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Subject: Re: Multiple kernel versions

Posted by [khorenko](#) on Tue, 29 Apr 2008 06:07:36 GMT

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Hi.

Yes, in general you are right - all the Containers on a Node use the same kernel and you cannot run different kernels in different Containers using OpenVZ technology, but!...

Kernel API is really very stable and kernel provides a good backward compatibility and thus for most userspace apps it does not matter what kernel they use. (Ok, this is true in only one direction - surely newer kernel might provide some new syscalls and if an app uses it, it will fail if one tries to run the app under an older kernel where this syscall was not implemented.)

In particular I highly believe that a Container with CentOS 3 will work fine on a Node with 2.6.18-x ovz kernel.

Moreover, OpenVZ has a possibility to change the kernel name reported inside a Container by 'uname' - might be helpful if some app uses this.

The other problem you'll face trying to create a Container with CentOS 3 - absence of a precreated CentOS 3 template. OpenVZ project started when CentOS 4 has been already widely used (and thus kernel 2.6.9) so up to now seems that nobody created/shared a template for CentOS 3. But you can create a template yourself and may be even share it.

Hope this helps.

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Konstantin

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