Subject: Re: [RFC] Container mini-summit agenda for Sept 3, 2007 Posted by Cedric Le Goater on Fri, 31 Aug 2007 14:26:02 GMT

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Hello Oren,

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Oren Laadan wrote:
> Cedric Le Goater wrote:
>> Hello All.
>>
>> Some of us will meet next week for the first mini-summit on containers.
>> Many thanks to Alasdair Kergon and LCE for the help they provided in
>> making this mini-summit happen!
>>
>> It will be help on Monday the 3rd of September from 9:00 to 12:45 at LCE
>> in room D. We also might get a phone line for external participants and,
>> if not, we should be able to set up a skype phone.
>> Here's a first try for the Agenda.
>> Global items
    [ let's try to defer discussion after presentation ]
>>
>> * Pavel Emelianov status update
>> * Serge E. Hallyn Container Roadmap including
>> . task containers (Paul Menage)
>> . resource management (Srivatsa Vaddagiri)
>>
>> Special items
>> [ brainstorm sessions which we would like to focus on ]
>> * builing the global container object ('a la' openvz or vserver)
>> * container user space tools
>> * container checkpoint/restart
      5. checkpoint/restart
>
            memory c/r
>
                 (there are a few designs and prototypes)
>
                 (though this may be ironed out by then)
>
                 per-container swapfile?
>
           overall checkpoint strategy (one of:)
>
                in-kernel
>
                 userspace-driven
>
                 hybrid
>
           overall restart strategy
           use freezer API
```

```
use suspend-to-disk?
sysvipc
"set identifier" syscall
pid namespace
clone_with_pid()
There are other identifiers - pseudo terminals, message queues (mq)
```

right, we have plans for developing these if needed (cf 2.)

- > (if you insist on supporting these ...). In general, we need a way > to specify the virtual id of a resource that is created.
- right, pierre peiffer has sent such a pachset for the sysvipc namespace. I'm looking at a clone_with_pid() for pid namespace.
- > I suggest
- > that this should be part of an interface between c/r and containers
- > (see below)

>

- > live migration
- > aka pre-copy (which can be used for live migration but also to reduce
- > the downtime due to a checkpoint).

yes that's usually what the buzz term "live migration" is used for.

> how about adding incremental checkpoint to the list?

sure. I think it's a bit early to address these topic but we should have them in mind as some implementations already exist. And we need to gather all the needs.

- > I think that it is also important to discuss an interface between c/r and
- > containers, each of which stands on it own. For instance, how to request
- > a specific virtual id (during restart), define required notifiers (to
- > set/unset c/r related data on/off a task), control c/r-related setting of
- > container (e.g. frozen, restarting) that may affect behavior, such as
- > signal handling, and so forth.

This is exactly what we want to talk about.

We need to identify these C/R needs, talk and agree about possible APIS and then convince the linux subsystem maintainers that they are useful for a large set of C/R solutions based on containers.

- > Also, such an interface can allow existing c/r implementations to work with
- > different virtualization implementations as they become available.

what you call "virtualization" (private identifier namespaces), is I think being covered by the namespaces. These namespaces are not complete (like we're missing a way to reassign ids) but they are going in the right direction, IMO. However, I don't think there will be different "virtualization" implementations in mainline.

- > Many of these were discussed in a recent Zap paper present in USENIX:
- > http://www.ncl.cs.columbia.edu/publications/usenix2007_fordist.pdf
- > The paper describes important design choices in Zap (but I'm biased ...).
- > I think it may serve as an appetizer for the discussion :P

Thanks, I hope we all have time to read it.

C.

Containers mailing list

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