QNX® Momentics® PE DDK

Network Devices

For targets running QNX® Neutrino® 6.3.0

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About the Network DDK
What you’ll find in this guide

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You must use this DDK with QNX Neutrino 6.3.0 or later.

Building DDKs

You can compile the DDK from the IDE or the command line.

- To compile the DDK from the IDE:

  Please refer to the Managing Source Code chapter, and “QNX Source Package” in the Common Wizards Reference chapter of the IDE User’s Guide.

- To compile the DDK from the command line:

  Please refer to the release notes or the installation notes for information on the location of the DDK archives.

  DDKs are simple zipped archives, with no special requirements. You must manually expand their directory structure from the archive. You can install them into whichever directory you choose, assuming you have write permissions for the chosen directory.

  Historically, DDKs were placed in /usr/src/ddk_VERSION directory, e.g. /usr/src/ddk-6.2.1. This method is no longer required, as each DDK archive is completely self-contained.

  The following example indicates how you create a directory and unzip the archive file:

  ```
  # cd ~
  # mkdir my_DDK
  # cd my_DDK
  # unzip /path_to_ddks/ddk-device_type.zip
  ```

  The top-level directory structure for the DDK looks like this:
You must run:

```
./setenv.sh
```
before running `make`, or `make install`.

Additionally, on Windows hosts you’ll need to run the `Bash` shell (`bash.exe`) before you run the `./setenv.sh` command.

If you fail to run the `./setenv.sh` shell script prior to building the DDK, you can overwrite existing binaries or libs that are installed in `QNX_TARGET`.

Each time you start a new shell, run the `./setenv.sh` command. The shell needs to be initialized before you can compile the archive.

The script will be located in the same directory where you unzipped the archive file. It must be run in such a way that it modifies the current shell’s environment, not a sub-shell environment.

In `ksh` and `bash` shells, All shell scripts are executed in a sub-shell by default. Therefore, it’s important that you use the syntax

```
. <script>
```
which will prevent a sub-shell from being used.

Each DDK is rooted in whatever directory you copy it to. If you type `make` within this directory, you’ll generate all of the buildable entities within that DDK no matter where you move the directory.

All binaries are placed in a scratch area within the DDK directory that mimics the layout of a target system.

When you build a DDK, everything it needs, aside from standard system headers, is pulled in from within its own directory. Nothing that’s built is installed outside of the DDK’s directory. The makefiles shipped with the DDKs copy the contents of the `prebuilt` directory into the `install` directory. The binaries are built from the source using include files and link libraries in the `install` directory.

**Typographical conventions**

Throughout this manual, we use certain typographical conventions to distinguish technical terms. In general, the conventions we use conform to those found in IEEE POSIX publications. The following table summarizes our conventions:

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We use an arrow (\(\rightarrow\)) in directions for accessing menu items, like this:

You’ll find the **Other...** menu item under **Perspective\(\rightarrow\)** **Show View.**
We use notes, cautions, and warnings to highlight important messages:

---

**Notes** point out something important or useful.

---

**CAUTION:** Cautions tell you about commands or procedures that may have unwanted or undesirable side effects.

---

**WARNING:** Warnings tell you about commands or procedures that could be dangerous to your files, your hardware, or even yourself.

---

**Note to Windows users**

In our documentation, we use a forward slash (/) as a delimiter in all pathnames, including those pointing to Windows files.

We also generally follow POSIX/UNIX filesystem conventions.

**Technical support**

To obtain technical support for any QNX product, visit the Support + Services area on our website ([www.qnx.com](http://www.qnx.com)). You’ll find a wide range of support options, including community forums.
Chapter 1

Introduction to the Network Subsystem

In this chapter...

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Overview of io-net and the networking subsystem

The QNX Neutrino network subsystem consists of a process called **io-net** that loads a number of shared objects. These shared objects typically consist of a protocol stack (such as `npm-tcpip.so`), a network driver, and other optional components such as filters and converters. These shared objects are arranged in a hierarchy, with the end user on the top, and hardware on the bottom.

*The io-net component can load one or more protocol interfaces and drivers.*

This document focuses on writing new network drivers, although most of the information applies to writing any module for **io-net**.

As indicated in the diagram, the shared objects that **io-net** loads don’t communicate directly. Instead, each shared object registers a number of functions that **io-net** calls, and **io-net** provides functions that the shared object calls.

Each shared object provides one or more of the following types of service:

- **Up producer**: Produces data for a higher level (e.g. an Ethernet driver provides data from the network card to a TCP/IP stack).
Down producer Produces data for a lower level (e.g. the TCP/IP stack produces data for an Ethernet driver).

Up filter A filter that sits between an up producer and the bottom end of a converter (e.g. a protocol sniffer).

Down filter A filter that sits between a down producer and the top end of a converter (e.g. Network Address Translation, or NAT).

Converter Converts data from one format to another (e.g. between IP and Ethernet)

Note that these terms are relative to io-net and don’t encompass any non-io-net interactions.

For example, a network card driver (while forming an integral part of the communications flow) is viewed only as an up producer as far as io-net is concerned — it doesn’t produce anything that io-net interacts with in the downward direction, even though it actually transmits the data originated by an upper module to the hardware.

A producer can be an up producer, a down producer, or both. For example, the TCP/IP module produces both types (up and down) of packets.

When a module is an up producer, it may pass packets on to modules above it. Whether a packet originated at an up producer, or that producer received the packet from another up producer below it, from the next recipient’s point of view, the packet came from the up producer directly below it.

Connecting modules

Only an up or down producer can connect with converters. A converter can’t connect directly to another converter.

For example, in a PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol) over Ethernet implementation, we already have an IP producer (the stack) and an IP-PPP converter (the npm-pppmgr.so module). A PPP-EN converter is needed to convert a PPP frame into an Ethernet frame. However, since two converters can’t be directly connected to each other, a PPP producer is needed to bridge converters.

The npm-pppoe.so module registers with io-net twice: once as a PPP producer, and a second time as a PPP-EN converter. This PPP producer serves as a “dummy” module and serves only to pass packets. This way the packets can go from IP producer (npm-tcpip.so) to EN producer (devn-xxx.so)

This complete sequence of events is as follows: the packets run a chain from an IP producer (npm-tcpip.so) to an IP-PPP converter (the npm-pppmgr.so module) to the dummy PPP producer (npm-pppoe.so) to the PPP-EN converter (npm-pppoe.so) to an EN producer (devn-xxx.so), to the Internet.
Threading

The io-net module exists in a multi-thread environment which does not create any threads when loading a module unless a module using pthread_create() creates threads on its own.

If a module is using pthread_create(), the thread is an execution entity when the second thread in io-net tries to send an IP packet through the Point-to-Point over Ethernet (PPPoE) interface. The thread will call io-net’s tx_down() function, which calls into npm-pppmgr.so’s rx_down() function. After this function converts an IP packet to a PPP frame, it calls io-net’s tx_down(), then that function calls into rx_down() of the dummy PPP producer in npm-pppoes.so.

From the perspective of the functionality of a module, the module is exposed to all io-net function calls, which could allow two functions to access the same data structures. It’s important that the module is protected using a mutex or another synchronous object.

When calling the initialize function on a module, io-net passed in a dispatch handler (dpp). This dispatcher handles all the path names io-net created (/dev/io-net/*). There is a thread pool associated with this function. The maximum number of threads in the thread pool is controlled by the -t option of io-net. As the thread pool is created and destroyed dynamically, it’s common for pidin -p io-net to have noncontinuous thread IDs.

A module can create its own path name with the dpp, and have its private resource manager. For example, the npm-pppmgr.so module can attach a /dev/socket/pppmgr call which gives out statistics while being queried.

Starting io-net

When you start io-net from the command line, you tell it which drivers and protocols to load:

$ io-net -dev1900 verbose -pttcpip if=en0:11.2 &

This causes io-net to load the devn-el900.so Ethernet driver and the tiny TCP/IP protocol stack. The verbose and if=en0:11.2 options are suboptions that are passed to the individual components.

Alternatively, you can use the mount and umount commands to start and stop modules dynamically. The previous example could be rewritten as:

$ io-net &
$ mount -Tio-net -overbose devn-el900.so
$ mount -Tio-net -oif=en0:11.2 npm-ttcpip.so
Regardless of the way that you’ve started it, here’s the “big picture” that results:

![Diagram of io-net hierarchy]

In the diagram above, we’ve shown io-net as the “largest” entity. This was done simply to indicate that io-net is responsible for loading all the other modules (as shared objects), and that it’s the one that “controls” the operation of the entire protocol stack.

Let’s look at the hierarchy, from top to bottom:

**TCP/IP stack**
This is at the top of the hierarchy, as it presents a user-accessible interface. A user typically uses the socket library function calls to access the exposed functionality. (The mechanism used by the TCP/IP stack to present its interface isn’t defined by io-net — it’s a private interface that io-net has no knowledge of or control over.)

**IP-EN converter**
In order to use the Ethernet interface, the TCP/IP stack needs the services of a converter module to add/remove the Ethernet header. As we’ll see, this isolation of hardware specifics from the down producer allows for easy addition of future hardware types. It also allows for the insertion of filter modules between the down producer and the converter, or between the converter and the up producer. In this case, the IP-EN converter basically provides ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) services.

**Ethernet driver**
At the lowest level, there’s an Ethernet driver that accepts Ethernet packets (generated by the IP module), and sends them out the hardware (and the reverse: it receives Ethernet packets from the hardware and gives them to the IP module).

As far as Neutrino’s namespace is concerned, the following entries exist:

/\texttt{dev/io-net}  
The main device created by \texttt{io-net} itself.
/dev/io-net/en_N

The Ethernet device corresponding to LAN N (where N is 0 in our example).

At this point, you could open() /dev/io-net/en0, for example, and perform devctl() operations on it — this is how the nicinfo command gets the Ethernet statistics from the driver.

Here’s another view of io-net, this time with two different protocols at the bottom:

As you can see, there are three levels in this hierarchy. At the topmost level, we have the TCP/IP stack. As described earlier, it’s considered to be a down producer (it doesn’t produce or pass on anything for modules above it.)

In reality, the stack probably registers as both an up and down producer. This is permitted by io-net to facilitate the stacking of protocols.

When the TCP/IP stack registered, it told io-net that it produces packets in the downward direction of type IP — there’s no other binding between the stack and its drivers. When a module registers, io-net assigns it a cell number, 2 in this case.

Joining the stack (down producer) to the drivers (up producers), we have two converter modules. Take the converter module labeled IP-EN as an example. When this module registered as type _REG_CONVERTOR, it told io-net that it takes packets of type IP on top and packets of type EN on the bottom.
Again, this is the only binding between the IP stack and its lower level drivers. The IP-EN portion, along with its Ethernet drivers, is called cell 0 and the IP-Z portion, along with its Z-protocol drivers is called cell 1 as far as io-net is concerned.

The purpose of the intermediate converters is twofold:

1. It allows for increased flexibility when adding future protocols or drivers (simply write a new converter module to connect the two).

2. It allows for filter modules to be inserted either above or below the converter.

Finally, on the bottom level of the hierarchy, we have two different Ethernet drivers and two different Z-protocol drivers. These are up producers from io-net’s perspective, because they generate data only in the upward direction. These drivers are responsible for the low-level hardware details. As with the other components mentioned above, these components advertise themselves to io-net indicating the name of the service that they're providing, and that’s what’s used by io-net to “hook” all the pieces together.

Since all seven pieces are independent shared objects that are loaded by io-net when it starts up (or later, via the mount command), it’s important to realize that the keys to the interconnection of all the pieces are:

- the module type
- the type of packet they produce or accept on the way up and down.

The life cycle of a packet

The next thing we need to look at is the life cycle of a packet — how data gets from the hardware to the end user, and back to the hardware.

The main data structure that holds all packet data is the npkt_t data type. (For more information about the data structures described in this section, see the Network DDK API chapter.) The npkt_t structure maintains a tail queue of buffers that contain the packet’s data.

A tail queue uses a pair of pointers, one to the head of the queue and the other to the tail. The elements are doubly linked; an arbitrary element can be removed without traversing the queue. New elements can be added before or after an existing element, or at the head or tail of the queue. The queue may be traversed only in the forward direction.

The buffers form a doubly-linked list, and are managed via the TAILQ macros from <sys/queue.h>:

- TAILQ_EMPTY()
- TAILQ_FIRST()
- TAILQ_INSERT_AFTER()
- TAILQ_INSERT_BEFORE()
The life cycle of a packet

- `TAILQ_INSERT_HEAD()`
- `TAILQ_INSERT_TAIL()`
- `TAILQ_LAST()`
- `TAILQ_NEXT()`
- `TAILQ_PREV()`
- `TAILQ_REMOVE()`

Buffer data is stored in a `net_buf_t` data type. This data type consists of a list of `net_iov_t` structures, each containing a virtual (or base) address, physical address, and length, that are used to indicate one or more buffers:

```
datastructures associated with a packet.

The `TAILQ` macros let you step through the list of elements. The following code snippet illustrates:

```c
net_buf_t *buf;
net_iov_t *iov;
int i;

// walk all buffers
for (buf = TAILQ_FIRST (&npkt -> buffers); buf;
    buf = TAILQ_NEXT (buf, ptrs)) {
    for (i = 0, iov = buf -> net_iov; i < buf ->
        niov; i++, iov++) {
        // buffer is : iov -> iov_base
        // length is : iov -> iov_len
        // physical addr is : iov -> iov_phys
    }
}
```
Going down

We’ll start with the downward direction (from the end user to the hardware). A message is sent from the end user (via the socket library), and arrives at the TCP/IP stack. The TCP/IP stack does whatever error checking and formatting it needs to do on the data. At some point, the TCP/IP stack sends a fully formed IP packet down io-net’s hierarchy. No provision is made for any link-level headers, as this is the job of the converter module.

Since the TCP/IP stack and the other modules aren’t bound to each other, it’s up to io-net to do the work of accepting the packet from the TCP/IP stack and giving it to the converter module. The TCP/IP stack informs io-net that it has a packet that should be sent to a lower level by calling the tx_down() function within io-net. The io-net manager looks at the various fields in the packet and the arguments passed to the function, and calls the rx_down() function in the IP-EN converter module.

The contents of the packet aren’t copied — since all these modules (e.g. the TCP/IP stack and the IP module) are loaded as shared objects into io-net’s address space, all that needs to be transferred between modules is pointers to the data (and not the data itself).

Once the packet arrives in the IP-EN converter module, a similar set of events occurs as described above: the IP-EN converter module converts the packet to an Ethernet packet, and sends it to the Ethernet module to be sent out to the hardware. Note that the IP-EN converter module needs to add data in front of the packet in order to encapsulate the IP packet within an Ethernet packet. Again, to avoid copying the packet data in order to insert the Ethernet encapsulation header in front of it, only the data pointers are moved. By inserting a net_buf_t at the start of the packet’s queue, the Ethernet header can be prepended to the data buffer without actually copying the IP portion of the packet that originated at the TCP/IP stack.

Going up

In the upward direction, a similar chain of events occurs:

- The Ethernet driver receives data from its hardware, and allocates one or more packets into which it places the data. (For efficiency, it may use memory-mapping tricks to cause the hardware to directly place the packet into a preallocated area.)

- The Ethernet driver then calls io-net’s tx_up() function, telling it that it has a packet that’s ready to be given to a higher level.

- The io-net manager figures out which module should get the packet and calls that module’s rx_up() function. In our example, this is the IP-EN converter module, as it now needs to look at the packet and get at just the IP portion (the packet arrived from the hardware with Ethernet encapsulation).
Note that in an upward-headed packet, data is *never* added to the packet as it travels up to the various modules, so the list of `net_buf_t` structures isn’t manipulated. For efficiency, the arguments to `io-net`’s `tx_up()` function (and correspondingly to a registered module’s `rx_up()` function) include `off` and `framelen_sub`. These are used to indicate how much of the data within the buffer is of interest to the level to which it’s being delivered.

For example, when an IP packet arrives over the Ethernet, there are 14 bytes of Ethernet header at the beginning of the buffer. This Ethernet header is of no interest to the IP module — it’s relevant only to the Ethernet and IP-EN converter modules. Therefore, the `off` argument is set to 14 to indicate to the next higher layer that it should ignore the first 14 bytes of the buffer. This saves the various levels in `io-net` from continually having to copy buffer data from one format to another.

The `framelen_sub` argument operates in a similar manner, except that it refers to the tail end of the buffer — it specifies how many bytes should be ignored at the end of the buffer, and is used with protocols that place a tail-end encapsulation on the data.

See `io-net` in the *Utilities Reference* for more details.

The purpose of the network driver is to detect and initialize one or more NIC (Network Interface Controller) devices, and allow for transmission and reception of data via the NIC. Additional tasks typically performed by a network driver include link monitoring and statistics gathering.
Driver initialization

The network driver is loaded by \textit{io-net}. This happens either when \textit{io-net} starts, or later in response to a “mount” request.

A network driver must contain a global structure called \texttt{io\_net\_dll\_entry}, of type \texttt{io\_net\_dll\_entry\_t}. The \textit{io-net} process finds this structure by calling \texttt{dlsym()}. This structure must contain a function pointer to the driver’s main initialization routine, which \textit{io-net} calls when the driver has been loaded. This function is responsible for parsing the option string that was passed to the driver (if any), and detecting any network interface hardware, in accordance with the supplied options. For each NIC device that the driver detects, it creates a software instance of the interface, by allocating the necessary structures, and registering the interface with \textit{io-net}. After it registers with \textit{io-net}, the driver advertises its capabilities to the other components within the networking subsystem.

By default, the driver should attempt to detect and instantiate every NIC in the system that the driver supports. However, the driver may be requested to instantiate a specific NIC interface, via one or more driver options.
Sometimes, certain options are mandatory. For example, in the case of a non-PCI device, the driver may not be able to automatically determine the interrupt number and base address of the device. Also, on many embedded systems, their driver may not be able to determine the station (MAC) address of the device. In this case, the MAC address needs to be passed to the driver via an option.

**Device detection**

After parsing the options, the driver knows how and where to look for NIC devices.

For a PCI device, the driver typically searches using `pci_attach_device()`. The driver searches based on the values specified via the `vid`, `did`, and `pci` options. If no options were specified, the driver will typically search based on a well-known internal list of PCI Vendor and Device IDs that correspond to the devices for which the driver was developed.

For non-PCI devices, the driver usually relies on a memory or I/O base address being specified in order to locate the NIC device. On certain systems, the driver may be able to find the device at well-known locations, without the need for the location to be specified via an option. The driver will then typically do some sanity checks to verify that an operational device indeed exists at the expected location.

**Device instantiation**

Once it’s been determined that a NIC device is present, the driver initializes and configures the interface. It’s always a good idea for the driver to reset the device before proceeding, since the device could be in an unknown state (e.g. in the case of a previous incarnation of io-net terminating prematurely without getting a chance to shut off the device properly).

Next, the driver typically allocates some structures in order to store information about the device state. The normal practice is to allocate a driver-specific structure, whose layout is known only to the network driver. The driver may pass a pointer to this structure to other networking subsystem functions. When calls are made into the driver’s entry points, the subsystem passes this pointer, so the driver always has access to any data associated with the device. It’s a good idea for the driver to store any configuration-related data in the `nic_config_t` structure so that the driver can take advantage of more of the functionality in `libdrvr`. The `nic_config_t` structure can be included in the driver-specific structure.

Also, if higher-level software queries the driver for configuration information, it will expect the information to be in the format defined by the `nic_config_t` structure, so it’s convenient to keep a copy of this structure around.

Avoid the use of global variables in your driver if possible. Referencing global variables is much slower than accessing data that resides in a structure that the system allocated (e.g. `calloc()`).
Network drivers generally use an interrupt handler to receive notification of events such as packet reception. We strongly recommended that network drivers use the \texttt{InterruptAttachEvent()} call instead of \texttt{InterruptAttach()} to handle interrupts. In an RTOS, we must keep the amount of time spent in an interrupt handler to an absolute minimum so as not to negatively impact the overall realtime determinism of the system. Therefore, the type of operations performed by network drivers, such as copying packet data or traversing linked lists or iterating ring buffers, should be performed at process time.

The driver normally creates a thread during initialization, to handle events (such as interrupt events, timer events etc.). Note that you need to be extra careful, since multiple threads could simultaneously call into your driver. In addition, the driver’s own event thread could be running, so it’s very important that all data and device entities are protected (e.g. using mutexes). Make sure you are familiar with multi-threaded programming concepts before attempting to write a network driver.

Once the device is initialized and is ready to be made operational, the driver registers the interface with \texttt{io-net}. See the \texttt{reg} field of the \texttt{io_net_self_t} structure for details on how to register with \texttt{io-net}. When the driver registers, it provides various information to \texttt{io-net}, to allow the networking subsystem to call into the driver’s various entry points.

After registering with \texttt{io-net}, the driver must advertise its capabilities to the networking subsystem. See the \texttt{dl_advert} field of the \texttt{io_net_registrant_funcs_t} structure for more details.

At this point, the device is ready to begin operation. The driver’s entry points may now be called at any time to perform various tasks such as packet transmission. The driver may also call back into the networking subsystem, for example, to deliver packets that have been received from the medium.
Chapter 2
Writing a Network Driver

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In this chapter, we look at the work that you must do to write a driver for your own network interface controller.

**The network driver interface**

This section describes the interface between a network driver and the rest of the networking subsystem.

**Driver initialization**

Once the driver is loaded, `io-net` looks for a global structure, which must be present in every network driver. The structure must be named `io_net_dll_entry`, and it must be of type `io_net_dll_entry_t`. The `io_net_dll_entry_t` structure is declared in `<sys/io-net.h>` and its members are as follows:

```c
int nfuncs;
int (*init)(void *dll_hdl, dispatch_t *dpp, io_net_self_t *ion, char *options);
int (*shutdown)(void *dll_hdl);
```

The `nfuncs` variable should be set to the number of function pointers in this structure, that the driver knows about. Set its initial value to 2.

The `init` function pointer should point to the primary network driver entry point. The `io-net` command will call this entry point once for every `-d` argument to `io-net`, and once for every subsequent attempt to load a network driver via the “mount” interface. Its arguments are as follows:

- `dll_hdl`
  This parameter will be needed when the driver wants to register an interface with `io-net`.

- `dpp`
  This parameter should be ignored.

- `ion`
  This points to an `io_net_self_t` structure. This structure contains function pointers that allow the driver to interact with the networking subsystem. The driver should always keep a copy of this pointer.

- `options`
  This points to an ASCII string, which, if non-NULL, should be parsed by the driver. See the Driver option definitions section for more details on driver options.

The `shutdown` function will be called before the driver is unloaded from memory. Note that before this happens, each active interface that was instantiated by the driver will have been individually shut down, so typically this function has nothing to do. However, it may be necessary to use this entry point to do additional cleanup, to ensure that any resources that we allocated during the lifetime of the driver, have been de-allocated. If the driver doesn’t need to use this entry point, it should set the `shutdown` field to NULL.
Option parsing

One of the parameters to the driver’s main initialization entry point is a pointer to a character string. This pointer may be NULL, or it may point to an ASCII string of driver options. The option string is in a form that is parseable by the `getsubopt()` function. Some of the options, by convention, have a standard meaning that is consistent across all network drivers. These options can be parsed by the `nic_parse_options()` function. A driver may also support other options which do not have a standardized meaning.

If the driver uses the `nic_parse_options()` function to do option parsing, the `nic_config_t` structure is used to store the results.

See the Driver option definitions section for definitions of the options that have a standardized meaning.

Calling back into the networking subsystem

The `io_net_self_t` structure, declared in `<sys/io-net.h>`, contains pointers to functions that allow the driver to interact with the networking framework. Each of the supported functions is described below in detail:

```c
int (*reg)(void *dll_hdl, io_net_registrant_t *registrant,
           int *reg_hdlp, uint16_t *cell, uint16_t *endpoint);
```

This function registers an interface with `io-net`. It should be called once for each NIC interface that the driver wishes to instantiate. This function must be called before any of the other functions in the `io_net_self_t` structure. Its arguments are as follows:

- `dll_hdl`
  
  Specifies the value that was passed into the primary driver entry point.

- `registrant`
  
  Points to a structure that contains information as to how the device should be instantiated, as well as a pointer to a table of additional driver entry points. The `io_net_registrant_t` structure is described here.

- `reg_hdlp`
  
  The driver should specify a pointer to an integer. A handle will be stored at this location, which will be used in subsequent calls to the networking subsystem.

- `cell`
  
  The driver should specify a pointer to a 16-bit variable. A value will be stored at this location, which the driver will later use when delivering received packets to the upper layers.

- `endpoint`
  
  This is actually the interface number (LAN number). The driver should specify a pointer to a 16-bit variable. A value will be stored at this location, which the driver
will later use when delivering received packets to the upper layers. Typically, io-net will decide how the LAN number is chosen, but it is possible for the driver to influence how the LAN number is chosen, as described in the \texttt{io_net_registrant_t} section.

\section*{Data packets}

There are two types of packets, data packets and message packets. A network driver typically deals only with data packets, with one exception. After a driver registers an interface with \texttt{io-net}, the driver will construct a message packet that encapsulates a structure of type \texttt{io_net_msg_dl_advert_t}, and send it upstream in order to advertise the interfaces capabilities to the other components within the networking subsystem.

A packet consists of an \texttt{npkt_t} structure, which has one or more data buffers associated with it. The \texttt{npkt_t} structure is defined in \texttt{<sys/io-net.h>}, if you’re using the new lightweight Qnet, a network driver developed with the QNX Neutrino 6.2 release could malfunction because the assignment of the bits in the \texttt{flags} field of the \texttt{npkt_t} structure has changed. See \_NPKT\_ORG\_MASK and \_NPKT\_SCRATCH\_MASK in \texttt{<sys/io-net.h>}, the driver can use the eight most significant bits while it’s processing a packet. The driver shouldn’t make assumptions about the state of these bits when it receives a packet from the upper layers.

The next four most significant bits are for the use of the originator of a packet. The driver can use these flags for packets being sent upstream. If a packet didn’t originate with the driver, the driver must not alter these flags.

If the driver wants to create a packet to send upstream, it should call \texttt{alloc\_up\_npkt()}. A data buffer is described by a structure of type \texttt{net\_buf\_t}, as defined in \texttt{<sys/io-net.h>}. The data in a buffer is comprised of one or more contiguous fragments. Each fragment is described by a \texttt{net\_iov\_t} structure (also defined in \texttt{<sys/io-net.h>}), which contains a pointer to the fragment’s data, the size of the fragment, and the physical address of the fragment.

The following fields of the \texttt{npkt_t} structure are of importance to the network driver:

- \texttt{buffers}
  Points to a queue of data buffers. The buffer queues can be manipulated and traversed by a set of macros defined in \texttt{<sys/queue.h>}. See below for examples of the kind of operations a driver would need to perform on buffer queues.

- \texttt{next}
  Used for chaining packets into a linked list. The last item in the list is set to NULL.

- \texttt{org\_data}
  For the sole use of the originator of the packet. The driver should only modify or interpret this field if the driver was the originator of the packet.
• **flags**
  The logical OR of zero or more of the following:

  - `_NPKT_NOT_TXED`
    If the driver couldn’t transmit a packet, for whatever reason, it
    should set this flag before calling `tx_done` to indicate that the
    packet is known to have been dropped.

  - `_NPKT_UP`
    Should be set for packets originating from the driver.

  - `_NPKT_MSG`
    Indicates that the packet does not contain data, but rather contains
    a message. A driver will set this flag when it is sending a
    capabilities advertisement message upstream. The upper 12 bits of
    the flags field are reserved for the driver’s own internal purposes.

• **framelen**
  The total size of the packet data, in bytes, including the Ethernet header.

• **tot iov**
  The total number of fragments which comprise the packet data.

• **csum_flags**
  Used for hardware checksum offloading. See the *Hardware checksum offloading*
  section for a full description of the hardware checksum offloading interface.

• **ref_cnt**
  For packets originating from the driver, this should be set to 1.

• **req_complete**
  For packets originating from the driver, this should be set to 0.

A queue of structures of type `net_buf_t` is used to describe the data fragments that
are associated with the packet. The members of this structure are as follows:

• **ptrs**
  Use by the queue manipulation macros to create queues of buffers.

• **niov**
  The number of data fragments associated with the buffer.

• **net iov**
  Points to an array of data fragment descriptors.

The members of the `net iov_t` structure are as follows:

• **iov base**
  Points to the data fragment.
- **iov_phys**
  The physical address of the data fragment.

- **iov_len**
  The size of the data fragment, in bytes.

In order to traverse all of the data fragments associated with a packet (e.g. when transmitting a packet), the driver should use the TAILQ_FIRST and TAILQ_NEXT macros. The following example shows how a driver could traverse an entire packet in order to copy the data into a contiguous buffer:

```c
#include <sys/io-net.h>

void
defrag(npkt_t *npkt, uint8_t *dst)
{
    net_iov_t *iov;
    net_buf_t *buf;
    int i;

    for (buf = TAILQ_FIRST(& npkt->buffers); buf != NULL;
         buf = TAILQ_NEXT(buf, ptrs)) {
        for (i = 0, iov = buf->net_iov; i < buf->niov; i++, iov++) {
            memcpy(dst, iov->iov_base, iov->iov_len);
            dst += iov->iov_len;
        }
    }
}
```

When constructing a packet to be sent upstream, the driver will need to associate one or more fragments of data with a packet. The following example shows how a driver could use the TAILQ_INSERT_HEAD macro to create a packet and associate a piece of contiguous data with the packet:

```c
#include <sys/io-net.h>

npkt_t *
make_packet(io_net_self_t *ion, uint8_t *data_ptr, int data_len)
{
    npkt_t *npkt;
    net_buf_t *nb;
    net_iov_t *iov;

    /*
     * Allocate the npkt_t structure, along with extra memory
     * to store the net_buf_t and the net_iov_t
     */
    if ((npkt = ion->alloc_up_npkt(sizeof(net_buf_t) +
                                   sizeof(net_iov_t), (void **)& nb)) == NULL)
        return NULL;

    /* Get a pointer to the net_iov_t, which follows the net_buf_t */
    iov = (net_iov_t *)(nb + 1);

    /* Associate a buffer with the packet */
    TAILQ_INSERT_HEAD(& npkt->buffers, nb, ptrs);

    nb->niov = 1;
    nb->net_iov = iov;
```
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The network driver interface

```c
ap->dl.sdl_len = sizeof (struct sockaddr_dl);
ap->dl.sdl_family = AF_LINK;
ap->dl.sdl_index = lan;
ap->dl.sdl_type = iftype;
ap->dl.sdl_nlen = strlen(ap->dl.sdl_data);
ap->dl.sdl_alen = 6;
memcpy(ap->dl.sdl_data + ap->dl.sdl_len, macaddr, 6);
npkt = make_packet(ion, (void *)ap, sizeof (*ap));
if (npkt == NULL)
    return -1;

npkt->flags |= _NPKT_MSG;

/*
 * At some point, the packet will be returned to the driver. We
 * set this driver-owned flag, so that we will be able to tell
 * later on that this is an advertise message, and that we
 * will not be able to use it to store an ethernet packet, since
 * it’s not big enough to store a full-sized ethernet packet.
 */
npkt->flags |= (1<<20);

npkt = ion->tx_up_start(reg_hdl, npkt, 0, 0, cell, lan, 0, dev_hdl);
if (npkt != NULL) {
    /* Nobody took the packet, discard it */
    free(npkt->org_data);
    ion->free(npkt);
    return -1;
}

return 0;
```

**The io_net_registrant_t structure**

This structure is passed to the `reg()` function when the driver registers an interface with `io-net`. This structure is defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`. More information about this structure can be found in the Network DDK API chapter.

**Driver entry points**

The `io_net_registrant_funcs_t` structure, which is referenced from the `io_net_registrant_t` structure, contains function pointers to all of the driver entry points. After registration, the networking framework may call into the driver through these function pointers.

**Interface statistics**

Drivers are expected to keep track of statistical information. Some statistics are mandatory, some are optional. Some statistics apply to certain types of devices only. For example, the statistics tracked for an 802.3 device are different from those tracked for an 802.11 wireless device.

The driver should initialize all counters to zero when the interface is instantiated.
Higher-level software may query the driver’s statistical counters by issuing the DCMD_IO_NET_GET_STATS devctl() function. Upon receipt of this devctl(), the driver will store the statistical information into a structure of type nic_stats_t. This structure is defined in <hw/nicinfo.h>.

**Packet reception filtering**

There are various devctl() functions that the driver can support in order to provide control over how packets are to be filtered upon reception. Packets are filtered based on the destination address in the Ethernet header. Most Ethernet devices have hardware that can be programmed to automatically accept or reject packets, based on this destination address. Destination addresses can be broken down into three categories:

- **broadcast addresses** — addresses that consists of the byte sequence ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff (all ones) as defined by the 802.3 specification.
- **multicast addresses** — addresses that have the least-significant bit of the first byte set to one.
- **unicast addresses** — all other addresses.

Network drivers should always receive broadcast packets and pass them upstream. Unicast packets that have the interface’s current MAC address as their destination address, should also be passed upstream.

When the device is in promiscuous mode, the driver should attempt to receive all packets seen on the medium, irrespective of their destination address, and pass them upstream. The interface can be put into promiscuous mode:

- if the “promiscuous” driver option was specified, during initialization.
- via a devctl() function. The DCMD_IO_NET_PROMISCUOUS devctl() function can also be used to take the interface out of promiscuous mode.

When not in promiscuous mode, the driver may be required to receive certain multicast packets. The driver is instructed as to how it should filter multicast packet reception via the DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST devctl() function.

It’s not considered an error if the driver passes packets upstream that it was not required to receive. The upper-layer software will filter out any unwanted packets.

You should avoid passing unrequired packets if possible, since it puts an additional load on the CPU.

This means that imperfect filters, which are usually implemented in hardware using a hashing algorithm, may be employed to perform multicast packet filtering. Note, however, that it’s considered an error if a packet is rejected due to address filtering when the driver was expected to receive it.

Where an Ethernet device can’t filter multicast addresses in hardware, the driver could put the device into promiscuous mode. This would mean that any packet transmitted
on the medium by any device would be received and potentially need to be filtered-out by software. This potentially could place a high burden on the CPU, but at least software that depended on the multicast functionality would be able to operate.

Some devices can be placed into a “promiscuous multicast” mode. This means that they receive all multicast packets, but receive unicast packets destined only for the station’s MAC address. You could use this method instead of full promiscuous mode to avoid receiving unicast packets unnecessarily.

Some types of embedded systems may not have any software running on the device that needs to receive multicast packets. However, the TCP/IP stack always enables a small number of multicast addresses by default. This would allow the scenario described in the previous paragraph to occur if the device didn’t have selective multicast filtering capabilities. The CPU would be burdened with unnecessary packet reception and software address filtering, even though no software on the system actually required packets with the enabled multicast addresses to be received.

To avoid this scenario, the “nomulticast” driver option tells the driver via the DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST devctl() function, that it can turn off reception of multicast packets, and to ignore any requests to enable multicast packet reception.

Multicast address filtering is controlled by the DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST devctl() function. A structure of type struct _io_net_msg_mcast, which is defined in <sys/io-net.h>, is passed to the driver, which contains information describing the required change in multicast address filtering. The fields are defined in the io_net_msg_mcast structure.

In certain cases a device may lose track of which multicast address ranges are enabled for reception. For example, if a device maintains its list of enabled addresses in the form of a list of individual addresses, the list could potentially overflow if too many addresses are enabled. At this point, the driver will need to put the device into promiscuous multicast mode (or, if that’s not possible, into full promiscuous mode).

If the list subsequently shrinks to the point where the device is once again able to hold the entire list, the device can be taken out of promiscuous mode. The driver will then need to reprogram the device with the most up-to-date list.

A driver can reference the entire list of enabled multicast address ranges at any time by issuing the _IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST devctl() function through the devctl() callback. This will cause the driver’s devctl() entry point to be called, at which point it can follow the “next” field of the _io_net_msg_mcast structure to traverse the entire list of enabled ranges.

CAUTION: Be careful, because when the driver calls the devctl() function, it could result in its devctl() entry point being re-entered, before the devctl() callback returns!
Hardware checksum offloading

Some devices support offloading of the computation of IP header, TCP, and UDP checksums from the CPU onto the hardware. Devices that support computation of these checksums in hardware are becoming increasingly more common.

Driver support for checksum offloading involves:

- advertising the device’s checksum offloading capabilities, if any
- enabling/disabling checksumming
- generating the checksum during transmission
- verifying the checksum upon packet reception, and reporting the result.

Advertising checksum capabilities

Advertising of the device’s checksum offloading capabilities is performed by setting flags in the capabilities_rx and capabilities_tx fields of the io_net_msg_dl_advert_t structure. Valid flags are defined in <net/if.h>.

Enabling/disabling checksums

Checksum offloading is enabled or disabled via the SIOCSIFCAP devctl(), defined in <sys/socket.h>. The driver’s devctl() handler is passed a pointer to a struct ifcapreq.

Receive flags for checksum verification

If the following flags are set for ifcr_capenable_rx, then the checksums can be verified for:

- IFCAP_CSUM_IPv4 — IP version 4 header checksums.
- IFCAP_CSUM_TCPv4 — TCP version 4 payload checksums.
- IFCAP_CSUM_UDPv4 — UDP version 4 payload checksums.
- IFCAP_CSUM_TCPv6 — TCP version 6 payload checksums.
- IFCAP_CSUM_UDPv6 — UDP version 6 payload checksums.

If a flag other than one of the above is set, the driver’s devctl() handler should return ENOTSUP to reject the request.

Transmit flags for checksum generation

If the following flags are set for ifcr_capenable_tx, then the checksums can be generated for:

- IFCAP_CSUM_IPv4 — IP version 4 header checksums.
Verifying checksums for received data

If offloading of checksum verification for received packets is enabled, the driver should set the `csum_flags` field of the `npkt_t` structure as appropriate before sending the packet upstream.

For received packets, the flags for the `csum_flags` field, described in `<sys/mbuf.h>`, are defined as:

- `M_CSUM_IPV4` — an IPv4 header is present, and the hardware has computed the header checksum.
- `M_CSUM_IPV4_BAD` — if set, the computed checksum for the IP header didn’t match the checksum in the IP header.
- `M_CSUM_TCPv4` — a packet contains a version 4 TCP payload, and the hardware has computed the payload checksum.
- `M_CSUM_UDPv4` — a packet contains a version 4 UDP payload, and the hardware has computed the payload checksum.
- `M_CSUM_TCPv6` — a packet contains a version 6 TCP payload, and the hardware has computed the payload checksum.
- `M_CSUM_UDPv6` — a packet contains a version 6 UDP payload, and the hardware has computed the payload checksum.
- `M_CSUM_TCP_UDP_BAD` — if set, the computed checksum for the payload didn’t match the checksum in the TCP or UDP header.

Generating checksums during transmission

If offloading of checksum generation upon packet transmission is enabled, the driver should ensure that a checksum is generated in accordance with the information supplied in the `csum_flags` field of the `npkt_t` structure. Upon packet transmission, flags for the `csum_flags` field, described in `<sys/mbuf.h>`, are defined as follows:

- `M_CSUM_IPV4` — the hardware must compute an IP version 4 header checksum, and insert the computed value into the checksum field of the packet’s IP header.
Driver option definitions

- **M_CSUM_TCPv4** — the hardware must compute a TCP version 4 payload checksum, and insert the computed value into the checksum field of the packet’s TCP header.

- **M_CSUM_UDPv4** — the hardware must compute a UDP version 4 payload checksum, and insert the computed value into the checksum field of the packet’s UDP header.

- **M_CSUM_TCPv6** — the hardware must compute a TCP version 6 payload checksum, and insert the computed value into the checksum field of the packet’s TCP header.

- **M_CSUM_UDPv6** — the hardware must compute a UDP version 6 payload checksum, and insert the computed value into the checksum field of the packet’s UDP header.

The **nic_config_t** structure

There are two main purposes for the **nic_config_t** structure:

- to provide device configuration information to higher-level software, via the DCMD _IO_NET_GET_CONFIG devctl()

- to store information that’s obtained by parsing the driver option string. Since the driver generally needs to be able to readily access its configuration information, a driver typically includes a **nic_config_t** structure as part of its internal state structure.

The **nic_config_t** structure is defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`.

The **nic_wifi_dcmd_t** structure

When the driver receives a DCMD _IO_NET_WIFI devctl(), it’s passed a pointer to a structure of **nic_wifi_dcmd_t**. This devctl either gets or sets various WiFi-specific parameters.

Driver option definitions

Options are passed to the driver as an ASCII string that is parseable using the `getsubopt()` function. The standardized options are defined here (note that unless otherwise specified, each option takes a parameter):

**ioport**

Specifies the base address of a range of registers in I/O space. A device may have more than one range of I/O mapped registers. In this case, multiple ranges may be specified, but the order in which the ranges must be specified is defined on a per-driver basis. For certain types of devices (e.g. PCI devices), the driver may be able to automatically determine the I/O base(s). If this is the case, I/O bases specified via this option take precedence.
Driver option definitions

**irq**
Specifies the number of the interrupt that the driver attaches to in order to receive interrupt events from the device. A driver may need to attach to more than one interrupt. If this is the case, multiple interrupt numbers may be specified, but the order in which the interrupts must be specified is defined on a per-driver basis. For certain types of devices (e.g., PCI devices), the driver may be able to automatically determine the interrupt numbers. When this occurs, interrupts specified via this option take precedence.

**dma**
Specifies the channel that the device uses for DMA transfers. A device may need to use more than one channel. If this is the case, multiple DMA channels may be specified, but the order in which they must be specified is defined on a per-driver basis.

**vid**
For PCI devices, this option limits the devices automatically detected to those having the specified PCI vendor ID.

**did**
For PCI devices, this option limits the devices automatically detected to those having the specified PCI device ID.

**pci**
For PCI devices, this option limits the devices automatically detected to those having the specified PCI index.

A PCI device is uniquely identified by its vendor ID, device ID, and PCI index. See `pci_attach_device()` for more details.

**mac**
Specifies the physical station address (MAC address) of the interface. If no MAC address is specified, the driver should attempt to read the station address from the hardware in a device-specific manner (if possible). If this isn’t possible, the driver should attempt to obtain the MAC address by calling `nic_get_syspage_mac()`. If this fails, the interface can’t be instantiated unless a MAC address is supplied via driver option.

It’s an error to specify a multicast address for a MAC address. That is, the first byte of the MAC address must not have the least-significant bit set. If an attempt is made to use a multicast address for the MAC address, TCP/IP will not work.

**lan**
Specifies the instance number to assign to the interface. By default, the interface instance numbers are assigned by `io-net`, starting at zero, in the order that the interfaces are registered. This option allows the default numbers to be overridden.

**mtu**
Specifies the maximum transmittable unit of the device. This limits the size of the packets that are sent to the driver for transmission. This value includes the 14-byte Ethernet header.

**mru**
Specifies the maximum receivable unit of the device. This indicates to the driver that it should attempt to receive from the media packets
that are no bigger than this value. This value includes the 14-byte Ethernet header. For devices with DMA capability, the driver may need to pre-allocate buffers of at least this size in order to store the packets as they’re transferred to memory.

### speed

Although the `speed` and `duplex` options are presented separately here, they are interrelated.

The speed option specifies the rate at which the device should operate, in megabits per second.

If the device supports link auto-negotiation, as per the IEEE 802.3 spec, the device may use auto-negotiation to determine the speed and duplex.

If neither the speed nor the duplex option is specified, the driver should use auto-negotiation to determine the speed and duplex, if possible.

When only the speed option is specified, it’s recommended that the driver use auto-negotiation to determine the duplex setting. The link speed can be forced to a specific value by limiting the capabilities identified during the auto-negotiation process.

If the speed option isn’t specified, the driver should default the link speed to a reasonable value.

### duplex

The duplex option specifies whether the device should operate in full-duplex or half-duplex mode. For duplex, a value of 0 specifies half-duplex operation; a value of 1 specifies full-duplex operation.

If the device supports link auto-negotiation, as per the IEEE 802.3 spec, the device may use auto-negotiation to determine the speed and duplex.

If neither the speed nor the duplex option is specified, the driver should use auto-negotiation to determine the speed and duplex, if possible.

If the duplex option is specified, the driver should disable auto-negotiation in all cases, and force the speed and duplex to specific values.

### media

Specifies the media that the NIC should operate with. This is a numeric value and should be one of the `nic_media_types` enumerated types.

### promiscuous

Specifies that when the interface is activated, it should be put into “promiscuous” mode. This means the device should receive all packets possible from the media, regardless of their destination address. This option doesn’t take a parameter.
**nomulticast**

Tells the driver that it can disable reception of all multicast packets, and ignore any requests to enable reception of multicast packets. This option doesn’t take a parameter.

**connector**

Specifies the connector type that the driver should activate. This is useful for devices that have multiple connectors, such as “Combo” Ethernet cards that have both BNC and RJ-45 connectors. This is a numeric value and should be one of the `nic_connector_types` enumerated types, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`.

**deviceindex**

This option applies to non-PCI devices. For PCI devices, the `vid`, `did`, and `pci` options are used instead. When a system has multiple network interfaces that the driver knows how to control, this option specifies which interface the driver should instantiate. If this option isn’t specified, the driver should instantiate all interfaces that are known to be present in the system.

**phy**

Specifies the address of the PHY device. An 802.3-compliant physical layer device (PHY) has a unique address that can be used to access its internal registers. A driver can detect the PHY by probing at all possible PHY addresses, but in some cases it’s necessary to tell the driver what the PHY address is (e.g. when there are multiple PHY’s connected).

**memrange**

Specifies the base (physical) address, and optionally the size, of a range of memory that the device uses. This memory typically contains memory-mapped device registers, or is used as a buffer to store packet data. A device may have more than one range of memory. If this is the case, multiple ranges may be specified, but the order in which the ranges must be specified is defined on a per-driver basis. For certain types of devices, e.g. PCI devices, the driver may be able to automatically determine the location and size of the memory ranges. Any memory ranges specified via this option will take precedence. To specify a size as well as a base address, the parameter is specified as a pair of numeric values separated by a colon.

**iorange**

Specifies the I/O base address, and optionally the size, of a range of I/O space that the device uses. This memory typically contains I/O-mapped device registers. A device may have more than one range of I/O space, and if so, multiple ranges may be specified, but the order in which the devices must be specified is defined on a per-driver basis. For certain types of devices, e.g. PCI devices, the driver may be able to automatically determine the location and size of the I/O ranges. Any I/O ranges specified via this option will take precedence. To specify a size as well as a base address, the parameter is specified as a pair of numeric values separated by a colon.
verbose

Used for debugging. Specifies the verbosity level of the driver’s debug output. This option can be specified without a parameter, in which case the verbosity level is set to 1.

iftype

Tells the driver what type of interface it should declare itself as when it advertises its capabilities to the networking subsystem. Ethernet drivers normally advertise themselves as being of type IFTEther. See `<net/if_types.h>` for a list of possible interface types.

uptype

Tells the driver what kind of interface it should register with io-net. It’s specified as a string value, and tells io-net what kind of filter to use to handle packets going to and from the driver. An Ethernet driver normally defaults to en.

priority

Specifies the priority of the driver’s event-handling thread. The recommended default is 21.

The driver utility library

A library of utility functions for network drivers is available. It’s provided as a static library, which is compiled so that it may be linked with shared objects. A driver may be linked with this library via the `-ldrvrS` option to the linker. If a driver is built within the Network DDK framework, it will automatically be linked with this library. A large portion of this library deals with handling MII management for 802.3-compliant Physical Layer (PHY) devices. This portion of the library is described separately from the rest of the library. Drivers that use the utility library should include the header file `<drvr/nicsupport.h>` to provide the necessary structures and function prototypes.

The MII management library

A utility library is provided for network device drivers which control 802.3-compliant Physical Layer (PHY) devices via the MII (Media Independent Interface) management interface.

Typically, a PHY device is located on a separate chip from the MAC device, although it’s getting increasingly common to have the PHY integrated into the same ASIC as the MAC device. Traffic data is transferred between the MAC and the PHY via the MII. The network device driver uses the MII management interface, which is a serial bus between the MAC and the PHY, to control the PHY. The MII management interface consists of a data and a clock line, and the MAC device acts as the master device during data transfers to and from the PHY.

Each PHY is assigned a unique address. The address is a 5-bit value that makes it possible to have up to 32 PHY devices on a particular MII management bus. Internally, each PHY has a register set. The driver uses control registers on the MAC device, in order to read from and write to these registers.
These registers make it possible to obtain status information from the PHY (e.g. link integrity, link speed, etc.) and to configure the PHY (e.g. to set the link speed, or to control the link auto-negotiation process with the link partner).

A variety of PHY devices from many different vendors exists on the market. When you write a device driver for a particular MAC device, you may need to support multiple PHY devices that could potentially operate with that MAC device. Since there’s a standard definition for the register layout of a PHY device, it’s possible to provide a generic library that should be able to control any fully compliant PHY.

In addition to containing code for controlling a compliant PHY device via the standard register set, the MII management library contains some code which is necessary to work around problems in certain PHYs.

Whenever you write a new network driver, you’ll need to worry only about the specifics of programming the MAC device; you can use the MII management library to take care of controlling the PHY.

**Overview of library usage**

In order to properly use the library, first the driver must call `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`, optionally specifying whether it wishes to receive link-monitor pulses. The driver supplies pointers to callback functions that the library uses to access the PHY registers. Typically, the driver calls:

1. `MDI_FindPhy()` — the `MDI_FindPhy()` function either searches for a PHY by iterating all the possible PHY addresses, or verifies that a PHY exists at the address where the driver expects to find one.

2. `MDI_InitPhy()` — the `MDI_InitPhy()` function is called for each PHY it wishes to control, so the driver can use the library to configure the PHY, and optionally initiate the link auto-negotiation process. If the driver enables the link monitor, it will receive pulses on a periodic basis.

3. `MDI_MonitorPhy()` — the `MDI_MonitorPhy()` function is called when the driver receives a link-monitor pulse. It uses the driver’s PHY access callbacks to determine the link state. If the driver detects a change to the link state, the library issues the notification callback that handles link-state changes. In this callback, the driver may need to reconfigure the MAC to deal with the link’s state change (for example, if the link went from full-duplex to half-duplex, the MAC would need to be set to operate at half-duplex). Also, the driver will need to record the link state, so that it can report the correct state information to the upper layers.

The MII management library interface contains the following functions:

- `MDI_AutoNegotiate()`
- `MDI_DeIsolatePhy()`
- `MDI_DeRegister()`
The following routines are also supported in the driver utility library:

- `MDI_DisableMonitor()`
- `MDI_EnableMonitor()`
- `MDI_FindPhy()`
- `MDI_GetActiveMedia()`
- `MDI_GetAdvert()`
- `MDI_GetLinkStatus()`
- `MDI_GetPartnerAdvert()`
- `MDI_InitPhy()`
- `MDI_IsolatePhy()`
- `MDI_MonitorPhy()`
- `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`
- `MDI_ResetPhy()`
- `MDI_SetAdvert()`
- `MDI_SetSpeedDuplex()`
- `MDI_SyncPhy()`

See the Network DDK API chapter for a detailed description of the functions.

**Other *libdrvr* functionality**

The following routines are also supported in the driver utility library:

- `drvr_mphys()`
- `nic_calc_crc_le()`
- `nic_calc_crc_be()`
- `nic_dump_config()`
- `nic_get_syspage_mac()`
- `nic_parse_options()`
- `nic_slogf()`
- `nic_strtomac()`

See the Network DDK API chapter for a detailed description of the functions.
Guidelines for designing a driver

This section discusses various aspects of driver design. The intent is to provide various guidelines to help you create portable, robust, high-performance drivers that don’t have a negative impact on other parts of the system. We’ll look at the issues of:

- cache coherency
- portability considerations
  - accessing I/O ports
  - endian issues
- performance tips
- interrupt handling.

Cache coherency

The concept of cache coherency is to make sure that the host CPU(s) and the network device have the same view of memory structures (i.e. data buffers and buffer descriptors) that both components can access. This is an issue only for devices that directly access system memory via bus-mastering or through a DMA channel. If the driver copies the data from a memory-mapped or I/O mapped register area into system RAM buffers, there is no coherency issue; since the CPU transferred the data, it knows what the contents of the data buffers should be.

You need to be aware of coherency only when all of the following conditions are true:

- The network device can directly access system memory.
- The CPU may cache some of the data that the device is able to directly access.
- The system doesn’t have a “smart cache” snooping mechanism.

A cache-snooping mechanism always exists on x86 systems that support caching. This means that when an external device modifies memory, the processor(s) “snoop” the memory cycle and perform the necessary operation with respect to the caches. For example, the processor can invalidate information in the cache when the device modifies data, or can flush data from the cache out to system memory when the device attempts to read it.

On an x86 system, the third condition (the system doesn’t have a “smart cache” snooping mechanism) is always false, and you don’t need to worry about cache coherency. Additionally, many higher-end non-x86 systems also have a smart cache. But, if the driver is targeted at non-x86 platforms, and potentially needs to work on any system that doesn’t have a smart cache (true for all supported ARM and SH4-based systems, most MIPS-based systems, and many PowerPC-based systems), then you need to be aware of cache coherency.

A simple, effective way to enforce cache coherency is to disable caching for all data structures that the device may directly access. However, this carries a severe
performance penalty, as operations performed on the non-cacheable data (such as checksum calculation and header parsing) can’t benefit from caching. Typically, allocating packet data buffers as uncacheable doubles the CPU-usage required to transfer data across the network. This can halve throughput on low-end systems.

The solution for supporting systems that don’t have a smart cache, while still using cacheable buffers, is to explicitly perform operations on the cache, within the driver. For example, if a data buffer is submitted to the device, to be filled with packet data from the network, any cached data associated with this buffer needs to be invalidated. Then, after the device has copied data into the buffer, the CPU can read the correct data from the buffer. Since any cached data for this buffer was previously invalidated, CPU accesses to the memory won’t retrieve stale data from the cache. The correct data is fetched from system memory instead.

When transmitting data, before the buffer is submitted to the device for transmission, the driver should make sure any data associated with the buffer is flushed out to system memory, so that when the device fetches the data, it gets the most current copy.

The way data in the cache is flushed or invalidated is CPU-dependent, and involves issuing processor-dependent assembly instructions. If a driver will run on a single type of processor family, the driver could just use inline assembly language macros to perform the necessary cache synchronization.

We’ve provided a platform-independent library to help with the task of maintaining portable drivers that need to deal with cache coherency. This library should be used when writing a portable driver. The library takes the correct action for the CPU it’s running on.

On x86 systems, these functions do nothing, whereas on an SH4 system, for example, they issue assembly instructions to manipulate the cache.

**Portability considerations**

Two factors that affect portability are:

- accessing I/O ports
- endian issues.

**Accessing I/O ports**

When you access I/O ports always use `mmap_device_io()` to map the I/O address, and use the mapped version of the address with the `in8()/out8()` etc. functions. If you attempt to use the I/O base without mapping it, your code will work only on x86 systems.

**Endian issues**

If you want your device to run on both little-endian and big-endian systems, you may find the macros in `<gulliver.h>` useful. For example, if you have a little-endian device that must work on both a little-endian and a big-endian system, you could use the `ENDIAN_LE32()` macro to access a 4-byte variable that the device stored in
memory. On a little-endian system, this macro won’t modify the value, since both the device and the host are little-endian.

On a big-endian system, the individual bytes within the variable are swapped, reversing their order. The value stored by the hardware is converted to big-endian before it’s used by the big-endian host CPU. Also, some hardware can automatically swap the bytes without the need for software to do it. In this case, the macro could swap the value back to little-endian again! Sometimes it may be necessary for you to create your own macros to handle endian conversions, and create independant binaries to support systems with different swapping behaviour, using conditional compilation.

With a little care, you can offset the performance penalty that endian-swapping imposes. You can use the \texttt{inle32()} \slash \texttt{outle32()} calls to read values from I/O ports. If you need to perform endian-swapping, these functions are the most efficient way to do this for the target processor. Also, whenever possible, write your code so that the swapping occurs at compile time instead of at runtime. For example, suppose “foo” is a pointer to a value that was stored in memory by the device, and you want to check bit 7 of this value. The following code would perform a data swap at runtime:

\begin{verbatim}
if (ENDIAN_LE32(*foo) & (1<<7)) {
    /* The bit is set */
}
\end{verbatim}

This code lets you achieve the same effect, but the swap occurs at compile time, since the swapping is being performed on a constant:

\begin{verbatim}
if (*foo & ENDIAN_LE32(1<<7)) {
    /* The bit is set */
}
\end{verbatim}

\section*{Performance tips for designing a driver}

The following issues can be addressed so that you can design a driver that performs better:

\begin{itemize}
  \item decoupling the packet transmission and reception
  \item transmit completion interrupts
  \item strategies for organizing data structures
  \item avoiding data copying.
\end{itemize}

\subsection*{Decoupling the packet transmission and reception}

For most newer network devices, the packet transmission logic and packet reception logic in the device operate independently. This means that the driver can effectively treat the device as two separate pieces of hardware. When you determine how to protect access to the hardware (e.g. using mutexes) it’s worth taking this into consideration.

Some devices don’t have decoupling of transmit and receive logic. For example, on some devices, the registers are accessible in banks, or windows: the driver must switch
Guidelines for designing a driver

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to the correct bank/window before it can access a particular register. In this case, it’s unsafe for more than one thread to program the device at any given time, since one thread could switch windows, and the other thread could switch the window to something else before the first thread completes the register access. For a device like this, the driver would typically employ a per-interface mutex, to ensure exclusive access to the hardware. Any thread running in the driver would need to make sure it has ownership of this mutex before touching the device’s registers.

If the receive and transmit logic is separated in the hardware, you can implement a more fine-grained locking policy. The objective is to reduce the number of threads that contend for a given locking primitive. This yields major performance gains on an SMP system.

Even a non-SMP system can be helped a great deal, since receiving and transmitting threads don’t need to preempt each other due to lock contention. The usual approach is to have the driver’s event-handling thread only ever access receive-related hardware, and the driver’s packet-transmission entry point only access the transmit-related hardware. Note that multiple threads can be executing in the driver’s transmit entry point concurrently!

The driver would create a mutex to protect transmit-related hardware and data structures. Since the driver has only one receive thread, it would need to acquire a mutex only if one of the driver’s entry points could potentially access a resource that relates to packet reception. For example, the driver’s tx_done entry point, which can be used to recycle packet buffers for packet reception, might access a linked list or similar structure that the driver’s packet reception handler might also access. In this case, another mutex would be used to protect the linked list.

It’s possible that the driver’s event-handling thread might want to perform some disruptive operation on the device, such as resetting the hardware to recover from an error. To prevent this from interfering with the operation of threads trying to transmit data, the event thread would simply lock the transmit mutex before resetting the device.

Transmit-completion interrupts

One fairly simple performance optimization is to implement the driver’s transmit logic so that it doesn’t generate transmit interrupts. On devices that use DMA to transmit chains of packets, e.g. by using a descriptor ring, it’s generally possible to operate without using transmit completion interrupts at all. This helps reduce the interrupt load and leads to better throughput.

Transmit-completion interrupts are designed to inform the driver that buffers that contained data for a pending transmit are no longer needed, and can be freed or re-used (the driver would typically call the tx_done callout, to return the packet to the originator). The driver doesn’t need to do buffer reclaim in an interrupt event handler; it can simply turn off transmit-completion interrupts, and reclaim the buffers the next time its transmit entry point is called. The only slight problem with this is that a burst of packets could be queued for transmission, after which nothing is sent to be transmitted for a long period of time. A bunch of packet buffers could be left
outstanding, without getting reclaimed. The driver could use a timer that fires periodically (every couple of seconds). When the timer fires, the driver’s event-handling thread receives a pulse and checks for outstanding transmits, then reclaims any outstanding buffers.

**Strategies for organizing data structures**

For optimal performance, make sure variables are naturally aligned, that is, 32-bit values should start on a 4-byte boundary, and 64-bit values should start on an 8-byte boundary. Use padding when necessary.

A driver typically creates a structure internally, one per interface, to keep track of various state information pertaining to the interface. If you organize the members in this structure carefully, you can achieve dramatic improvements in performance on SMP systems by minimizing data-access contention on a given cache line.

All you need to do is separate variables that are accessed during packet transmission from those that are accessed during packet reception. Also, some padding should be placed between the two sets of variables (about a cache line’s worth, typically 32 or 64 bytes) to ensure that the variable sets are stored on separate cache lines.

**Avoiding data copying**

For devices with DMA capability, the driver should avoid copying the data with the CPU, if at all possible, and instead use DMA to copy the data directly to/from the packet data buffers.

On receive, the driver typically sets up a list/ring of packet buffers, then the device or DMA engine fills the buffers as the data arrives from the network. Each time a full packet is received, the driver encapsulates the buffer with an `npkt_t` structure, and sends the packet upstream via the `tx_up_start` callback. The driver shouldn’t modify the buffer or the associated `npkt_t` structure until the packet is returned to the driver via the `tx_done` driver entrypoint.

The driver should allocate the receive data buffers with padding if necessary. This way, the buffers can be aligned to enable the hardware to use DMA to write to the buffers. When a buffer is sent upstream, the driver typically allocates another buffer to replace the one that was sent upstream. To avoid having to allocate buffers and their associated data structures in the receive event-handler, the driver could create a pre-allocated linked list of spare `npkt_t` structures. When packets are returned to the driver, the driver could put the packets onto the linked list, instead of freeing them, for re-use later. The driver would, however, want to put checks in place to prevent this list from growing too large, and using up too much memory.

Upon transmission, the driver must handle a packet that consists of multiple fragments. Multiple hardware-buffer descriptors are typically needed to submit a single packet to the hardware. Since these fragments could be of arbitrary alignment, the hardware must be able to address the data fragments with byte-aligned granularity for this to work. If, due to hardware restrictions, a packet can’t be directly DMA-ed to the device, the data fragments of the packet could be concatenated into a single,
aligned, contiguous buffer, before being sent to the hardware (obviously this incurs a performance penalty).

When data fragments are enqueued to the hardware to be transmitted, the driver must not modify or release the data buffers. Instead, it must use some device-dependent method to learn that the DMA transfer has completed (e.g. by calling the `tx_done` callback), before it releases the buffer.

## Handling interrupts

We recommend that network drivers not use “real” interrupt handlers (i.e. by calling `InterruptAttach()`), but use the `InterruptAttachEvent()` function instead. This way, all interrupt processing is done at process time, by a normal, preemptable thread. This means that the way the network interface operates won’t have a negative impact on the system’s realtime responsiveness.

Drivers that run on systems where interrupt lines may be shared with other devices (a common scenario on x86 systems) need to be handled a little more carefully. When the driver receives an event that indicates an interrupt was generated, it should consider that the interrupt event could have been triggered as a result of a different device generating an interrupt.

When the driver receives an interrupt event as a result of the `InterruptAttachEvent()` mechanism, the kernel masks the interrupt, so that no more events are generated until the driver receives the event and handles the interrupt condition. In order to receive subsequent interrupts, the driver must unmask the interrupt by calling `InterruptUnmask()`.

For interrupt-sharing to work well, the driver should call `InterruptUnmask()` as soon as possible after receiving the event so that the other device(s) sharing the interrupt won’t experience delayed interrupt-event delivery (which, in the case of devices such as audio devices could cause undesirable results). If the driver unmask the interrupt before clearing the source of the interrupt at the device level, spurious interrupt events will be delivered. To prevent this, the driver should first mask the interrupt at the device level, then call `InterruptUnmask()`, as soon as it receives the interrupt-notification event. Then other devices can receive interrupts on the same interrupt line, while the driver is processing events such as sending received packets upstream. Once the driver finishes processing events that can cause an interrupt, it can unmask the interrupt at the device level, before exiting its event-handling loop.
CAUTION: When an interface is being shut down, the driver should ensure that all interrupts coming from the device are masked at the device level. This is typically done in the driver’s `shutdown1()` entry point, since after `shutdown1()` has been called, the driver should no longer be sending received packets upstream, and therefore shouldn’t need to receive interrupt events.

If a device generates an interrupt after the driver has gone away, and the interrupt line is being shared by another device, this could lock up the entire system, since the interrupt being asserted by the device for which no driver is running will never get cleared! (The interrupt will be unmasked at the CPU level, since the second device has attached to the interrupt.)
This chapter includes reference pages for the following functions and data structures used in writing network drivers:

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<td>nic_wifi_dcmd_t</td>
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<td>nic_wifi_stats_t</td>
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<tr>
<td>npkt_t</td>
<td>Data structure for describing a packet</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Synopsis:**

```c
uint64_t drvr_mphys ( void *vaddr );
```

**Arguments:**

- **vaddr**
  A pointer to the virtual address of some memory that’s mapped into the process’s virtual address space.

**Description:**

The `drvr_mphys()` function returns the physical address of the data pointed to by the `vaddr` argument.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safety</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interrupt handler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signal handler</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thread</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Synopsis:

typedef struct _io_net_dll_entry {
    int nfuncs;
    int (*init) (void *dll_hdl,
                dispatch_t *dpp,
                io_net_self_t *ion,
                char *options);
    int (*shutdown) (void *dll_hdl);
} io_net_dll_entry_t;

Description:

The `io_net_dll_entry_t` data structure defines a network driver’s primary entry points. Your driver must contain a public symbol of type `io_net_dll_entry_t` called `io_net_dll_entry`.

The `nfuncs` member specifies the number of functions in the `io_net_dll_entry_t` structure. Your driver should set this to 2, because two functions are currently defined: `init()` and `shutdown()`.

`init()`

A pointer to your driver’s initialization function, which is mandatory. This is the first of your driver’s functions that `io-net` calls. The prototype is:

```c
int (*init) (void *dll_hdl,
            dispatch_t *dpp,
            io_net_self_t *ion,
            char *options );
```

The arguments are:

- `dll_hdl` An internal handle used by `io-net` — you’ll need this handle for future calls into the `io-net` framework.
- `dpp` This pointer should be ignored.
- `ion` A pointer to a data structure of the `io-net` functions that your driver can call to interact with the networking subsystem. The driver should always keep a copy of this pointer. For more information, see `io_net_self_t`.
- `options` A pointer to an ASCII string, which, if non-NULL, should be parsed by the driver.

Your `init()` function should return 0 on success. If an error occurs, this function should set `errno` and return -1.
**shutdown()**

The `shutdown` function will be called before the driver is unloaded from memory.  

The prototype is:

```c
int (*shutdown) (void *dll_hdl);
```

The `dll_hdl` is the handle that was passed to the driver’s initialization function.  

When a particular registration instance (a “registrant”) is shut down, its `shutdown1()` and `shutdown2()` functions (from the `io_net_registrant_t` structure’s `io_net_registrant_funcs_t` function pointer array) are called.  

When all of the shared object’s registrants are closed, this `shutdown()` function is called.  It may be necessary to use this entry point to do additional cleanup to ensure that any resources that we allocated during the lifetime of the driver have been deallocated.  If you don’t wish to supply this function, place a NULL in this member.  

Your driver’s `shutdown()` function should return 0.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

**See also:**

`io_net_registrant_t`, `io_net_registrant_funcs_t`
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _io_net_msg_mcast;

struct _io_net_msg_mcast {
    uint16_t       type;
    uint32_t       flags;
    uint16_t       next;
    uint32_t       mc_min;
    uint32_t       mc_max;
};
```

Description:

The `io_net_msg_mcast` structure contains information concerning the changes required to multicast addresses that have been identified by the `DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST` devctl.

The members include:

- **type**
  - The type of request. If it’s set to `_IO_NET_JOIN_MCAST`, the request specifies a range of multicast addresses for which reception should be enabled. If it’s set to `_IO_NET_REMOVE_MCAST`, the request specifies a range of addresses for which multicast packet reception should no longer be enabled. (In this case, the address range was previously enabled via an `_IO_NET_JOIN_MCAST` request.)
  - If the field doesn’t contain either of these two values, it means that the networking subsystem is responding to a `DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST` devctl that the driver issued.

- **flags**
  - Currently only one flag is defined:
    - `_IO_NET_MCAST_ALL` — if set, specifies that the device should be put into, or taken out of, promiscuous multicast mode.
      - If the `type` field was set to `_IO_NET_JOIN_MCAST`, the device should be put into promiscuous multicast mode.
      - If the `type` field was set to `_IO_NET_REMOVE_MCAST`, the device should be taken out of promiscuous multicast mode, in which case the device should revert to filtering based on the enabled range(s) of multicast addresses. When in promiscuous mode, the device should receive all multicast packets.

- **next**
  - Used to chain multiple `io_net_msg_mcast` structures into a linked-list when the driver issues a `DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE` devctl. When the driver traverses the list, it accesses the entire database of currently enabled multicast address ranges.

- **mc_min** and **mc_max**
  - Specifies the minimum and maximum addresses within a range of multicast addresses. The LLADDR macro, defined in `<net/if_dl.h>`, can be used to
obtain a pointer to the actual, physical MAC address, e.g. if \texttt{mcast} points to \texttt{struct io_net_msg_mcast}, the start and end of the address range can be obtained as follows:

\begin{verbatim}
LLADDR(mcast->mc_min.addr_dl)
LLADDR(mcast->mc_max.addr_dl)
\end{verbatim}

If \texttt{type} was \_IO\_NET\_JOIN\_MCAST, the driver should enable reception of packets whose destination addresses are within these inclusive address ranges.

If \texttt{type} was \_IO\_NET\_REMOVE\_MCAST, the driver should disable reception of packets whose destination addresses are within these inclusive address ranges (in this case, the address range will have previously been enabled via an \_IO\_NET\_JOIN\_MCAST message).

If the \_IO\_NET\_MCAST\_ALL flag was set, \texttt{mc\_min} and \texttt{mc\_max} are irrelevant, and shouldn’t be referenced.

\section*{Classification:}

QNX Neutrino
Structure used to advertise a driver’s capabilities

Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _io_net_msg_dl_advert
    io_net_msg_dl_advert_t;

struct _io_net_msg_dl_advert {
    uint16_t type;
    uint32_t iflags;
    uint32_t mtu_min;
    uint32_t mtu_max;
    uint32_t mtu_preferred;
    char up_type[20];
    uint32_t capabilities_rx;
    uint32_t capabilities_tx;
    struct sockaddr_dl dl;
};
```

Description:

The `io_net_msg_dl_advert_t` structure is used when a module wants to advertise its capabilities to `io-net` and its other modules. The advertising module fills in this structure and places it in an upgoing packet.

The members include:

- **type**: Set this to `IO_NET_MSG_DL_ADVERT`.
- **iflags**: Flags that describe the module’s capabilities. This member is a combination of the following bits, which are defined in `<net/if.h>`:
  - `IFF_SIMPLEX` — the module can’t hear its own transmissions.
  - `IFF_BROADCAST` — the broadcast address is valid.
  - `IFF_RUNNING` — the module has allocated resources.
  - `IFF_MULTICAST` — supports multicasting.
- **mtu_min**: The minimum preferred MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit). Set the `mtu_min` value to zero.
- **mtu_max**: The maximum MTU. The values for `mtu_max` and `mtu_preferred` should be set the same.
- **mtu_preferred**: The preferred MTU. For an Ethernet device, this value is 1514. If an MTU size was specified via the `mtu` driver option, specify the value associated with that driver option instead.
- **up_type**: The type of upgoing packet produced by the module. For an Ethernet device, set to `en` followed by an ASCII representation of the LAN number, e.g. `en0`. If a different string was specified by the `uptype` driver option, use that value instead of `en`. The LAN number should be the number obtained from `io-net` at registration.
dl A link-layer sockaddr_dl structure, as described below. Its members are specific to the link layer.

The sockaddr_dl structure is defined as follows:

```c
struct sockaddr_dl {
    char sdl_data;
    u_char sdl_len;
    u_char sdl_family;
    u_int16_t sdl_index;
    u_char sdl_type;
    u_char sdl_nlen;
    u_char sdl_alen;
};
```

The members are:

- **sdl_data** The value found in the up_type field, followed by the numeric form of the interface’s current MAC address. Don’t include NULL-string terminators.

- **sdl_len** The total length of the sockaddr_dl structure.

- **sdl_family** Set this to AF_LINK (defined in `<sys/socket.h>`).

- **sdl_index** Set this to the LAN number that was obtained when the driver registered the interface with io-net.

- **sdl_type** Set this to IFTEther (defined in `<net/if_types.h>`). If a value was specified via the “iftype” command-line option, use this value instead.

- **sdl_nlen** Set this to specify the number of characters in the alphabetic portion of the dl.sdl_data field.

- **sdl_alen** Set this to the length of the device’s MAC address. The length for an Ethernet address is six.

**capabilities_rx** and **capabilities_tx**

Advertise the device’s hardware checksum-offloading capabilities. The following flags are defined for capabilities_rx and capabilities_tx:

- **IFCAP_CSUM_IPv4** — the device can verify an IP version 4 header checksum.
- **IFCAP_CSUM_TCPv4** — the device can verify a TCP version 4 payload checksum.
- **IFCAP_CSUM_UDPv4** — the device can verify a UDP version 4 payload checksum.
- **IFCAP_CSUM_TCPv6** — the device can verify a TCP version 6 payload checksum.
- **IFCAP_CSUM_UDPv6** — the device can verify a UDP version 6 payload checksum.
Classification:

QNX Neutrino
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _io_net_registrant_funcs {
    int nfuncs;
    int (*rx_down) (...);
    int (*tx_done) (...);
    int (*shutdown1) (...);
    int (*shutdown2) (...);
    int (*dl_advert) (...);
    int (*devct1) (...);
    int (*flush) (...);
} io_net_registrant_funcs_t;
```

Description:

The `io_net_registrant_funcs_t` structure is a table of functions that your driver wants to register with `io-net`. The `funcs` member of the `io_net_registrant_t` structure is a pointer to an instance of this structure.

The `nfuncs` member specifies the number of function pointers in the structure. For the structure as given above, this is 8. The functions are described below.

rx_down()

This function is called when your module receives a down-headed packet from a module above you. The driver must traverse the buffers and their associated data fragments, and send the data to the hardware to be transmitted. Depending on the nature of the NIC device, the driver may do one of the following:

- concatenate the data fragments into a buffer, from which the data will be transmitted
- pass pointers to the data fragments to the hardware, if the hardware has DMA capability.

If the driver passes pointers, then the hardware will typically be programmed with the physical addresses of the data fragments, which are stored in the `net_iov_t` structure.

If the driver copies the data, it can then call the `tx_done()` function to return the buffer to the sender, since it’s finished with the buffer. However, if the hardware has DMA capability, there may be a long time delay from when the packet is submitted to the NIC device until the NIC copies the data from the buffers. For performance reasons, the driver wouldn’t want to wait around until the packet has been copied. Instead, it would store a pointer to the packet, perhaps by maintaining a linked-list of packets that are pending transmission, and return from the entry point. At a later time (e.g. the next time the transmit entry point is called, or perhaps when a hardware interrupt or timer triggers an event) the packet can be returned to the sender by calling `tx_done()`. The prototype is:

```c
int (*rx_down) (npkt_t *npkt,
                   void *func_hdl);
```

The arguments are:
This is the driver’s packet transmission entry point. The `npkt` argument points to a structure which describes the packet to be transmitted. The `func_hdl` variable is the pointer that the driver supplied in the `io_net_registrant_t` structure when it registered the interface with `io-net`.

The pointer that the driver supplied in the `io_net_registrant_t` structure when it registered the interface with `io-net`.

### tx_done()

This function is called when the upper layers have finished processing packets that originated from the driver, effectively indicating that they have been consumed and may now be “recycled” (or disposed of). A previous call to `tx_up_start()` results in this function being called. The prototype is:

```c
int (*tx_done)(npkt_t *npkt,
              void *done_hdl,
              void *func_hdl);
```

This entry point should not be confused with the `tx_done` callback in the `io_net_self_t` structure. This function will be called when the upper layers have finished processing packets that originated from the driver. This function will be called as a result of a previous call to `tx_up_start()`. In this entry point, the driver can either free the packets, and their associated buffer(s), or it can reuse them. The arguments are:

- `npkt`: A pointer to the packets returned to the driver.
- `done_hdl`: A pointer to the handle the driver passed to `tx_up_start()` when the packet was sent upstream. It’s specified when your driver calls `io-net's tx_up_start()` function (see the description of `io_net_self_t`).
- `func_hdl`: The pointer that the driver supplied in the `io_net_registrant_t` structure when it registered the interface with `io-net`.

### shutdown1()

The shutdown entry points are called when the interface is no longer needed. They are called when either when the user unmounts the interface, or when the `io-net` process is terminating. Since the process of removing an interface from the networking subsystem is a delicate operation, the shutdown of an interface is done in two stages. After `shutdown1()` is called, the driver should no longer send packets upstream. However, it should still be prepared to have outstanding packets that were previously sent upstream be returned. It should also allow any pending transmits to complete, and return the buffers to the sender when they do (by calling the `tx_done` callback). The prototype is:

```c
int (*shutdown1)(int registrant_hdl,
                 void *func_hdl);
```
The arguments are:

registrant_hdl  The registrant handle that was filled in when your driver registered
                 by calling io-net's reg() function.

func_hdl     The handle you specified for your driver in
             io_net_registrant_t.

This function can return:

• EOK to let the shutdown occur.

or:

• Some other indication (for example, EBUSY to indicate that there are active
  transmissions occurring) to prevent the driver from being shut down. It's up to the
  higher level to retry later. The implication here is that one can't force a shutdown
  of a driver that returns an error indication.

Your driver is still connected to the other modules when shutdown1() is called. It’s
your last chance to transmit data either up or down, which must be done using the
thread that called shutdown1() because of io-net’s locking mechanism.

shutdown2()  

The prototype is:

int (*shutdown2) (int registrant_hdl,  
                 void *func_hdl);  

When shutdown2() is called, the driver should throw away any pending transmits, and
return them by calling the tx_done callback. The driver should then de-activate the
NIC device, and free up any resources that were allocated by the driver, during and
since the instantiation of the interface.

The arguments to shutdown2() are:

registrant_hdl  The handle that was obtained when the driver registered the
                interface with io-net.

func_hdl     The pointer that the driver supplied in the io_net_registrant_t
             structure when it registered the interface with io-net.

dl_advert()  

The prototype is:

int (*dl_advert) (int registrant_hdl,  
                 void *func_hdl);  

EOK to let the shutdown occur.
After a driver registers an interface with `io-net` it sends a message packet upstream in order to advertise its capabilities. However, sometimes the networking subsystem requires that the driver resend the advertisement message upstream. In this case, this entry point will be called. The driver should create a message packet as per “Advertising device capabilities” in the Writing a Network Driver chapter and send it upstream.

The arguments are:

- `registrant_hdl` The handle that was obtained when the driver registered the interface with `io-net`.
- `func_hdl` The pointer that the driver supplied in the `io_net_registrant_t` structure when it registered the interface with `io-net`.

`devctl()`

The prototype is:

```c
int (*devctl) (void *func_hdl,
        int dcmd,
        void *data,
        size_t size,
        union _io_net_dcmd_ret_cred *ret);
```

This entry point is called when a `devctl()` (device control) message is sent to be processed by the driver.

The arguments are:

- `func_hdl` The pointer that the driver supplied in the `io_net_registrant_t` structure when it registered the interface with `io-net`.
- `dcmd` The type of `devctl()` that the driver is being asked to process. It may be one of the following:
  - DCMD_IO_NET_PROMISCIOUS — this command selects whether or not the interface should be in promiscuous mode. For this `devctl`, `data` points to an integer value. If this value is 0, the interface should be taken out of promiscuous mode. If the value is nonzero, the device should be put into promiscuous mode.
  - DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST — this command configures how the interface filters the multicast packets it receives. For this `devctl`, `data` is a pointer to the structure declared as struct `_io_net_msg_mcast`, which is defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`.
  - DCMD_IO_NET_GET CONFIG — this command queries the configuration of the NIC device. For this `devctl`, `data` points to a structure of type `nic_config_t`, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The driver fills this structure with information describing the device’s configuration.
- **DCMD_IO_NET_GET_STATS** — this command queries the NIC device’s configuration. For this `devctl`, `data` points to a structure of type `nic_stats_t`, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The driver fills this structure with statistical information and keeps track of it.

- **DCMD_IO_NET_WIFI** — this command is intended for 802.11 wireless devices. For this `devctl`, `data` points to a structure of type `nic_wifi_dcmd_t`, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The driver should get or set various 802.11 related parameters, based on the contents of this structure.

- **SIOCSIFCAP** — this command enables or disables offloading of IP header TCP and UDP checksum computation. For this `devctl`, `data` points to a `struct ifcapreq`, defined in `<net/if.h>`.

  This function should return ENOTSUP if the driver receives a `devctl()` it doesn’t recognise. It should return EOK if the `devctl()` was processed correctly; otherwise, an appropriate error code should be returned. See `<errno.h>` for details.

  **data** A pointer to data to be passed to the driver, filled in by the driver, or both, depending on the command.

  **size** The maximum amount of data to be sent to the driver or filled in by the driver. If `size` is 0, an unspecified amount of data is transferred.

  **ret** A pointer to additional device data to be returned.

### flush()

This function is called to flush out any packets that are pending for transmission on the medium. This is needed for drivers that return from their packet transmission entry point without immediately returning the packet to the originator without having called the `tx_done` callback. When this function returns, the driver should call the `tx_done` callback to make sure all outstanding packets have been returned. The prototype is:

```c
int (*flush)(int registrant_hdl,
            void *func_hdl);
```

The arguments are:

- **registrant_hdl** The registrant handle that was filled in when your driver registered by calling `io-net`’s `reg()` function.

- **func_hdl** The handle you specified for your driver in `io_net_registrant_t`.

This function should call `io-net`’s `tx_done()` function for each queued packet, and should return 0.
io_net_registrant_funcs_t

Classification:
QNX Neutrino

See also:

io_net_registrant_t, io_net_self_t, npkt_t
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _io_net_registrant {
    uint32_t flags;
    char *name;
    char *top_type;
    char *bot_type;
    void *func_hdl;
    io_net_registrant_funcs_t *funcs;
    uint16_t endpoint;
    int ndependencies;
} io_net_registrant_t;
```

Description:

The `io_net_registrant_t` structure contains information that’s used when registering your driver with `io-net`. It’s a member of the `io_net_self_t` structure. The members are defined as follows:

- **flags**
  The type and characteristics of the driver being registered. The driver should set this to `_REG_PRODUCER_UP`. The driver can also optionally set the `_REG_ENDPOINT` flag.
  - `_REG_PRODUCER_UP` — a producer in the up direction.
  - `_REG_ENDPOINT` — the LAN number was specified by the `lan` driver options; see the description of the `endpoint` field for more details.

- **name**
  Points to the name of the driver module. For example, the `devn-smc9000.so` driver DLL would set this to point to the string `devn-smc9000`.

- **top_type**
  An Ethernet driver should make this member point to the string `en`. However, if a different string was specified via the `uptype` driver option, the driver should use this instead.

- **bot_type**
  Set this field to NULL.

- **func_hdl**
  This is a function that will be passed to all of the driver’s entry points. The driver should specify a pointer that points to its internal data structures associated with the interface.

- **funcs**
  Specifies a pointer to the driver’s entry point table, which is of type `io_net_registrant_funcs_t`, also defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`.

- **endpoint**
  If the driver wants to let `io-net` automatically assign an interface (LAN) number to the interface, the contents of this field are ignored. If the driver wants to select a LAN number (for example, if a LAN number was specified via the `lan` driver option), the driver should set the `_REG_ENDPOINT` flag in the `flags` field. In this case, the contents of this
field will specify the LAN number, and \texttt{io-net} will attempt to assign this LAN number to the interface.

However, the specified LAN number may already be assigned to another interface. If this is the case, \texttt{io-net} will assign a different, available interface number instead. In any case, after a successful attempt at registration, the \textit{endpoint} parameter that was passed to the \texttt{reg()} function will point to the value of the actual LAN number that was assigned.

\section*{Classification:}

QNX Neutrino

\section*{See also:}

\texttt{io_net_registrant_funcs_t, io_net_self_t}
Functions in \texttt{io-net} that your driver can call

\textbf{Synopsis:}

\begin{verbatim}
typedef struct _io_net_self {
  int    *(reg);
  int    *(dereg) (...);
  void   *(alloc) (...);
  npkt_t *(alloc_up_npkt) (...);
  int    *(free) (...);
  paddr_t *(mphys) (...);
  npkt_t *(tx_up_start) (...);
  int    *(tx_done) (...);
  int    *(devctl) (...);
} io_net_self_t;
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Description:}

The driver should always use the function table to call these functions. In addition, the driver should use a pointer to the function table that was passed to its primary entry point rather than copying the table or caching individual function pointers. The function pointers can change during the interface’s lifetime.

The \texttt{io_net_self_t} structure points to functions that allow your driver to call back into the networking framework.

The functions are described below.

\textit{reg()}

This function registers an interface with \texttt{io-net}. It should be called once for each NIC interface that the driver wishes to instantiate.

This function \textbf{must} be called before any of the other functions in the \texttt{io_net_self_t} structure.

The prototype is:

\begin{verbatim}
int (*reg) (void *dll_hdl,
            io_net_registrant_t *registrant,
            int *reg_hdlp,
            uint16_t *cell,
            uint16_t *endpoint)
\end{verbatim}

The arguments are:

\textit{dll_hdl} \hspace{2cm} The driver should specify the value that was passed into the primary driver entry point.

\textit{registrant} \hspace{2cm} A pointer to an \texttt{io_net_registrant_t} structure that describes how the interface should be instantiated. It also contains a pointer to a table of additional driver entry points.
On success, a value is stored at the location that this points to, which should be used as the `registrant_hdl` parameter to subsequent calls into `io_net`.

The driver should specify a pointer to a 16-bit variable. A value is stored at this location for later use when the driver delivers received packets to the upper layers.

This is the interface number (LAN number) The driver should specify a pointer to a 16-bit variable. A value is stored at this location for later use when the driver delivers received packets to the upper layers. Typically `io-net` decides how the LAN number is chosen, but it’s possible for the driver to influence how the LAN number is chosen. For details, see the `io_net_registrant_t()` entry.

This function returns:

0  Success.
-1  An error occurred; `errno` is set.

The prototype is:

```c
int (*dereg) (int registrant_hdl)
```

Deregister an interface from `io-net`. Typically, this function is called only if the driver encounters an error after registering with `io-net` and wishes to undo the registration.

The `registrant_hdl` argument is the registrant handle that was filled in via the `reg_hdlp` parameter when your driver registered by calling the `reg()` callback.

This function returns EOK on success, or an error code.

The prototype is:

```c
void *(*alloc) (size_t size,
               int flags)
```

This function allocates a buffer of the given size that’s safe to pass to any other module. It’s typically used to allocate buffers to store data that’s received from the medium.

The `size` parameter specifies the amount of memory, in bytes, that’s to be allocated.

There are currently no flags defined.

This function returns a pointer to the allocated memory, or NULL if an error occurred.
alloc_up_npkt()

The prototype is:

\[
\text{npkt_t} * \text{(alloc_up_npkt)}(\text{size_t size,} \\
\text{void **data})
\]

Allocates an npkt_t structure suitable to deliver packet data upstream. This function allocates only the structures that describe the packet data, and not the packet data itself.

The arguments are:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{size} & \quad \text{Specifies additional data that should be allocated in addition to the npkt_t() structure.} \\
\text{data} & \quad \text{Points to an address where a pointer to the additional data that was allocated, will be stored.}
\end{align*}
\]

The additional allocated data can be used to hold buffer descriptor (net_buf_t()) structures, and iov_t() structures, that point to the packet data. Note that the memory for the npkt_t() structure and the additional data will be allocated as a contiguous block of memory, and should be freed with a single call (as opposed to being freed piecemeal.)

This function returns a pointer to the allocated structure, or NULL if an error occurred.

free()

The prototype is:

\[
\text{int} \text{ (*free)}(\text{void *ptr})
\]

This function frees a buffer, pointed to by ptr, that was allocated by the alloc() or alloc_up_npkt() callbacks.

This function returns:

\[
\begin{align*}
0 & \quad \text{Success.} \\
-1 & \quad \text{An error occurred; errno is set.}
\end{align*}
\]

mphys()

The prototype is:

\[
\text{paddr_t (*mphys)}(\text{void *ptr})
\]

This function does a quick lookup of the physical address of the memory, pointed to by ptr, that was allocated by either alloc(), or alloc_up_npkt().

This function returns the physical address of the buffer on success, or -1 if an error occurred (errno is set).
tx_up_start()

The prototype is:

```c
npkt_t *(*tx_up_start) (int registrant_hdl,
                          npkt_t *npkt,
                          int off,
                          int framelen_sub,
                          uint16_t cell,
                          uint16_t endpoint,
                          uint16_t iface,
                          void *tx_done_hdl)
```

A function used to send data packet and advertisement messages upstream. This function can be called from the driver’s receive event-handler. Note that the thread that calls this function could re-enter the driver through one of its entry points. Be careful not to hold locks when calling this function; one of the driver’s entry points could attempt to reacquire them. Note that for all packets sent upstream, the data must be contained in a single fragment.

The arguments are:

- `registrant_hdl`: The registrant handle that was filled in when your driver registered by calling io-net’s `reg()` callback.
- `npkt`: A pointer to a linked list of packets to be sent upstream.
- `off`: Zero should be specified.
- `framelen_sub`: Zero should be specified.
- `cell`: Specify the `cell` value supplied to you by io-net when you registered.
- `endpoint`: Specify the `endpoint` value supplied to you by io-net when you registered.
- `iface`: Zero should be specified.
- `tx_done_hdl`: When the packets that were sent upstream have been processed by the upper layers, a driver entry point is called to return the packet to the driver. The driver can then either release or reuse the `npkt_t` structures and their associated buffers. The driver entry point is passed an additional argument, so that the driver can access its internal state structures. This parameter specifies the value that’s passed to the driver entry point.

This function returns NULL upon success. If this is non-NULL, `errno` is set, and a linked list of `npkt` structures for which a `tx_done()` callback couldn’t be registered (i.e. for which `reg_tx_done()` failed) is returned. The driver should immediately release (or reuse) any packets that are returned in this way.
**tx_done()**

The prototype is:

```c
int (*tx_done) (int registrant_hdl,
               npkt_t *npkt)
```

Notifies the packet’s originator that the packet is ready for release or reuse. When the packet data has been copied or transmitted, the driver’s transmit routine calls this function. This function should also be called if your driver decides to discard the packet rather than attempt to transmit it.

The `registrant_hdl` argument is the registrant handle that was filled in when your driver registered by calling `io-net`’s `reg()` callback. The `npkt` argument points to a linked list of packets that the driver has finished processing.

This function returns:

- 0   Success.
- -1  An error occurred; `errno` is set.

**devctl()**

The prototype is:

```c
int (*devctl) (int registrant_hdl,
              int dcmd,
              int *ret)
```

Send a `devctl()` (device control) command to `io-net`.

The arguments are:

- **registrant_hdl**   The registrant handle that was filled in when your driver registered by calling `io-net`’s `reg()` callback.
- **dcmd**             The command being sent to your driver. Only one value for `dcmd` is currently supported:
  - `DCMD_IO_NET_CHANGE_MCAST` — for multicast support. If the driver loses track of which multicast addresses to accept packets from, it can send this `devctl` so that `io-net` can resend the list of enabled multicast addresses to the driver.
- **data**             A pointer to data to be passed to the driver, filled in by the driver, or both, depending on the command.
- **size**             The maximum amount of data to be sent to the driver or filled in by the driver. If `size` is 0, an unspecified amount of data is transferred.
- **ret**              A pointer to additional device data to be returned. (currently unused)

This function returns EOK on success, or an error code.
io_net_self_t

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

See also:

io_net_dll_entry_t, npkt_t
**MDI_AutoNegotiate()**

Initiate the autonegotiation process

**Synopsis:**

```c
int MDI_AutoNegotiate ( mdi_t *mdi,
    int PhyAddr,
    int Timeout)
```

**Arguments:**

- `mdi`: A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr`: The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).
- `Timeout`: The maximum time in seconds, for the autonegotiation process to complete. Make sure the value specified for `timeout` is greater than one. The recommended value for `timeout` is seven seconds.

If `MDI_NoWait` is specified as the `timeout`, the function returns immediately after initiating autonegotiation.

**Description:**

The `MDI_AutoNegotiate()` function initiates the autonegotiation process between the PHY and its link partner.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

**Safety**

- Cancellation point: Yes
- Interrupt handler: No
- Signal handler: Yes
- Thread: Yes

**See also:**

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
MDI_DeIsolatePhy()

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_DeIsolatePhy ( mdi_t * mdi,
                    int PhyAddr );
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` - A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr` - The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

Description:

The `MDI_DeIsolatePhy()` function electrically de-isolates the `PhyAddr` belonging to PHY from the MII interface.

Classification:

- QNX Neutrino

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</table>

See also:

- `MDI_IsolatePhy()`, `MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
**Synopsis:**

```c
void MDI_DeRegister ( mdi_t **mdi );
```

**Arguments:**

`mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` pointer to invalidate.

**Description:**

`MDI_DeRegister()` deregisters from the MII management library, invalidates the `mdi_t` pointer, and frees any resources that `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()` allocated.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

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**See also:**

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_DisableMonitor ( mdi_t *mdi)
```

Arguments:

`mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.

Description:

The `MDI_DisableMonitor()` function prevents `MDI_MonitorPhy()` from calling the callback for the driver’s link-down status change, or from attempting to establish a new link when no link is detected.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

`MDI_EnableMonitor()`, `MDI_MonitorPhy()`, `MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
MDI_EnableMonitor()

Allow the link monitor and PHY to communicate

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_EnableMonitor ( mdi_t *mdi,
                       int LDownTest)
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `LDownTest` A test for the link down state.

When the value of `LDownTest` is 1, `MDI_MonitorPhy()` attempts to establish a new link by writing to various PHY registers.

Description:

The `MDI_EnableMonitor()` function allows the link monitor to communicate with the PHY and call the driver’s link state change when appropriate. This function doesn’t affect the delivery of link monitor pulses to the driver.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

`MDI_DisableMonitor()`, `MDI_MonitorPhy()`, `MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
MDI_FindPhy()
Determine if a PHY exists

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_FindPhy ( mdi_t * mdi, 
      int PhyAddr);
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY). The address range must be between 0 and 31 inclusively.

Description:

The `MDI_FindPhy()` function determines if a PHY with an address of `PhyAddr` exists.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
MDI_GetActiveMedia()

Store the active media type for PhyAddr

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_GetActiveMedia ( mdi_t * mdi,
    int PhyAddr,
    int *Media)
```

Arguments:

- **mdi**
  A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.

- **phyAddr**
  The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

- **Media**
  A pointer to the media-type specified. Possible media types are:
  - MDI_10bT — 10 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_10bTFD — 10 Base T, full-duplex
  - MDI_100bT — 100 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_100bTFD — 100 Base T, full-duplex
  - MDI_1000bT — 1000 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_1000bTFD — 1000 Base T, full-duplex.

Description:

The `MDI_GetActiveMedia()` function stores the currently active media-type for the PHY that the media address specifies.

Returns:

- **MDI_BADPARAM**
  `PhyAddr` is out of range.

- **MDI_LINK_DOWN**
  No valid link was detected.

- **MDI_LINK_UP**
  A valid link was detected, and the link-media type was stored at the address pointed to by `media`.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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</table>
See also:

\[ \text{MDI\_Register()}, \text{MDI\_Register\_Extended()} \]
MDI_GetAdvert()

Store media types currently advertised by the PHY

Synopsis:

```
int MDI_GetAdvert ( mdi_t * mdi,
                  int PhyAddr,
                  int Advert)
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).
- `Advert` A pointer to the memory location where the media types are stored. Valid media types are:
  - `MDI_10bT` — 10 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_10bTFD` — 10 Base T, full-duplex
  - `MDI_100bT` — 100 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_100bTFD` — 100 Base T, full-duplex
  - `MDI_1000bT` — 1000 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_1000bTFD` — 1000 Base T, full-duplex.

These media types are flags; you can OR them together.

Description:

The `MDI_GetAdvert()` function stores the media types that are currently advertised by the PHY.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

\textit{MDI\_Register()}, \textit{MDI\_Register\_Extended()}, \textit{MDI\_SetAdvert()}
MDI_GetLinkStatus()

Determine the status of the PHY link

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_GetStatusLink ( mdi_t *mdi,
                        int PhyAddr );
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

Description:

This function gets the link status of the PHY specified by `PhyAddr`.

Returns:

- `MDI_BADPARAM`  `PhyAddr` is out of range.
- `MDI_LINK_UP` A valid link was detected.
- `MDI_LINK_DOWN` No link was detected.
- `MDI_LINK_UNKOWN` The link state isn’t known.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

Safety

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See also:

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
Get the media types currently advertised by the link partner

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_GetPartnerAdvert ( mdi_t *mdi,
                          int PhyAddr,
                          uint8_t *Advert );
```

Arguments:

- `mdi`: A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr`: The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).
- `Advert`: A pointer to the memory location in which to store the media types. Valid media-type values are:
  - `MDI_10bT` — 10 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_10bTFD` — 10 Base T, full-duplex
  - `MDI_100bT` — 100 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_100bTFD` — 100 Base T, full-duplex
  - `MDI_1000bT` — 1000 Base T, half-duplex
  - `MDI_1000bTFD` — 1000 Base T, full-duplex.

These media values are flags; they can be ORed together.

Description:

The `MDI_GetPartnerAdvert_Extended()` function gets the media types that are currently advertised by the link partner and stores them in the location that `Advert` points to.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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</table>
See also:

\[ \text{MDI\_Register()} \], \text{MDI\_Register\_Extended()} \]
Initialize the PHY

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_InitPhy ( mdi_t * mdi,
                 int PhyAddr)
```

Arguments:

- `mdi`: A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from the `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr`: The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

Description:

This function initializes the PHY whose address is `PhyAddr`.

💡 You must call this function before you can configure or query the PHY further.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
**MDI_IsolatePhy()**

Isolate the PHY from the MII interface

### Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_IsolatePhy ( mdi_t * mdi,  
                    int PhyAddr );
```

### Arguments:

- **mdi**
  A pointer to the `mdi_t` structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.

- **PhyAddr**
  The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

### Description:

The `MDI_IsolatePhy()` function electrically isolates the `PhyAddr` belonging to PHY from the MII interface.

### Returns:

- **MDI_SUCCESS**  Success.
- **MDI_BADPARAM**  The `mdi` or `PhyAddr` parameter is invalid.

### Classification:

QNX Neutrino

**Safety**

- Cancellation point  Yes
- Interrupt handler  No
- Signal handler  Yes
- Thread  Yes

### See also:

`MDI_DeIsolatePhy()`, `MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_MonitorPhy ( mdi_t *mdi)
```

Arguments:

`mdi` A pointer to the mdi_t structure obtained from MDI_Register() or MDI_Register_Extended().

Description:

The driver can call this function when it receives a link monitor pulse or a link event interrupt. The MDI_MonitorPhy() function checks the status of all PHYs that were initialized with MDI_InitPhy(). The function calls the link state change callback if it detects a change to the link state since the last callback, or if this is the first time that MDI_MonitorPhy() was called since the PHY was reset.

If you passed a value of 1 as the LDownTest argument to MDI_EnableMonitor(), and MDI_MonitorPhy() doesn’t detect a link, it attempts to establish a new link by writing to various PHY registers.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

Safety

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See also:

MDI_DisableMonitor(), MDI_EnableMonitor(), MDI_InitPhy(), MDI_Register(), MDI_Register_Extended()
Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_Register ( void * handle,
                  MDIWriteFunc write,
                  MDIReadFunc read,
                  MDICallBack callback,
                 mdi_t **mdi,
                  struct sigevent *event );
```

```c
int MDI_Register_Extended ( void * handle,
                            MDIWriteFunc write,
                            MDIReadFunc read,
                            MDICallBack callback,
                            mdi_t **mdi,
                            struct sigevent *event,
                            int priority,
                            int callback_interval );
```

Arguments:

- **handle**: A handle that the library passes to each of the driver’s callbacks.
- **write**: A pointer to a function which writes to a PHY register through the MAC device. An `MDIWriteFunc` structure is declared as:

  ```c
typedef void (*MDIWriteFunc)(void *handle, uint8_t phy_id,
                               uint8_t location, uint16_t val);
```

  where

  - `handle` is the handle that was passed to `MDI_Register_Extended()`,
  - `phy_id` is the address of the PHY on the MII management bus,
  - `location` is the index of the PHY register to write to, and
  - `val` is the value to write to the register.

- **read**: A pointer to a function which reads a PHY register through the MAC device. An `MDIReadFunc` is declared as:

  ```c
typedef uint16_t (*MDIReadFunc)(void *handle,
                                  uint8_t phy_id, uint8_t location);
```

  where

  - `handle` is the handle that was passed to `MDI_Register_Extended()`,
  - `phy_id` is the address of the PHY on the MII management bus, and
  - `location` is the index of the PHY register to read from.
**callback**

A pointer to a function which the library calls if the link state changes. An MDICallback is declared as:

```c
typedef void (*MDICallback)(void *handle,
                            uint8_t phy_id, uint8_t state)
```

where

*handle* is the handle that was passed to

*MDI_Register_extended()*,

*phy_id* is the address of the PHY on the MII management bus,

*state* is the link state.

The *state* can be one of:

- MDI_LINK_UP
- MDI_LINK_DOWN
- MDI_LINK_UNKNOWN

If the link state is MDI_LINK_UP, the driver calls

*MDI_GetActiveMedia()* to get further information about the link state.

**mdi**

A pointer to an **mdi_t**, structure that the library initializes. The driver passes the pointer to the **mdi_t** structure upon all subsequent calls to the library associated with this registration.

**event**

If the driver wishes to receive link monitor pulses, it should pass a pointer to a **struct sigevent** as the *event* argument. The structure’s *sigev_coid* field should contain the connection ID through which the driver receives the pulse messages. If the driver doesn’t wish to receive the pulses, it should pass NULL.

**priority**

(*MDI_Register_Extended() only*) The priority of the link monitor pulses that are delivered. The recommended value is 10.

**callback_interval**

(*MDI_Register_Extended() only*) The frequency, in seconds, of link monitor pulses. The recommended value is three.

---

**Description:**

The *MDI_Register()* and *MDI_Register_Extended()* functions register with the MII management library. You must call one of them before calling any other MII management library function.

These functions are similar, but *MDI_Register_Extended()* lets you specify the priority and frequency of the link monitor pulses.

---

Some device drivers may be able to receive an interrupt upon a link state change event. It’s more efficient to use this interrupt, if possible, instead of using link monitor pulses.
Returns:

MDI_SUCCESS if registration succeeds. If any other value is returned, the pointer to the mdi_t that was returned is invalid, and can’t be used to call other MII management library functions.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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Reset the Phy

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_ResetPhy ( mdi_t * mdi,
                  int PhyAddr,
                  MDI_WaitType Wait)
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the mdi_t structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).
- `Wait` The type of wait to be performed. If you want to complete the reset by the time the function returns, specify MDI_WaitBusy. If you want to try to have the driver receive an interrupt after the PHY reset completes, specify a value of MDI_NoWait. If you use this value, this call returns immediately after the reset is initiated. When the reset is completed, the driver must call `MDI_SyncPhy()` so the library can perform post-reset servicing.

Description:

The `MDI_ResetPhy()` function resets the `PhyAddr` that belongs to the PHY.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

<table>
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</tbody>
</table>

See also:

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`, `MDI_SyncPhy()`
MDI_SetAdvert()
Select the media types to advertise

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_SetAdvert( mdi_t * mdi,
                     int PhyAddr,
                     int Media );
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the mdi_t structure obtained from MDI_Register() or MDI_Register_Extended().
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).
- `Media` Values for the advertised media type. Valid values are:
  - MDI_10bT — 10 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_10bTFD — 10 Base T, full-duplex
  - MDI_100bT — 100 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_100bTFD — 100 Base T, full-duplex
  - MDI_1000bT — 1000 Base T, half-duplex
  - MDI_1000bTFD — 1000 Base T, full-duplex.

These media values are flags; you can OR them together.

Description:

The MDI_SetAdvert() function selects the media types to advertise to the PHY’s link partner.

Returns:

- MDI_SUCCESS The advertisement is capable and was sent.
- MDI_INVALID_MEDIA or MDI_UNSUPPORTED
  The PHY can’t advertise the specified values.

Any other value indicates that an error occurred.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino
### Safety

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</table>

**See also:**

`MDI_SetAdvert()`, `MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_SetSpeedDuplex (mdi_t * mdi,
                         int PhyAddr,
                         int Speed,
                         int Duplex)
```

Arguments:

- **mdi**
  A pointer to the mdi_t structure obtained from `MDI_Register()` or `MDI_Register_Extended()`.

- **PhyAddr**
  The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY) for which the link is to be forced.

- **Speed**
  The bit rate, in megabits per second, at which the PHY should operate.

- **Duplex**
  The speed at which to operate. Choices are:
  - half-duplex speed — specify 0
  - full-duplex speed — specify 1.

Description:

The `MDI_SetSpeedDuplex()` function forces the link state to a specific setting instead of allowing link autonegotiation to occur.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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</table>

See also:

`MDI_Register()`, `MDI_Register_Extended()`
MDI_SyncPhy()

Synchronize the PHY

Synopsis:

```c
int MDI_SyncPhy (mdi_t * mdi,
                   int PhyAddr)
```

Arguments:

- `mdi` A pointer to the mdi_t structure obtained from MDI_Register() or MDI_Register_Extended().
- `PhyAddr` The physical address of the physical layer device (PHY).

Description:

The MDI_SyncPhy() function synchronizes the PHY. Synchronization is necessary after a reset occurs.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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</table>

See also:

MDI_Register(), MDI_Register_Extended()
Synopsis:

```
uint32_t nic_calc_crc_be ( char * buf,
                           int len)
```

Arguments:

- `buf` A pointer to the buffer containing multicast packet addresses.
- `len` The byte-length of the multicast packet addresses.

Description:

The `nic_calc_crc_be()` function generates Cycle Redundancy Check (CRC32) checksums across the data buffer. Typically, the checksums are used for multicast packet filtering to determine which bit in a hash table corresponds to a given multicast address. The `nic_calc_crc_be()` function generates the CRC by shifting the bits from right to left.

Returns:

The computed 32-bit CRC value.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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See also:

- `nic_calc_crc_le`
**Synopsis:**

```c
uint32_t nic_calc_crc_le ( char * buf,
int len)
```

**Arguments:**

- `buf` A pointer to the buffer containing multicast packet addresses.
- `len` The byte-length of the multicast packet addresses.

**Description:**

The `nic_calc_crc_le()` function generates Cycle Redundancy Check (CRC32) checksums across the data buffer. Typically, the checksums are used for multicast packet filtering to determine which bit in a hash table corresponds to a given multicast address. The `nic_calc_crc_le()` function generates the CRC by shifting the bits from left to right.

**Returns:**

The computed 32-bit CRC value.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

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</table>

**See also:**

- `nic_calc_crc_be`
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _nic_config_t {
    uint32_t revision;
    uint32_t flags;
    uint32_t mtu;
    uint32_t mru;
    uint32_t verbose;
    uint32_t lan;
    uint32_t permanent_address[8];
    uint32_t current_address[8];
    uint32_t mae_length;
    uint32_t connector;
    int32_t phy_addr;
    uint32_t media;
    int32_t media_rate;
    int32_t duplex;
    uint32_t bus_type;
    uint32_t vendor_id;
    uint32_t device_id;
    uint32_t device_index;
    uint32_t device_revision;
    uint32_t serial_number;
    uint32_t num_mem_windows;
    uint32_t num_io_windows;
    uint32_t num_irqs;
    uint32_t num_dma_channels;
    uint64_t mem_window_base[8];
    uint64_t mem_window_size[8];
    uint64_t io_window_base[8];
    uint64_t io_window_size[8];
    uint64_t rom_base;
    uint64_t rom_size;
    uint32_t irq[8];
    uint32_t dma_channel[8];
    uint8_t device_description[64];
    uint8_t up_type[16];
    int32_t iftype;
    uint32_t priority;
} nic_config_t;
```

Description:

The `nic_config_t` structure contains device configuration information and stores information parsed from the driver-option string.

The members are defined as follows:

- **revision**: Should be set to NIC_CONFIG_REVISION.
- **flags**: Valid values are defined by the `nic_flags_t` enumerated types in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The following flags are currently defined:
• NIC_FLAG_MULTICAST — multicast packet reception is enabled.
• NIC_FLAG_PROMISCUOUS — the device is currently in promiscuous mode.
• NIC_FLAG_BROADCAST — the device can receive broadcast packets.
• NIC_FLAG_LINK_DOWN — the link is known to be down. Packets can’t currently be transmitted or received on the medium.

*mtu* Maximum packet size that the device can accept for transmission (including the Ethernet header).

*mr u* Maximum packet size that the device can successfully receive from the medium (including the Ethernet header).

*verbose* The current verbosity level. The higher the verbosity level, the more debug information the driver will emit to the system logger.

*lan* The instance (LAN) number of the interface.

*permanent_address[8]* The unique station address (MAC address) that the manufacturer assigns to this device (usually read from EEPROM by the driver).

*current_address[8]* The station address (MAC address) that the device is currently operating with. This is usually, but not necessarily, the same as the device’s permanent address.

*mac_length* The length of the device’s MAC address, in bytes. This length is six for an Ethernet device.

*connector* The type of physical connector that’s used to connect the device to the medium. This may be one of the *nic_connector_types* enumerated types, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The following values are currently defined:

• NICCONNECTORUNKNOWN — the driver can’t determine the connector type.
• NICCONNECTORUTP — the device is connected to a UTP (unshielded twisted-pair) cable.
• NICCONNECTORBNC — the device is connected to a coaxial cable, via a BNC connector.
• NICCONNECTORFIBER — the device is connected to an optical-fiber cable.
- NIC_CONNECTOR_AUI — the device is connected to a tranceiver via the AUI (Attachment Unit Interface).
- NIC_CONNECTOR_MII — the device is connected to a physical layer (PHY) device, via the MII (Media Independent Interface).
- NIC_CONNECTOR_STP — the device is connected to an STP (shielded twisted-pair) cable.

phy_addr
The address used to communicate with the PHY device, in order to access its internal registers.

media
Specifies the type of the medium over which the device communicates. This may be one of the nic_media_types enumerated types, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. The following types are currently defined:

- NIC_MEDIA_802_3 — the medium is that defined by the IEEE 802.3 standard (CSMA/CD, Ethernet).
- NIC_MEDIA_802_5 — the medium is that defined by the IEEE 802.5 standard (Token Ring).
- NIC_MEDIA_FDDI — the medium is that defined by the ISO 9314 standard– FDDI (Fiber Distributed Data Interface).
- NIC_MEDIA_ATM — the medium is ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode).
- NIC_MEDIA_802_11 — the medium is that defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard (WiFi).

media_rate
The current media rate, in Kbits per second, at which the device is operating. If the current operation rate is unknown, set this field to -1.

duplex
The current duplex at which the device is operating. A value of 0 means half-duplex; a value of 1 means full-duplex. If the current duplex setting is unknown, set this field to -1.

bus_type
The type of bus through which the device is connected to the host system. See the defined values in `<drvr/common.h>`.

vendor_id
Specifies the PCI Vendor ID for a PCI device that was assigned to the vendor of the device, which is readable from the PCI configuration space.

device_id
Specifies the PCI Device ID for a PCI device that was assigned by the vendor of the device, which is readable from the PCI configuration space.

device_index
For a PCI device, this is used to uniquely identify a particular instance of the device, in conjunction with vendor_id and
device_id. Where there are multiple instances of a device in the system with identical Vendor and Device IDs, these devices are each assigned a unique number. The numbers that are assigned are sequential, beginning at zero. For a non-PCI device, this is an index that addresses an instance of the device in the system. The mapping from index to device is driver-dependent.

device_revision For a PCI device, this is the device revision that is readable from the PCI configuration space. For other devices, the meaning of the revision number is driver-dependent.

serial_number Specifies a driver-dependent serial number.

num_mem_windows Specifies the number of memory-mapped apertures that are used to access the device.

num_io_windows Specifies the number of I/O-mapped apertures that are used to access the device.

num_irqs Specifies the number of interrupt vector numbers that the driver attaches to in order to receive interrupt events from the device.

num_dma_channels Specifies the number of DMA channels used to transfer data between the device and memory.

mem_window_base[8] This array contains the physical base-addresses of the device’s memory-mapped apertures.

mem_window_size[8] This array contains the sizes, in bytes, of the device’s memory-mapped apertures.

io_window_base[8] This array contains the base addresses, in I/O address space, of the device’s I/O-mapped apertures.

io_window_size[8] This array contains the sizes, in bytes, of the device’s I/O-mapped apertures.

rom_base If the device has a memory-mapped ROM associated with it, this specifies the physical address of the ROM.

rom_size If the device has a memory-mapped ROM associated with it, this specifies the size, in bytes, of the ROM.

irq[8] This array contains the interrupt-vector numbers that the driver attaches to in order to receive interrupt events from the device.

dma_channel[8] This array contains the DMA channels that transfer data between the device and memory.
device_description[64]

This is a NULL-terminated user-readable string describing the device. It should describe the make and model of the device.

uptype[16]

This is a NULL-terminated string which describes the type of interface the device presents. For an Ethernet device, it should be set to en. This string indicates to higher-level software, how the data packets going to and from the driver will be formatted.

iftype

This is one of the interface types from <net/if_types.h>. For an Ethernet device, it should be set to IFT_ETHER.

priority

Specifies the priority at which the driver’s event-handling thread should run. The default recommended value is 21.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino
Synopsis:

```c
void nic_dump_config ( nic_config_t * cfg)
```

Arguments:

- `cfg` A pointer to the structure containing configuration information.

Description:

The `nic_dump_config()` function sends stored generic configuration information to the system logger.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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</table>
Synopsis:

typedef struct nic_ethernet_stats {
    uint32t valid_stats;
    uint32t align_errors;
    uint32t single_collisions;
    uint32t multi_collisions;
    uint32t fcs_errors;
    uint32t tx_deferred;
    uint32t late_collisions;
    uint32t xcoll_aborted;
    uint32t internal_tx_errors;
    uint32t no_carrier;
    uint32t internal_rx_errors;
    uint32t excessive_deferrals;
    uint32t length_field_outrange;
    uint32t oversized_packets;
    uint32t sqe_errors;
    uint32t symbol_errors;
    uint32t jabber_detected;
    uint32t short_packets;
    uint32t total_collision_frames;
    uint32t dribble_bits;
} nic_ethernet_stats_t;

Description:

This structure holds Ethernet-specific statistics.

Your driver must fill in the following members:

valid_stats A set of flags that indicate what Ethernet-specific statistics the driver keeps track of. The following flags are defined:

- NICEtherStatAlignErrors — the align_errors field is valid.
- NICEtherStatSingleCollisions — the single_collisions field is valid.
- NICEtherStatMultiCollisions — the multi_collisions field is valid.
- NICEtherStatFCSErrors — the fcs_errors field is valid.
- NICEtherStatTXDeferred — the tx_deferred field is valid.
- NICEtherStatLateCollisions — the late_collisions field is valid.
- NICEtherStatXCollAborted — the xcoll_aborted field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATINTERNAL_TXERRORS — the internal_tx_errors field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATNOCARRIER — the no_carrier field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATINTERNAL_RXERRORS — the internal_rx_errors field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATEXCESSIVE_DEFERRALS — the excessive_deferrals field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATLENGTH_FIELD_MISMATCH — the length_field_mismatch field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATLENGTH_FIELD_OUTRANGE — the length_field_outrange field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATOVERSIZED_PACKETS — the oversized_packets field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATSQE_ERRORS — the sqe_errors field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATSYMBOL_ERRORS — the symbol_errors field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATJABBER_DETECTED — the jabber_detected field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATSHORT_PACKETS — the short_packets field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATTOTAL_COLLISION_FRAMES — the total_collision_frames field is valid.
- NICETHERSTATDRIBLE_BITS — the dribble_bits field is valid.

align_errors

The number of frames received that aren’t an integral number of bytes in length. Corresponds to the AlignmentErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

single_collisions

The number of frames that experienced a single collision upon transmission, but were subsequently transmitted successfully. Corresponds to the SingleCollisionFrames attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

multi_collisions

The number of frames that experienced more than one collision upon transmission, but were subsequently transmitted successfully. Corresponds to the MultipleCollisionFrames attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

fcs_errors

The number of frames received that are an integral number of bytes in length, but had an incorrect Frame Check Sequence field. Corresponds to the FrameCheckSequence attribute, defined by the 802.3 spec.
The number of frames that experienced a delay during transmission because the medium was busy. Corresponds to the FramesWithDeferredXmissions attribute, defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of frames that experienced a late collision (out-of-window collision) upon transmission. Corresponds to the LateCollisions attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of frame transmissions that were aborted due to excessive collisions. Corresponds to the FramesAbortedDueToXSColls attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of transmits that failed due to an internal error in the NIC device. The most common type of internal transmit error that occurs with a typical device implementation is a FIFO underrun. Corresponds to the FramesLostDueToIntMACXmitErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of times a carrier signal wasn’t detected during frame transmission. Corresponds to the CarrierSenseErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of packet reception attempts that failed due to an internal error in the NIC device. The most common type of internal receive error that occurs with a typical device implementation is a FIFO overrun. Corresponds to the FramesLostDueToIntMACRcvErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of frame transmissions that were aborted due to excessive deferral. Corresponds to the FramesWithExcessiveDeferral attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of received packets where the type/length field in the Ethernet header is in the valid range to specify a packet length, but this length doesn’t match the number of bytes that were actually received. Corresponds to the InRangeLengthErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

The number of received packets where the type/length field in the Ethernet header isn’t in the valid range to specify a type, but the value is greater than the maximum Ethernet packet length.
size. Corresponds to the OutOfRangeLengthField attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **oversized_packets**: The number of received packets whose length is greater than the maximum Ethernet packet size. Corresponds to the OutOfRangeLengthField attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **sqe_errors**: The number of signal-quality errors detected on the medium. Corresponds to the SQETestErrors attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **symbol_errors**: The number of invalid symbols detected on the medium while a carrier signal was present. Corresponds to the SymbolErrorDuringCarrier attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **jabber_detected**: The number of times a 10Mbit transceiver entered the jabber state. Corresponds to the Jabber attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **short_packets**: The number of packets received that were below the minimum Ethernet frame size. Corresponds to the Runts attribute defined by the 802.3 spec.

- **total_collision_frames**: The total number of packets that experienced one or more collisions during transmission.

- **dribble_bits**: The total number of packets received where extraneous bits were present on the media at the end of the frame, but the frame was otherwise valid.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino
**Synopsis:**

```c
int nic_get_syspage_mac ( char *mac );
```

**Arguments:**

- `mac` A pointer to the Media Access Control (MAC) address stored in the system page.

**Description:**

The `nic_get_syspage_mac()` function retrieves, during system startup, a MAC address that was stored in the system page. If a driver is unable to determine the MAC address that was manufacturer-assigned to the interface (e.g. by reading it from an SROM), it should use this function instead.

If this function fails, you’ll need to specify a MAC address on the command line, otherwise, the driver should send an error message to the system logger and the instantiation of the interface should fail.

**Returns:**

- 0 if a MAC address was successfully retrieved from the syspage; -1 on failure.

**Classification:**

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</table>
Synopsis:

```c
int nic_parse_options ( nic_config_t *cfg,  
                        char  *option );
```

Arguments:

cfg A pointer to the members of the `nic_config_t` structure that the option string updates.

Based on the contents of the option string, this function updates various members of the `nic_config_t` structure, which the `cfg` argument points to. The various options that are recognized by this function affect the structure as follows:

- **ioport** The specified value is stored in the next free element (the element indexed by the `num_io_windows` field) of the `io_window_base` array. The `num_io_windows` field is incremented.
- **irq** The specified value is stored in the next free element (the element indexed by the `num_irqs` field) of the `irq` array. The `num_irqs` field is incremented.
- **dma** The specified value is stored in the next free element (the element indexed by the `num_dma_channels` field) of the `dma_channel` array. The `num_dma_channels` field is incremented.
- **vid** The specified value is stored in the `vendor_id` field.
- **did** The specified value is stored in the `device_id` field.
- **pci** The specified value is stored in the `device_index` field.
- **mac** The specified string is converted to an array of bytes, and stored in the `current_address` array.
- **lan** The specified value is stored in the `lan` field.
- **mtu** The specified value is stored in the `mtu` field.
- **mrq** The specified value is stored in the `mrq` field.
- **speed** The specified value is stored in the `media_rate` field.
- **duplex** The specified value is stored in the `duplex` field.
- **media** The specified value is stored in the `media` field.
- **promiscuous** This option doesn’t need an argument. If specified, the `NIC_FLAG_PROMISCUOUS` flag is set in the flags field.
- **nomulticast** This option doesn’t need an argument. If specified, the `NIC_FLAG_MULTICAST` flag is cleared in the flags field.
- **connector** The specified value is stored in the `connector` field.
The specified value is stored in the `device_index` field.

The specified value is stored in the `phy_addr` field.

The specified value is stored in the next free element (i.e. the element indexed by the `num_mem_windows` field) of the `mem_window_base` array, and the `num_mem_windows` field is incremented. If a window size was specified in addition to a base (the base value was followed by a colon, followed by the length value), the element of the `mem_window_size` array at the corresponding array index is updated.

The specified value is stored in the next free element (i.e. the element indexed by the `num_io_windows` field) of the `io_window_base` array, and the `num_io_windows` field is incremented. If a window size was specified in addition to a base (the base value was followed by a colon, followed by the length value), the element of the `io_window_size` array at the corresponding array index is updated.

If specified without an argument, the `verbose` field is incremented. If specified with an argument, the `verbose` field is set to the specified value.

The specified value is stored in the `iftype` field.

The specified string value is copied into the `uptype` array.

The specified value is stored in the `priority` field.

The driver typically initializes the fields of the `nic_config_t` structure with default values, before it parses the options. This allows the user to override the default values via driver options. In some cases, the driver should initialize a field with an invalid value.

For example, if the driver sets the speed and duplex values to -1, it will be able to tell, after the options have been parsed, whether the user attempted to explicitly set the speed and/or duplex to specific values. Then the driver can determine whether to force the link configuration, or to allow link autonegotiation/autodetection to take place.

The driver should set NIC_FLAG_MULTICAST in the `flags` field before parsing the options. If the `nomulticast` option is specified, this flag is subsequently cleared.

The `nic_parse_options()` function assists in parsing a driver network string. This function parses standardized options. Drivers can parse their driver-specific option strings with the `getsubopt()` function. Standardized options have a well-defined behavior that’s consistent across all network drivers.
If `getsubopt()` doesn’t recognize an option as being driver-specific, the option should then be passed to the `nic_parse_options()` function. It will try to interpret the option; if it can’t, the `nic_config_t` structure will be updated appropriately.

If the driver uses the `nic_parse_options()` function for option parsing, the `nic_config_t` structure stores the results.

__CAUTION:__ The `getsubopt()` function modifies the option string that’s passed to it, by changing commas to spaces. You should have the driver make a copy of the option string before using `getsubopt()` to parse it.

**Examples:**

Here’s an example of how the fictitious “toad” driver, which has two driver-specific options, would parse its options. In the example, the `toad_device_t` structure is a driver-specific structure the driver uses to store its internal state.

```c
#include <sys/slog.h>
#include <sys/slogcodes.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <drvr/nicsupport.h>

int toad_parse_options(toad_device_t *toad, const char *optstring, nic_config_t *cfg)
{
    char *value;
    int opt;
    char *options, *freeptr;
    char *c;
    int err = EOK;

    static char *toad_opts[] = {
        "receive",
        "transmit",
        NULL
    };
    enum {
        TOADOPT_RECEIVE = 0,
        TOADOPT_TRANSMIT
    };

    if (optstring == NULL)
        return 0;
    /* getsubopt() is destructive */
    freeptr = options = strdup(optstring);

    while (options && *options != '\0') {
        c = options;
        if ((opt = getsubopt( &options, toad_opts, & value)) == -1) {
            if (nic_parse_options(cfg, value) == EOK)
                continue;
            nic_slogf(_SLOGC_NETWORK, _SLOG_WARNING,
                "devn-toad: unknown option %s", c);
            err = EINVAL;
            break;
        }
    }
    return err;
}
```

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```c
switch (opt) {
    case TOADOPT_RECEIVE:
        if (toad != NULL)
            toad->num_rx_descriptors = strtol(value, 0, 0);
        continue;
    case TOADOPT_TRANSMIT:
        if (toad != NULL)
            toad->num_tx_descriptors = strtol(value, 0, 0);
        continue;
    default:
        /* Impossible */
}
free(freeptr);
errno = err;

    return (err == EOK) ? 0 : -1;
}
```

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino

### Safety

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<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thread</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</table>

**See also:**

`nic_config_t`
Synopsis:

```c
int nic_slogf ( int opcode,
        int severity,
        const char *fmt... )
```

Arguments:

- `opcode`  A combination of a major and minor code.
- `severity` The severity of the log message.
- `fmt`  A standard `printf()` string followed by `printf()` arguments.

Description:

The `nic_slogf()` function outputs error messages, informational messages, or debug information to the device. This function is a cover for `slogf()`.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

<table>
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</table>

See also:

`slogf()`
Synopsis:

typedef struct nic_stats {
    uint32t revision;
    uint32t media;
    union {
        nic_ethernet_stats_t estats;
        nic_wifi_stats_t wstats;
    } un;
    uint32t txed_ok;
    uint32t rxed_ok;
    uint64t octets_txed_ok;
    uint64t octets_rxed_ok;
    uint32t txed_multicast;
    uint32t rxed_multicast;
    uint32t txed_broadcast;
    uint32t rxed_broadcast;
    uint32t tx_failedAllocs;
    uint32t rx_failedAllocs;
};

Description:

The `net_stats_t` structure is used when a module wants to keep track of mandatory and non-mandatory statistical information. Higher-level software may query the driver’s statistical counter by issuing the DCMD_IO_NET_GET_STATS devctl(). The results from the devctl are stored in `net_stats_t`.

The members include:

- **revision**: Set this field to NIC_STATS_REVISION.
- **media**: Describes the device medium. It must be set to one of the nic_media_types enumerated types defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`. It’s important to set this field correctly, since it affects how the rest of the structure will be interpreted.
- **un.estats**: If the media type is NIC_MEDIA_802_3, this structure should be filled with Ethernet-specific statistics. See `nic_ethernet_stats_t` structure for a description of the Ethernet-specific statistics structure.
- **un.wstats**: If the media type is NIC_MEDIA_802_11, this structure should be filled with wireless-specific statistics. See `nic_wifi_stats_t` for a description of the wireless-specific statistics structure.
- **valid_stats**: A set of flags that indicate which generic statistics the driver keeps track of. The following flags are defined:
NIC_STATS_T

- NIC_STAT_TXED_MULTICAST — the *txed_multicast* field is valid.
- NIC_STAT_RXED_MULTICAST — the *rxed_multicast* field is valid.
- NIC_STAT_TXED_BROADCAST — the *txed_broadcast* field is valid.
- NIC_STAT_RXED_BROADCAST — the *rxed_broadcast* field is valid.
- NIC_STAT_TX_FAILED_ALLOCS — the *tx_failed_allocated* field is valid.
- NIC_STAT_RX_FAILED_ALLOCS — the *rx_failed_allocated* field is valid.

**txed_ok** This mandatory statistic counts the number of packets transmitted successfully.

**rxed_ok** This mandatory statistic counts the number of packets received successfully.

**octets_txed_ok** This mandatory statistic counts the number of bytes transmitted successfully.

**octets_rxed_ok** This mandatory statistic counts the number of bytes received successfully.

**txed_multicast** Counts the number of multicast packets the interface transmits.

**rxed_multicast** Counts the number of multicast packets the interface receives.

**txed_broadcast** Counts the number of broadcast packets the interface transmits.

**rxed_broadcast** Counts the number of broadcast packets the interface receives.

**txed_failed_allocs** Counts the number of dropped packets that couldn’t be transmitted because of a failed attempt to allocate memory.

**rxed_failed_allocs** Counts the number of dropped packets that couldn’t be received because of a failed attempt to allocate memory.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino
Synopsis:

```c
int nic_strtomac ( const char *s,
                  unsigned char *mac );
```

Arguments:

- `s` A pointer to the MAC address string.
- `mac` A pointer to the MAC address to convert.

Description:

The `nic_strtomac()` function converts a MAC address from a string form to a numeric form. The string may be any of the following forms:

- `xxxxxxxxxxxx` — where “x” is a hexadecimal digit in one of the following ranges:
  - 0-9
  - a-z
  - A-Z

- `xxxxxxxxxxxx` — where “x” is a hexadecimal digit in one of the following ranges:
  - 0-9
  - a-z
  - A-Z

The `nic_strtomac()` function assumes that the MAC address is six bytes long.

Returns:

Zero if the MAC address is valid; nonzero if it isn’t.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino

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<tr>
<td>Thread</td>
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</tr>
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</table>
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct {
    uint32t subcmd;
    uint32t size;
    union ssid;
    union bss_type;
    union station_name;
    union channel;
    union auth_type;
    union crypto_type;
    union wep_key;
    union wep_cfg;
    union bss_cfg;
    union signal_info;
} un;
}nic_wifi_dcmd_t;
```

Description:

When the driver receives a DCMD_IO_NET_WIFI devctl(), it’s passed a pointer to a structure of `nic_wifi_dcmd_t`. This `devctl()` either gets or sets various WiFi-specific parameters.

The members are defined as follows:

- **subcmd**: The WiFi-specific parameter that’s to be read or configured. Either the DEVDIR_TO or DEVDIR_FROM flag will be set in this field (these flags are defined in `<devctl.h>`.)

  - If DEVDIR_TO is set, the devctl is supplying information to the driver so it can set a particular property. If DEVDIR_FROM is set, the devctl is querying the current value of a particular property.

  - To determine which property is to get or set, the driver should logically AND the value of this field with NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_MASK, defined in `<hw/nicinfo.h>`.

- **size**: Currently unused.

- **ssid**: Stores the SSID (Service Set Identifier), when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMDSSID property is specified in the subcmd field.

- **bss_type**: Stores the BSS (Basic Service Set) type, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_BSS_TYPE property is specified in the subcmd field.

  - Valid values for this field are:
    - NIC_WIFI_BSS_TYPE_BSS — Basic Service Set
- NIC_WIFI_BSS_TYPE_IBSS — Independant Basic Service Set
- NIC_WIFI_BSS_TYPE_ADHOC — Ad-hoc mode
- NIC_WIFI_BSS_TYPE_AP — Access point

**station_name** Stores the name of the base station, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_STATION_NAME property is specified in the subcmd field.

**channel** Stores the communication channel, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_CHANNEL property is specified in the subcmd field.

**auth_type** Stores the authentication type, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_AUTH_TYPE property is specified in the subcmd field. Valid values are:
- NIC_WIFI_AUTH_TYPE_OPEN
- NIC_WIFI_AUTH_TYPE_SHARED_KEY

**crypto_type** Stores the encryption type, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_CRYPTO_TYPE property is specified in the subcmd field. Valid values are:
- NIC_WIFI_CRYPTO_TYPE_NONE — no encryption
- NIC_WIFI_CRYPTO_TYPE_WEP — Wired Equivalent Privacy

**wep_key** Stores the encryption key, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_CRYPTO_DATA property is specified in the subcmd field.

This field is a structure, for which the following fields are defined:
- **num** — a key identifier, which is a number between one and four, inclusive.
- **length** — the length of the key, in bytes.
- **data** — the actual key.

**wep_cfg** Stores encryption configuration information, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_CRYPTO_CFG property is specified in the subcmd field.

This field is a structure, for which the following field is defined:
- **active_key** — selects which key is currently active. This value may be zero (disables encryption), or a key identifier between one and four, inclusive.

**bssid_cfg** Stores BSS (Basic Service Set) configuration information, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_BSSID property is specified in the subcmd field.

This field is a structure, for which the following fields are defined:
nic_wifi_dcmd_t

- `macaddr` — stores the 6-byte station (MAC) address.

- `channel` — stores the communication channel, which may also be configured or read via the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_CHANNEL sub-command.

`signal_info` Stores information about the carrier signal, when the NIC_WIFI_SUBCMD_BSSID property is specified in the `subcmd` field. This is a `read-only` property.

This field is a structure, for which the following fields are defined:

- `radio_freq` — specifies the frequency of the carrier signal in hundreds of megahertz, i.e. a value of 24 means 2.4 gigahertz.

- `tx_rate` — specifies the data transfer bit-rate, in hundreds of kilobits per second, i.e. a value of 55 is 5.5 Mbits/sec.

- `quality, signal_level, noise_level` — these values give percentages, rounded to the nearest decimal point, which indicate the signal quality, signal level, and noise level of the carrier signal, respectively.

**Classification:**

QNX Neutrino
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _nic_wifi_stats {
    uint32t valid_stats;
    uint32t tx_fragment;
    uint32t tx_multicast;
    uint32t tx_failed;
    uint32t tx_retry;
    uint32t tx_multi_retry;
    uint32t rts_success;
    uint32t rts_failure;
    uint32t ack_failure;
    uint32t duplicate;
    uint32t rx_fragment;
    uint32t rx_multicast;
    uint32t fcs_errors;
} nic_wifi_stats_t;
```

Description:

This structure holds WiFi-specific statistics.

Your driver must fill in the following members:

- `valid_stats` A set of flags that indicate what WiFi-specific statistics the driver keeps track of. The following flags are defined:
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_TX_FRAGMENT — the `tx_fragment` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_TX_MULTICAST — the `tx_multicast` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_TX_FAILED — the `tx_failed` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_TX_RETRY — the `tx_retry` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_TX_MULTI_RETRY — the `tx_multi_retry` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_RTS_SUCCESS — the `rts_success` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_RTS_FAILURE — the `rts_failure` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_ACK_FAILURE — the `ack_failure` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_DUPLICATE — the `duplicate` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_RX_FRAGMENT — the `rx_fragment` field is valid.
  - NIC_WIFI_STAT_RX_MULTICAST — the `rx_multicast` field is valid.
- NIC_WIFI_STAT_FCS_ERRORS — the fcs_errors field is valid.

`tx_fragment` The number of data or management fragments that were transmitted successfully. This number corresponds to the TransmittedFragmentCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`tx_multicast` The number of multicast frames that were transmitted successfully. This number corresponds to the MulticastTransmittedFrameCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`tx_failed` The number of frame transmissions that were aborted because they exceeded the retry limits. This number corresponds to the FailedCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`tx_retry` The number of frames that were successfully transmitted, after one or more retries. This number corresponds to the RetryCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`tx_multi_retry` The number of frames that were successfully transmitted, after more than one retry. This number corresponds to the MultipleRetryCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`rts_success` The number of times a clear to send (CTS) was received in response to a request to send (RTS). This number corresponds to the RTSSuccessCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`rts_failure` The number of times a CTS was not received in response to an RTS. This number corresponds to the RTSFailureCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`ack_failure` The number of times an unexpected ACK was received. This number corresponds to the AckFailureCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`duplicate` The number of times a duplicate frame was received. This number corresponds to the FrameDuplicateCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`rx_fragment` The number of data or management fragments that were successfully received. This number corresponds to the ReceivedFragmentCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

`rx_multicast` The number of multicast frames that were successfully received. This number corresponds to the MulticastReceivedFrameCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.
The number of received frames that had frame check-sequence errors. This number corresponds to the FCSErrorCount attribute defined by the IEEE 802.11 specification.

Classification:

QNX Neutrino
Synopsis:

```c
typedef struct _npkt {
    net_buf    buffers;
    npkt_t    *next;
    void    *org_data;
    uint32_t   flags;
    uint32_t   framelen;
    uint32_t   tot_iov;
    uint32_t   csum_flags;
    uint32_t   ref_cnt;
    uint16_t   req_complete;
    union {
        void    *p;
        unsigned char c[16];
    } inter_module;
} npkt_t;
```

Description:

A packet consists of an `npkt_t` structure, which has data buffers associated with it. If the driver wants to create a packet to send upstream, it should call `alloc_up_npkt()`.

A data buffer is described by a structure of type `net_buf_t`, as defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`. The data in a buffer is comprised of one or more contiguous fragments. Each fragment is described by a `net_iov_t` structure (also defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`) that contains a pointer to the fragment’s data, the size of the fragment, and the physical address of the fragment. Note that packets being sent upstream must consist of a single fragment.

The `npkt_t` structure is defined in `<sys/io-net.h>`.

The `npkt_t` structure is the main data structure for a packet. The following fields of the `npkt_t` structure are of importance to the network driver:

- **buffers**: Points to a queue of data buffers. The buffer queues can be manipulated and traversed by a set of macros defined in `<sys/queue.h>`. See the examples below for the kind of operations a driver would need to perform on buffer queues.

- **next**: Used for chaining packets into a linked list. The last item in the list is set to NULL.

- **org_data**: For the sole use of the originator of the packet. The driver should only modify or interpret this field if the driver was the originator of the packet.

- **flags**: The logical OR of zero or more of the following:
If you’re using the new lightweight Qnet, a network driver developed with releases prior to 6.3 could malfunction because the assignment of the bits in the flags field of the npkt_t structure has changed. See _NPKT_ORG_MASK and _NPKT_SCRATCH_MASK in <sys/io-net.h>.

- _NPKT_NOT_TXED — if the driver couldn’t transmit a packet, for whatever reason, it should set this flag before calling tx_done to indicate the packet is known to have been dropped.
- _NPKT_UP — should be set for packets originating from the driver.
- _NPKT_MSG — indicates that the packet doesn’t contain data, but rather contains a message. A driver will set this flag when it sends a capabilities message upstream.
- _NPKT_PROMISC — the upper 12 bits of the flags field are reserved for the driver’s internal purposes.

The driver can use the eight most significant bits while it’s processing a packet. The driver shouldn’t make assumptions about the state of these bits when it receives a packet from the upper layers.

The next four most significant bits are for the use of the originator of a packet. The driver can use these flags for packets being sent upstream. If a packet didn’t originate with the driver, the driver must not alter these flags.

framelen

The total size of the packet data, in bytes, including the Ethernet header.

tot_iov

The total number of fragments that comprise the packet data. This number must be one for packets being sent upstream.

csum_flags

Used for hardware checksum offloading. See the “Hardware checksum offloading” section in the Writing a Network Driver chapter for more details.

ref_cnt

For packets originating from the driver, this should be set to one.

req_complete

For packets originating from the driver, this should be set to zero.

net_buf_t

A queue of structures of type net_buf_t is used to describe the data fragments that are associated with the packet.

typedef struct _net_buf {
    TAILQ_ENTRY (_net_buf) ptrs;
    int niov;
    net_iov_t *net_iov;
} ;
The members of this structure are as follows:

- **ptrs** Used by the queue manipulation macros to create queues of buffers.
- **niov** The number of data fragments associated with the buffer.
- **net iov** Points to an array of data structure descriptors.

### net iov_t

The **net iov_t** structure is used to describe the data fragment descriptors associated with the packet.

```c
typedef struct _net_iovec {
    void *iov_base;
    paddr_t iov_phys;
    size_t iov_len;
} ;
```

The members of this structure are as follows:

- **iov_base** Points to the data fragment.
- **iov_phy** The physical address of the data fragment.
- **iov_len** The size of the data fragment, in bytes.

### Classification:

QNX Neutrino
Glossary
802.3

A standard defined by the IEEE that defines the operation of a type of network, often referred to as “Ethernet”.

802.11

A standard defined by the IEEE that defines the operation of a type of wireless network, often referred to as “WiFi”.

Big-endian

Describes a layout by which numeric values are stored in memory. The most-significant bytes of numeric values are stored at the lower addresses.

Bus-mastering

A hardware mechanism whereby a device other than the CPU can directly transfer data to or from memory.

DDK

Device Driver Kit.

DMA

Direct Memory Access. A hardware mechanism whereby data can be transferred between a device other than the CPU and memory, without the CPU being involved in the memory access cycles.

DLL

Dynamically Loadable Library.

Ethernet

A type of network that involves the transmission of data packets across a physical medium (see 802.3).

IEEE

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

LAN

Local Area Network.

Little-endian

Describes a layout by which numeric values are stored in memory. The least-significant bytes of numeric values are stored at the lower addresses.
MAC

Media Access Control. The protocol used by devices on a network to arbitrate access to the media.

MII

Media Independant Interface. An interface, defined by the 802.3 standard, for connecting a MAC device to a PHY device.

MOST bus


NIC

Network Interface Controller.

PCI

Peripheral Component Interconnect. A popular, high-bandwidth bus used for connecting peripheral devices to a computer system.

PHY

A physical-layer device that deals with the details of signalling on the media.

TCP/IP

Transmission Control Protocol over Internet Protocol.

WiFi

A type of network that involves the transmission of data packets using radio or infrared signals (see 802.11).
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