Subject: Update to 7.0.9 release and journalctl verify system freeze
Posted by wsap on Fri, 03 May 2019 01:31:03 GMT

All of the following occurred exactly the same on two distinct bare metal boxes:

- At the start we were running OpenVZ release 7.0.8 with the factory kernel version vzkernel-3.10.0-862.20.2.vz7.73.27.x86_64 (note that it was *only* the kernel on the factory version -- everything else was on release)
- We updated to 7.0.9 release version with matching release kernel 3.10.0-862.20.2.vz7.73.29 then reboot the machine
- System reboots successfully
- `journalctl --verify` running at 100% CPU and /var/log/messages had nothing new in it since the shutdown part of the reboot. (Presumably because of the in-progress verification)
- Within approximately 7-10 minutes the whole server froze and reboots would bring it back to the same state as in the above step
- On a reboot, and within that 7-10 minute grace period before freezing, we killed the journalctl --verify process on both machines, and the bare metal nodes remained stable -- no more freeze.

My guess would be that either:

1. journalctl's verify process has a bug in it that causes the freeze, or
2. The lack of logging that occurs while journalctl --verify is running causes something else on the box to freak out and lock up

We're curious to see if anyone else has experienced a similar issue with journalctl --verify causing hardware lock-ups after a reboot (or update and reboot).