
Subject: Re: namespaces compatibility list

Posted by [Cedric Le Goater](#) on Tue, 06 Nov 2007 12:54:37 GMT

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Pavel Emelyanov wrote:

> Hi guys!

>

> As you might have seen, recently there was some spontaneous
> discussion about the namespaces-working-together problems.

>

> Ted T'so proposed to create some document that describes what
> problems user may have when he/she creates some new namespace,
> but keeps others shared. I like this idea, so here's the draft
> with the problems I currently have in mind and can describe
> somewhat audibly - the "namespaces compatibility list".

that compatibility list could be encoded in the way we check
the clone flags in `copy_process()` and `unshare()`. It would
also be good to have it as a comment somewhere in `kernel/fork.c`

> The Documentation/namespaces/ dir is about to contain more
> docs about the namespaces stuff (e.g. I'm going to prepare
> a doc about the pid namespaces, maybe Serge will want to
> write something about the user namespaces development, Eric
> may want to put some notes about the netns API and so on),
> but currently there will be only one file.

>

> What would you say about it?

well, as this is user space issues, I'd say that we should
help building a good man page. What's in Documentation/
could help to do that but I don't trust documentation when
it's maintained in 2 places.

So a `check_flags()` routine for namespaces with all the required
comments would probably be more helpful for the manpage
maintainer.

I was thinking of merging some clone flags together also and
keep only 3, NS, PID and NET.

>

> Signed-off-by: Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>

>

> ---

>

> diff --git a/Documentation/namespaces/compatibility-list.txt
b/Documentation/namespaces/compatibility-list.txt

```

> new file mode 100644
> index 0000000..4be4a3c
> --- /dev/null
> +++ b/Documentation/namespaces/compatibility-list.txt
> @@ -0,0 +1,32 @@
> + Namespaces compatibility list
> +
> +This document contains the information about the problems user
> +may have when creating tasks living in different namespaces.
> +
> +Here's the summary. This matrix shows the known problems, that
> +occur when tasks share some namespace (the columns) while living
> +in different other namespaces (the rows):
> +
> + UTS IPC VFS PID User Net
> +UTS
> +IPC   1
> +VFS
> +PID   1 1
> +User   2
> +Net
> +

```

funny, I had just started doing :

```

depends on VFS PID IPC NET UTS MQ
VFS *
PID **
IPC **
NET  **
UTS  *
MQ  ** ? **

```

I kept VFS out for the moment.

I would rather build a matrix giving the dependencies. nop ? which is a way to enforce the clone flags.

C.

```

> +1. Both the IPC and the PID namespaces provide IDs to address
> + object inside the kernel. E.g. semaphore with ipcid or
> + process group with pid.
> +
> + In both cases, tasks shouldn't try telling this id to some
> + other task living in different namespace via shared filesystem
> + or IPC shmем/message. The fact is that this ID is only valid

```

> + within the namespace it was obtained in and may refer to some
> + other object in another namespace.
> +
> +2. Intentionnaly, two equal user ids in different user namespaces
> + should not be equal from the VFS point of view. In other
> + words, user 10 in one user namespace shouldn't have the same
> + access permissions to files, belonging to user 10 in another
> + namespace. But currently this is not so.
>

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