
Subject: Re: Physical server to OpenVZ

Posted by [Gregor Mosheh](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2007 16:41:21 GMT

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Stefan Kok wrote:

- > 1) Is this possible (backup physical server and restore to virtual) ?
- > 2) If so is there any documentation / HOWTO's or pointers that you could
- > give please ?

The basic OS would survive a tar/untar process. But there're some items typically missing from a VPS setting which would be vital to running on a physical server. The first that come to mind are module utilities (modprobe et al) and the modules themselves, some daemons (klogd, udevd), and then a few fundamental config files (fstab, lilo.conf or /boot).

I think that you probably *could* do it with a lot of effort (90% of it being adding new packages to the VPS after you're untarred it), but that if your goal is fast and reliable recovery, you'd be best off restoring the VPS into a VPS setting. It's not difficult or time-consuming to install the OpenVZ system, and they could easily have it installed by the time the backup drive arrived at the new office.

If the new HN already had OpenVZ, then it's trivially simple to run `vzctl create` to generate the VPS, then replace the content under `/vz/private/X` with the tar content.

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"Remember that no one cares if you can back up,
only if you can restore." - AMANDA
