Subject: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by Romeo Theriault on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 22:46:55 GMT

Hi, I'm subscribed to the OpenVZ news/blog in my rss reader. Today I received a notice that the current stable kernel would be switched to the red hat 5 kernel. Specifically this was the comment:

Our internal testing shows this RHEL5 kernel is pretty good, so it will replace our current stable branch real soon.

How will this affect current RH 4 systems running OpenVZ. Will we simply be able to install the new kernel while keeping all of the rest of the system at the RH 4 level?

Or will we need to install RH 5 and use the Openvz kernel based off of RH 5 to keep our systems up to date with the stable kernel branch?

Thanks for any pointers on this.

Romeo

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by Cranky on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 23:13:38 GMT

You should be able to install it on the same server. You can install it with "yum install ovzkernel" or download ovzkernel* and rpm -ivh it.

Ensure you use "yum install" or "rpm -ivh" so you install the new kernel in addition to the existing kernel, rather than upgrading it, then if you can't boot the new kernel you can fall back to the previous kernel. If you upgrade instead you will most likely find your old kernels are messed up and won't boot.

You should check http://wiki.openvz.org/Kernel_flavors to ensure you're booting the most suitable kernel. This page also reiterates the need to install, not upgrade.

Regards,

Andrew Cranson
Layershift Limited

US-Hosted: http://us.layershift.com
UK-Hosted: http://uk.layershift.com

ICQ: 161813538
AIM: cransona

 >>> Virtuozzo Virtual Private Servers now available from $12.95/mo! US or UK
based. Ask me for details. <<<

Romeo Theriault wrote:
> Hi, I'm subscribed to the OpenVZ news/blog in my rss reader. Today I
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> Romeo
>
>

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by dev on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 09:51:12 GMT
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There are different options:
- for new servers I would suggest to use RHEL5 distro/RHEL5-OVZ kernel
- for old servers you can still continue to use RHEL4-OVZ kernel,
  as it will keep being updated for a long time yet.
- if you want some new features from RHEL5-OVZ kernel, but don't
  want to upgrade host OS itself, it should not be a big problem
  to install RHEL5-OVZ kernel only and update OVZ related tools.
  (you may need to create a correct initrd, but no major obstacles here)

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> to keep our systems up to date with the stable kernel branch?
You don't need to install RH5 until you want some new specific features.

Thanks,
Kirill

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by Martin Dobrev on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 10:33:00 GMT

Hi Kirill,

sorry for the off-topic but as I seen the news post from Redhat they
offer virtualization with RHEL5, GUI for management and other nice
features. Do you have any idea what virtualization product they use for
this purpose?

Regards,
Martin

Kirill Korotaev wrote:
> There are different options:
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>> to keep our systems up to date with the stable kernel branch?
>>
> You don't need to install RH5 until you want some new specific features.
>
> Thanks,
> Kirill
>

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by dev on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 12:00:28 GMT

Martin,

I guess Xen?

Thanks,
Kirill

> Hi Kirill,
>
> sorry for the off-topic but as I seen the news post from Redhat they
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\>\>\>

\>\>\>

\>\>You don't need to install RH5 until you want some new specific features.

\>\>

\>\>Thanks,

\>\>Kirill

\>\>

\> -- -----------

\>

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by weycresto on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 12:14:27 GMT
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Kirill Korotaev wrote:

\> Martin,

\>

\> I guess Xen?

\>

\> Thanks,

\> Kirill

\>

\>\> Hi Kirill,

\>\>

\>\> sorry for the off-topic but as I seen the news post from Redhat they

\>\> offer virtualization with RHEL5, GUI for management and other nice

\>\> features. Do you have any idea what virtualization product they use for

\>\> this purpose?

\>\>

\>\> Regards,

\>\> Martin

Yes, RHEL5 would support Xen "para virtualised guests OS's." It would be interesting to see if the Xen GUI tools become available in CentOS.

RH are recommending a minimum "physical memory" per active guest of 512MB.

I've always found the OS Virtualisation/shared kernel of Virtuozzo/OpenVZ more suitable for hosting and there is more control over resources.

--
Best Regards

Paul Lee
Operations Manager
Weycrest Solutions Limited
<www> www.weycrest.co.uk

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by Romeo Theriault on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 13:07:30 GMT
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On Thu, 2007-03-15 at 13:04 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:
> There are different options:
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> You don't need to install RH5 until you want some new specific features.
>
> Thanks,
> Kirill
>

Thanks for the info. Makes me breath a little easier :)

Romeo

Subject: Re: Switch to new red hat 5 kernel
Posted by dev on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 13:35:42 GMT

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> Yes, RHEL5 would support Xen "para virtualised guests OS's." It would be
> interesting to see if the Xen GUI tools become available in CentOS.
>
> RH are recommending a minimum "physical memory" per active guest of 512MB.
>
> I've always found the OS Virtualisation/shared kernel of
> Virtuozzo/OpenVZ more suitable for hosting and there is more control
> over resources.

I'm pretty sure, that not only for hosting.
Filesystem-related operations (databases),
high speed networking operations (like file servers) -
all these have much lower overhead and natively support SMP systems,
i.e. it scales pretty much good.

Regards,
Kirill