
Subject: Re: semantics for namespace naming

Posted by [Cedric Le Goater](#) on Thu, 14 Dec 2006 13:58:29 GMT

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Serge E. Hallyn wrote:

> Let's say we have a vserver, from which we start some jobs
> which we want to checkpoint/restart/migrate. These are two
> of the usages we currently foresee for the namespaces, though
> I'd say it's safe to assume there will be more.
>
> I'll want to be able to address the c/r jobs by some ID in
> order to checkpoint and kill them. I'll also want to be
> able to address the entire vserver by some ID, in order to
> kill it. In that case the c/r jobs should also be killed.
> So those jobs are known by at least two id's. Furthermore, I
> may want two vservers on the same machine, both running a c/r
> job called 'calculate_pi'.
>
> So we can look at this as a filesystem. In the above scenario,
> we've got /sergesvserver, /sergesvserver/calculate_pi,
> /randomvserver, and /randomvserver/calculate_pi. And, if
> user hallyn logs into /sergesvserver using pam_namespace.so,
> unsharing his mounts namespace to get a private /tmp and /home,
> then he ends up in /sergesvserver/unnamed1. So each nsproxy
> has a node in the namespace id filesystem, with random names
> unless/until it is renamed to a more meaningful name. This
> allows us to switch to a vserver by specifying the vserver's
> name (ln /sys/namespaces/vserver1 /proc/nsproxy or whatever
> semantics we end up using), kill an entire vserver recursively
> (rm -rf /sys/namespaces/vserver1), perhaps even checkpoint
> (tar jcf /tarballs/vserver1 /sys/namespaces/vserver1) and
> certainly rename (mv /sys/namespaces/unnamed1 /sys/namespaces/sergeprivhome).
>
> One key observation which I haven't made explicit is that you
> never actually leave a nsid ("container"). If you start under
> /vserver1, you will always be under /vserver1. I don't know of
> any reason that would not be appropriate. If I start a nested
> vserver from there, then to me it may be known as
> 'vserver_testme', while to the admin of the machine, it would be
> known as /vserver1/vserver_testme.
>
> This makes one possible implementation of the container struct:
>
> struct container {
> struct container *parent;
> char *name;
> struct nsproxy *nsproxy;
> struct list_head children;

```
> };  
> struct nsproxy {  
> ...  
> struct container *container;  
> };  
>  
> Plus of course relevant sysfs stuff.
```

I like the naming model. a few questions :

how do you enter only a subset of namespaces of a nsproxy/container
and not all of it ?

what flexibility the struct container is giving us ? why not have
container == nsproxy ?

the recursivity model looks like extra overhead. it could be flat.

C.

Containers mailing list
Containers@lists.osdl.org
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>
