Subject: Incorrect Crontab times set
Posted by samix on Mon, 30 Jan 2012 19:56:11 GMT
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Hey,

I made a template of a openvz container using the document here
wiki.openvz.org/Creating_a_CentOS_5.0_Template

When I created VM's using this template all the cron times changed and each container had a different cron time than the image as well as different from each other.

Cron file in the image
cat /tmp/50/etc/cron.d/atop
start atop daily at midnight
0 0 * * * root /etc/cron.daily/atop

And now the same file in the container that were created using this template
container 111
start atop daily at midnight
32 1 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 112
start atop daily at midnight
6 3 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 113
start atop daily at midnight
40 1 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 114
start atop daily at midnight
18 1 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 115
start atop daily at midnight
9 2 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 116
start atop daily at midnight
25 1 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 117
start atop daily at midnight
43 2 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily
container 118
start atop daily at midnight
29 1 * * * root /etc/atop/atop.daily

Is this a know problem ? a bug ? Any ideas what can I do to rectify this, because now I am wondering that many other files may have also changed just like this and I will come to know only when something breaks..

Regards,
samix

Subject: Re: Incorrect Crontab times set
Posted by samix on Tue, 31 Jan 2012 13:24:03 GMT
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I figured out, this is because of the postcreate.sh script, but I think this is wrong, and that this feature should be optional and not mandatory.

I have a setup where we run completely identical servers and the cron times need to be same on all of them, apart from other stuff.

Normally we create our own image and then using puppet create other containers, due to the postcreate.sh script, the cron times in the newly created containers change and we have to again manually set the cron times on all the containers, which defeats the entire purpose of creating a custom image and automated deploy.

I think openvz designers should consider this and make this feature optional.

Subject: Re: Incorrect Crontab times set
Posted by Ales on Tue, 31 Jan 2012 14:25:40 GMT
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I suggest opening a bugreport with the request for the added functionality.

I believe this is a wanted feature in general. If you look at it from the perspective of server load, distributing cron times makes sense. So most HN admins wouldn't want cron to be run at exactly the same time on all the VMs. But having a switch to disable this for cases such as yours also makes sense, IMHO.

Subject: Re: Incorrect Crontab times set
Posted by samix on Tue, 31 Jan 2012 14:49:31 GMT
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Yes, in case of VPS based hosting this would be a very good feature, thank's for you input, I have raised a bug report here bugzilla.openvz.org/show_bug.cgi?id=2174