
Subject: *SOLVED* Console Messages?

Posted by [mperkel](#) on Wed, 03 Jan 2007 21:46:56 GMT

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Is there any way to start up a VE and sort of watch it boot the way you would by watching the console of a real server? I need to see what's happening as part of troubleshooting to see if and where it hangs.

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [sspt](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2007 00:23:47 GMT

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You can try Netconsole

http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote_console_setup

If it don't work you may want a KVM over IP

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [kir](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 2007 14:50:05 GMT

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The way to go here is to replace /sbin/init binary inside a VE with your own script, for example like this:

```
mv /sbin/init /sbin/init.real
cat << EOF > /sbin/init
exec /sbin/init.real > /tmp/init.log 2>&1
EOF
chmod 755 /sbin/init
```

When (re)start a VE and watch its /tmp/init.log file (for example: tail -f /vz/root/NNN/tmp/init.log. When you have finished your debugging, do not forget to move the real init binary back.

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [seyko](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 05:05:02 GMT

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Is this example work? There is only an empty file for me.

May be there is something like VE /dev/console grabber?
Or an option to "vzctl start" to connect to this console on start?

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 09:13:18 GMT

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Hello,

For me this example doesn't work either,
so I use the following script instead /sbin/init:

```
#!/bin/sh
export CONSOLE=/tmp/init.log
exec /sbin/init.real $*
```

/sbin/init.real is the copy of original /sbin/init

Note, that /tmp/init.log resides in VE, and is overwritten
each(!) time you start VE.

HTH,
Vasily.

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [stoffell](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 07:21:41 GMT

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I tested both examples, but none works.
I don't even get the file...

I'm using debian (HN = etch and the VE = sarge), is there anything else I can test to get the
logging to file to work?

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 07:42:24 GMT

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Hello,

I've checked debian sarge template and indeed my method doesn't work there! For some reasons init in Debian doesn't take CONSOLE variable into account...

Well, there is one more method, which is more rude. Just replace /dev/console device in VE by usual text file. After VE start you can see logs in this file.

Don't forget to return everything back, when you finish debugging!

HTH,
Vasily.

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [stoffell](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 08:35:34 GMT

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Thanks, I'll try that! I'll also try to get some more debian info, there has to be a way to do it the 'non-rude' way

I'll post if I manage to get around it.

Thanks!

cheers

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [stoffell](#) on Thu, 15 Feb 2007 19:16:05 GMT

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I have only been able to do this the "rude" way on debian.

That is:

```
rm /dev/console
```

```
touch /dev/console
```

Now, that's a way, it's not clean, but it's okay for troubleshooting!

Now, on a RedHat 7.2 installation (I imported it to a VE, which is running on Debian Etch) this does not work. There's no /dev/console.

Neither the other methods work. The problem is, the RH 7.2 VE does not shutdown correctly and thus gets stopped after 2 minutes. (default timeout)

Any ideas on how to investigate this? (must be something on shutdown that causes this..)

cheers!

Subject: Re: Console Messages?

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Thu, 15 Feb 2007 21:03:29 GMT

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Please, create a separate thread for discussion of this problem...
