Linux Plumbers Conference 2024



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fw_devlink: Device dependency tracking: Status, TODOs and how to leverage it

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Device links have been around for a while now, but not used extensively/effectively until fw_devlink was implemented and improved over the last few years. fw_devlink is finally in a fairly stable state where it can correctly handle cyclic dependencies and also break the cycle.

With all the additional device dependency tracking info that's available in the kernel, the community can improve how we handle boot up, suspend/resume, device/driver deregistration and system shutdown, etc.

This talk intends to catch the community up on the current status so we:

- Can start fully leveraging what works well (Eg: not having to worry about initcall levels, parallel module loading, better deferred probing).
- Avoid re-debugging what's known to be broken (TODOs)
- Where they can help with patches
- · How framework maintainers can leverage the new capabilities
- How boards/systems can take advantage of the different kernel commandline options and sysfs interface.

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