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Subject: Correct Way to Manage System Time & VPS Time  
Posted by [VinayKAgarwal](#) on Mon, 23 Jun 2008 19:15:29 GMT  
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Hello,

I lease a VPS using openvz (CentOS 5) where I am having difficulty setting time correctly to my desired timezone (America/Los\_Angeles). At 10:48am PDT, my server shows 6:57pm - both the timezone and the minutes are incorrect although date display show the correct timezone as follows

```
[root@server /]# date  
Tue Jun 17 18:57:51 PDT 2008
```

I can't set time even under root as shown below

```
[root@server /]# date 06171026.10  
date: cannot set date: Operation not permitted
```

My questions are

1. What are the best hardware clock settings for a vps provider? Should it sync with time server regularly? Should it be set to UDT or any local timezone would do?
  2. What are the best clock settings for a vps lessee beyond setting own timezone?
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