

## NAME

**ovs-kmod-ctl** – OVS startup helper script for loading kernel modules

## SYNOPSIS

**ovs-kmod-ctl insert**  
**ovs-kmod-ctl remove**  
**ovs-kmod-ctl help** | **-h** | **--help**  
**ovs-kmod-ctl --version**  
**ovs-kmod-ctl version**

## DESCRIPTION

The **ovs-kmod-ctl** program is responsible for inserting and removing Open vSwitch kernel modules. It is not meant to be invoked directly by system administrators but to be called internally by system startup scripts. The script is used as part of an SELinux transition domain.

Each of **ovs-kmod-ctl**'s commands is described separately below.

### The “insert” command

The **insert** command loads the Open vSwitch kernel modules, if needed. If this fails, and the Linux bridge module is loaded but no bridges exist, it tries to unload the bridge module and tries loading the Open vSwitch kernel module again.

### The “remove” command

The **remove** command unloads the Open vSwitch kernel module (including the bridge compatibility module, if loaded) and any associated vport modules.

## EXIT STATUS

**ovs-kmod-ctl** exits with status 0 on success and nonzero on failure. The **insert** command is considered to succeed if kernel modules are already loaded; the **remove** command is considered to succeed if none of the kernel modules are loaded.

## ENVIRONMENT

The following environment variables affect **ovs-kmod-ctl**:

**PATH** **ovs-kmod-ctl** does not hardcode the location of any of the programs that it runs. **ovs-kmod-ctl** will add the *sbindir* and *bindir* that were specified at **configure** time to **PATH**, if they are not already present.

**OVS\_LOGDIR**  
**OVS\_RUNDIR**  
**OVS\_DBDIR**  
**OVS\_SYSCONFDIR**  
**OVS\_PKGDATA DIR**  
**OVS\_BINDIR**  
**OVS\_SBIN DIR**

Setting one of these variables in the environment overrides the respective **configure** option, both for **ovs-kmod-ctl** itself and for the other Open vSwitch programs that it runs.

## FILES

**ovs-kmod-ctl** uses the following files:

**ovs-lib** Shell function library used internally by **ovs-kmod-ctl**. It must be installed in the same directory as **ovs-kmod-ctl**.

## EXAMPLE

**ovs-kmod-ctl** isn't intended to be manually executed. However, the following examples demonstrate loading the kernel modules.

**ovs-kmod-ctl insert**  
Attempts to insert the Open vSwitch kernel modules.

**ovs-kmod-ctl remove**

Attempts to remove the Open vSwitch kernel modules.

**SEE ALSO**

**README.rst, ovs-ctl(8)**