Subject: Running different distros as guests, how's that work?
Posted by BigJim on Thu, 30 Nov 2006 13:48:22 GMT
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I would like to run (at least) a SuSE 10.1 and a CentOS 4.3 distro on the same machine. I currently have both operating in a dual boot config. Two questions come to mind.
1. I believe that SuSE and maybe CentOS have patches to the kernel source. Is that a problem when running from a single kernel?

2. Will it be difficult to adapt this configuration to OpenVZ or should I start over from scratch?

Oh heck, I'll toss out another one. Is the Intel 6300 processor supported? I looked at the supported processors list but missed it if it was there.

Thanks,
Jim.

Subject: Re: Running different distros as guests, how's that work?
Posted by rickb on Thu, 30 Nov 2006 16:13:38 GMT
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Hi, when I started using VZ, I wondered about this same thing. Two VEs of different distributions share the same kernel. OpenVZ VEs are less of a "virtual server" and more of an individual and separated resource container.

Any special modifications to the kernel performed by Suse will not be available in your VE. However this hasn't proven to be a problem thus far from my usage. OpenVZ has a kernel based on the redhat modified kernel although this doesn't sound like what you are looking for.

The configuration you refer to in your second question, is that the dual boot config? I don't see how that could matter, as dual boot is essentially two computers but one turned on at a time.

Not sure about the cpu question, I only use i386 and x64_86.

Subject: Re: Running different distros as guests, how's that work?
Posted by BigJim on Thu, 30 Nov 2006 20:51:16 GMT
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Thanks,
I probably need to do more reading, but the second question was based on the fact I have a root file system complete with users, applications, etc. for CentOS and SuSE. Can I just install an OpenVZ kernel, boot both or do I have to start from scratch, generating all those files again?

Subject: Re: Running different distros as guests, how's that work?
Posted by rickb on Thu, 30 Nov 2006 20:56:59 GMT
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Ok, you are asking how easy it is to do a server->VE migration. Many people say you can tar up the source server's / and create a VE from it, and I have done this successfully too. However its best to migrate over your applications, system files (passwd, shadow) manually if you are hosting production services.

Commercial VZ has a conversion utility for "dedicated server to vps" conversion, but it doesn't work 100% either.

Bottom line, treat server->VE migration like migrating from a conventional server to conventional server.

Subject: Re: Running different distros as guests, how's that work?
Posted by BigJim on Mon, 04 Dec 2006 16:36:28 GMT
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Thanks, I guess I'll give it a try.

Jim.