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Subject: Strange whois issue with whois.ripe.net  
Posted by [tomp](#) on Tue, 31 Jan 2012 17:29:34 GMT  
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Hi,

We run a collection of 8 x CentOS 5 OpenVZ hardware nodes in a UK data center.

Each hardware node is on a private internal network that is connected to a firewall server running vanilla CentOS 5.

Everything seems to be working fine, except for 1 thing.

We run a service that runs regular whois lookups on IPs, however we have discovered that some of the containers cannot connect to whois.ripe.net on TCP port 43 (even using telnet it cannot connect).

Interestingly, the problem seems to be intermittent, and when we reboot the hardware node it becomes possible to telnet to that host again, but as soon as we try it from a container running on that hardware node it timesout and causes the hardware node to timeout too.

This seems to happen on 4 out of the 8 hardware nodes, and there seems to be no pattern between kernel version or useland versions.

Has anyone seen anything like this before!?

Thanks