

## Re: cvs commit: src/sys/modules/iwi Makefile src/sys/dev/iwi if\_iwi.c if\_iwireg.h if\_iwivar.h

*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/arch/2005-11/0092.html>

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**From:** Warner Losh (*imp\_at\_bsdimp.com*)

**Date:** 11/21/05

Date: Mon, 21 Nov 2005 12:39:48 -0700 (MST)

To: deischen@freebsd.org

> *Not taking one side or the other... Can we use a common  
> tool to convert firmware to a kld? Just pass it the  
> symbol name or whatever else you need?*

The answer is 'it depends'...

> *I guess this makes the assumption that most firmware consists  
> of just one object file.*

The object files vary somewhat as to what is in the file. Some are S records in text format, while others are COFF or some other format in binary form. I had assumed that each driver would want to parse things out into a useful form in the conversion program to keep the kernel portion as small as possible. This is inherently driver dependent.

However, if we wanted to have a raw bits into the kernel conduit, then we could have a tool, so long as it handled an arbitrary number of files. Many drivers have a 'primary' and a 'secondary' firmware to load. But presenting an array to the driver, or having the driver load multiple files is a way around this.

Having the kernel loader be able to load arbitrary files would be even better...

Warner

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freebsd-arch@freebsd.org mailing list

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