
Subject: Re: openvz naming conventions; numeric vs symbolic
Posted by [Steve Wray](#) on Wed, 15 Aug 2007 20:07:50 GMT
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Kir Kolyshkin wrote:
> See vzctl set --name
>

Well thats a nice start.

Now, to follow on from that great progress, how do I get it so that the directory where the root filesystem lives corresponds to the name I set instead of the numeric VEID?

Thanks!

> Steve Wray wrote:
>
>> Hi there,
>> I'm a long time user of Xen virtualisation and have been evaluating
>> OpenVZ as a replacement for certain applications.
>>
>> OpenVZ appears to be technically superior under certain conditions and
>> I hope to iron out the issues that I have come across.
>>
>> The main issue confronting me at this time is scalability of
>> management; OpenVZ may scale well with respect to performance and
>> resource usage but at this time I don't see it scaling well when it
>> comes to management of virtual machines.
>>
>> I am sure that I must be missing something obvious since its a pretty
>> basic issue. I've searched extensively for some info on this but found
>> nothing.
>>
>> The problem?
>>
>> Numeric rather than symbolic identification of virtual machines.
>>
>> When I start a domU (a Xen virtual machine) in Xen I direct 'xm
>> create' at the config file the name of which corresponds to the name
>> of that domU.
>>
>> When I list currently running machines in Xen I see a listing of the
>> names of the Xen domUs and their corresponding numeric IDs.
>>
>> When I create a logical volume for a Xen domU I create that volume
>> based on the name of the corresponding Xen instance.

>>
>> In each case I try to ensure consistency by making the names of the
>> Xen domUs correspond to the hostnames of the servers which those domUs
>> are running. Host foo is on the domU named foo and is in a logical
>> volume named foo. To start domU foo I run 'xm create
>> /etc/xen/domains/foo.conf'. This scales well and makes things very
>> nice and obvious.
>>
>> OpenVZ seems to do away with symbolic names referring in all instances
>> to numeric ids, a bit like not using DNS but putting an IP address
>> into a URL.
>>
>> I have an awful feeling that when the pager goes off at 2am the person
>> on call, bleary-eyed and tired, will make some horrible mistake when
>> trying to mentally map numeric identifiers to server hostnames. This
>> is what I mean by 'not scaling well'. Use of numeric identifiers may
>> work ok when there is only one or two, but when there may be a dozen
>> things will get out of hand.
>>
>> I am sure that there must be a way to use symbolic names instead of
>> numbers in OpenVZ but I can't for the life of me find out how.
>>
>> Thanks!
>>
>>
>>
