Subject: Re: Vmware to openvz ?
Posted by dowdle on Wed, 30 Jul 2008 03:42:48 GMT
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First off, OpenVZ is *ONLY* for Linux on Linux virtualization... so you will never be able to run your VMware Windows virtual machines on OpenVZ. Also, OpenVZ is more geared toward containers that do not contain GUI environments. While you can use GUI environments inside of containers, you aren't going to get runlevel 5 to work... and have a graphical login screen for your container. If you really work at it, that might be possible but the vast majority of people use vnc, ssh -X, or something like xorg-xnest/zypher... or no machine.

As kenjy said (and his native language is Spanish by the way), OpenVZ does NOT use disk images... so there is not a process for converting a VMware disk image into an OpenVZ disk image format. Containers exist as a directory inside of /vz/private (or perhaps something similar under /var depending on the host node distro you are using). Container 199 would be /vz/private/199 and in that directory you will find all of the directories and files you'd expect on a Linux / filesystem. When the container is running, you'll also see files under /vz/root/199. The /vz/root/{CTID} does not take up actual disk space and is just a remounted (although I couldn't tell you the exact process) private directory. As you would imagine it is a good idea to put /vz on a partition of it's own. I believe some folks like to use LVM partitions for their container directories so they can use LVM's live snapshots feature for easy backups.

For converting VMware Linux virtual machines to OpenVZ, you can probably just try the Physical to Virtual recipe given on the wiki. I realize that VMware virtual machines are NOT physical, but the p2v method should work. You can find it here:

http://wiki.openvz.org/Physical_to_container

Before you start trying to migrate machines though I'd recommend you spend some time with OpenVZ and get to know it some by creating a few new containers and playing with them. Learn the vzctl command and read the vzctl man page. Play with vzctl's various options. Once you gain some confidence using vzctl and working with containers... then you might start trying to do some p2v migrations.