Subject: Bandwidth Accounting for VPS
Posted by Ukyo on Mon, 03 Oct 2005 13:29:49 GMT

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Bandwidth Accounting for VPS

Bandwidth accounting allows you to track bandwidth usage of your VPS.
This is possible using the Linux iptables. You add an iptables entry for
the INBOUND, and OUTBOUND on the FORWARD chain. You can do this
with the following example:

```
# iptables -A FORWARD -o eth0 -s 10.69.69.201
# iptables -A FORWARD -i eth0 -d 10.69.69.201
```

Please note that the bandwidth accounting works by IP, not VPSID.
You must have BOTH lines to properly track traffic that is INBOUND as well
as OUTBOUND.

You can view the accounting results with the following command:

```
# iptables -L FORWARD -v -x
```

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT 54 packets, 3240 bytes)

pkts	bytes	target	prot	opt	in	out	source	destination
11	660		all	--	any	eth0	10.69.69.201	anywhere
11	660		all	--	eth0	any	anywhere	10.69.69.201

You can also use the following command to only show
accounting information for specific IP 's:

```
# iptables -L FORWARD -v -x | grep '10.69.69.201'
```

14	840		all	--	any	eth0	10.69.69.201	anywhere
14	840		all	--	eth0	any	anywhere	10.69.69.201

To clear/reset the counters you can use the following command:

```
# iptables -Z
```

However, please note that this will simply reset all counters to 0.
If you want to get the latest accounting results before it resets the
counter you can use the following command:

```
# iptables -L FORWARD -Z -v
```

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT 60 packets, 3600 bytes)

pkts	bytes	target	prot	opt	in	out	source	destination

```
   0    0        all -- any   eth0  10.69.69.201      anywhere
   0    0        all -- eth0  any   anywhere          10.69.69.201
Zeroing chain `FORWARD'
```

Please remember that using these commands will reset the counters for
ALL of your IP Addresses. If you want to just reset a single one, please
delete the counter, and recreate it.

To delete a counter, you use the same line that you created it with, except
you use a -D instead of -A. Here is an example:

```
# iptables -D FORWARD -o eth0 -s 10.69.69.201
# iptables -D FORWARD -i eth0 -d 10.69.69.201
```

The iptables WILL be cleared if the server resets.
Once the server restarts you will need to re-create
every counter. I suggest scripting it.