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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] UBC: syscalls (user interface)  
Posted by [Andrew Morton](#) on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 15:40:33 GMT  
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On Thu, 17 Aug 2006 16:13:30 +0400  
Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:

> > I was more thinking about (for example) user land physical memory limit  
> > for that bean counter. If the limits are going down, then the system  
> > call should try to flush out page cache pages or swap out anonymous  
> > memory. But you are right that it won't be possible in all cases, like  
> > for in kernel memory limits.  
> Such kind of memory management is less efficient than the one  
> making decisions based on global shortages and global LRU algorithm.

I also was quite surprised that openvz appears to have no way of  
constraining a container's memory usage. "I want to run this bunch of  
processes in a 4.5GB container".

> The problem here is that doing swap out takes more expensive disk I/O  
> influencing other users.

A well-set-up container would presumably be working against its own  
spindle(s). If the operator has gone to all the trouble of isolating a job  
from the system's other jobs, he'd be pretty dumb to go and let all the  
"isolated" jobs share a stinky-slow resource like a disk.

But yes, swap is a problem. To do this properly we'd need a way of saying  
"this container here uses that swap device over there".

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