

Re: Added native socks support to libc in FreeBSD 7

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/arch/2007-12/msg00091.html>

- *From:* Raffaele De Lorenzo <raffaele.delorenzo@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 17 Dec 2007 11:11:23 +0100
-

John E Hein wrote:

Raffaele De Lorenzo wrote at 14:39 +0100 on Dec 10, 2007:

> You can see in the port-tree my project "csocks" and > <http://csocks.altervista.org>.

Thanks for lettings us know about your project. Here are just a few comments.

Why don't you provide the source code in the port?

For an open source, security sensitive project such as this, I think that's important for users to gain confidence in it.

As far as putting the code in the base FreeBSD, that's a pretty large hurdle. The FreeBSD maintainers tend to put something in base only after a significant part of the user base uses it, and it has become the [or a] de facto preferred implementation of some industry standard.

SOCKS is a standard, but the csocks implementation is not (yet). Continue to adhere to RFCs and grow your user base, and perhaps inclusion in FreeBSD's base system will happen organically.

For things to go into the base system ...

1) The software (and its developers) need a proven track record (which you can gain by getting a large user base in ports). Personally, I hadn't heard about your SOCKS implementation until this week.

2) A significant number of FreeBSD users can't do without it. Now, this is quite subjective. In some sense, people can't do without a web browser in this day and age, but there's no browser in the FreeBSD base system. Of course, comparing firefox to csocks is not fair. Maybe grep is a better comparison. Web browsers are monstrous.

Re: Added native socks support to libc in FreeBSD 7

3) There is a significant benefit to having it tightly integrated with the base system (as opposed to a more loose integration in the ports tree). Wireless LAN is perhaps a good example here (and for #2 for that matter). Not everyone needs it, but when you do it is good to have it in the base system where it is given system level architecture love and care.

4) You need someone with commit privs to shepherd this thing along _and_ agreement from lots of other people (including FreeBSD's core). Hint: the freebsd-arch list