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Subject: Re: VMWare inside OpenVZ?

Posted by [maratrus](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 11:54:41 GMT

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Hello,

in spite of the fact that this is a very specific request I've tried to conduct the experiment.

I have a VmWare workstation. OpenVZ is installed there.

So my plan was to create VE and inside that VE setup VmWare workstation with running virtual Windows inside.

I had to slightly change vmware scripts.

I was very close to success but came across the problem

"

No, it is not possible to run a VMware product inside a VMware product.

"

<http://communities.vmware.com/thread/63287>

If you want you can conduct the same experiment on physical node. May be you'll be success.

The following steps were done:

- OpenVZ - 2.6.18-92.1.1.el5.028stab057.2
- VE based on fedora-7-default template
- install appropriate ovzkernel-devel package on the HN and inside VE
- install VmWare workstation on the HN (to be able easily load modules on the HN)

On the HN:

- vzctl stop \$VEID
- vzctl set \$VEID --capability sys\_module on --save (but it's very insecure)
- vzctl start 101
- mount --bind /lib/modules/2.6.18-92.1.1.el5.028stab057.2 /vz/root/\$VEID/lib/modules/2.6.18-92.1.1.el5.028stab057.2
- /etc/init.d/vmware stop

Inside the VE:

- install rpm/tarball with vmware project
- open /etc/init.d/vmware script and do vmware\_load\_module() function always return 0 (just comment out string with insmod command)
- find isLoaded() function and change {n = "no";} to {n = "yes"}
- start Vmware installation script. It should stop vmware services and then ask you some questions. After it stops services open /etc/init.d/vmware script and change {n = "yes";} to {n = "no"} in isLoaded() function.
- after that installation should pass without any problems.

Then on the HN:

- vzctl set 101 --devnodes vmmon:rw --save
- vzctl set 101 --devnodes vmnet0:rw --save
- vzctl set 101 --devnodes vmnet8:rw --save
- ssh -2 -c blowfish -X user@\$VE\_IP\_ADDRESS

And then inside VE run vmware  
- vmware

P.S. This is no the exact howto just some notes about the problem. I don't know if I change vmware scripts in the best way. I haven't think a lot about it.

Also if you have any problems about modules already loaded during the installation process you can unload them on the HN with command `"/etc/init.d/vmware stop"`.

Vmware could refuse to start. You can try to force it to do that by deleting `/etc/vmware/not_configured`.

Anyway the described notes are not the universal panacea. Please, play by yourself a little bit. I wish you success!