
Subject: Re: TEST IDEA - Scaling with openvz
Posted by [rickb](#) on Mon, 28 May 2007 07:13:02 GMT
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I see. openvz is not a heavy duty or even a true virtualization solution (like vmware is). Rather it is a rather complete system of building linux process containers, which each resemble a conventional linux operating system. If you have worked with freebsd jails, it is very similar but (openvz is) also much more complete. the openvz network virtualization is far superior to freebsd jails in particular. It seems like a security problem at first, that the HN can manage the VE's files, but having access to the HN, under any virtualization solution, could spell doom/insecurity under the same circumstances. ie, the HN gets hacked, all of the VE data is at risk under vmware, xen, openvz, etc.

Due to the fact that openvz is a single kernel, container approach to achieving virtualized operating systems, the complete filesystem of each VE is accessible from the hardware node. This is unlike xen, where each VE has a private filesystem. Actually, from the openvz hardware node, the VE processes look like normal processes and can be killed and interacted with like normal. This illustrates how openvZ is a container approach to virtualization.

If you want your customers to be able to [re]deploy operating systems on your hardware nodes, it is very possible and a very common requirement for a service provider. the high-level method I used to achieve this is very simple and works well. My web application triggers a process on the HN, to make the appropriate vzctl calls which stop/destroy/create/set the VE. Using this basic strategy, you can manipulate all aspects of the VEs, including redeployment.

Rick Blundell
