Subject: Re: Q: Backup Client on Physical Host to pull data from VZhosts? Posted by rickb on Mon, 04 Dec 2006 15:28:38 GMT

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Hi Tim,

There is no problem with access the VE files from the HN, copying /vz/private/VEID/path/to/file to /root, even while the VE is running. As with any server, if you want a 100% bulletproof backup, you will need to stop the software/server and then create a backup of its files so that the applications can definitely commit their data to the disk. However, if your applications do not store much data in memory (the data on disk is enough to get the apps back to a running state), you can safely create a backup of the VE files while the VE is running.

For a backup method, I would check out tar with the incremental option. This does a great job of creating incremental backups and storing them as one file, which you can then move to another server for safety. Using this, you can create a backup of the entire VE, not just specific directories. I feel the file storage overhead is worth it because restoring from the backups is a breeze. Also since the system files won't change often, only your initial tar backup archives them.

Hope this helps. Rick Blundell