the
> authentication channel or from other interfaces.

And what exact users would that be? We have a huge dislike for putting abstractions in just for the abstractions sake, so if you want this merged you'd better present a highly useful client to that interface.

In the current implementation the 9p VFS layer uses directly the low-level 9p messages. It intermixes the logic required by VFS with managing some data structures (v9fs_fid for example) that belong to 9P. This makes the VFS code harder to understand and modify. Separating the low-level 9p interface makes the VFS operations shorter and easier to understand.

Another scenario that we need separate interface for is exporting the authentication channels to user space so more than one user can be authenticated. The work on finishing the authentication will take some more time, but there are other changes that Eric is working on and that will also benefit from this change.

The interface that this patch creates is internal to 9p and involves mainly moving code from the v9fs_* files to a separate file. fs/9p is less than 50 LOC bigger than the previous version.

Also the non-filesystem interface code shouldn't live in fs/ but rather in net/9p/

That makes sense, thanks. I can split the code and put the low-level transport/multiplexer/9pclient(and eventually Eric can add his 9pserver) in a net/9p directory.

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Thanks,
Lucho

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