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Subject: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum  
Posted by [seanfulton](#) on Sat, 04 Aug 2007 23:37:10 GMT

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I posted this as a bug but thought I would post here as well. About two months ago I tried setting up OpenVZ with a shared NFS drive as /vz. One of the problems I ran into was data corruption in the form of trying to install packages using vzrpm that was corrupting the rpm database within the VE.

I was told at the time that there was a kernel bug affecting NFS and that was likely the cause.

I scrapped the idea of using NFS and am now using a local drive. I am using the latest OpenVZ kernel on RHEL 5, latest utilities, etc. I reinstalled all of the VZ software, and when trying to add programs to the VE using vzrpm and again, it's corrupting the RPM database.

I'm wondering now if there's a problem with vzrpm or if there's another kernel bug. Any insight or help would be appreciated.

sean

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum  
Posted by [rickb](#) on Sun, 05 Aug 2007 17:50:58 GMT

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Hi Sean, post the complete steps necessary to duplicate the problem, so that it can be understood and investigated more effectively.

ie,

- 1) deploy centos4 VE
- 2) run commands XX,YY,ZZ
- 3) note error AA in log BB

Rick

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum  
Posted by [seanfulton](#) on Sun, 05 Aug 2007 18:37:02 GMT

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Install 2.6.18-8.1.8.el5.028stab039.1 kernel on RHEL 5  
vzctl create 6004 --ostemplate=centos-4

```
vzctl start 6004
vzrpm 6004 -qa --outputs a list of installed RPMS
for a in "perl-Filter-1.30-6 perl-HTML-Parser-3.35-6 erl-libwww-perl-5.79-5 perl-5.8.5-36.RHEL4
perl-DBI-1.40-8
perl-DBD-MySQL-2.9004-3.1 perl-HTML-Tagset-3.03-30 perl-URI-1.30-4 "
# OR REALLY *ANY RPMS*
do
vzrpm 6004 -Uvh $a
done
RPMS all install correctly.
```

```
vzrpm 6004 -qa
Outputs a partial list of RPMs followed by:
error: db4 error(-30988) from dbcursor->c_get: DB_PAGE_NOTFOUND: Requested page not
found
```

Please note that I just tested this on RHEL 4.4 with the 2.6.18-8.el5.028stab031.1 kernel and get no errors.

sean

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum  
Posted by [rickb](#) on Sun, 05 Aug 2007 18:43:55 GMT  
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strange, as vzrpm is just a wrapper on rpm. is it really any rpms that cause this problem? if you use vzrpm with a single simple rpm, does the problem occur?

Rick

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum  
Posted by [seanfulton](#) on Sun, 05 Aug 2007 18:48:34 GMT  
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Yes, it happens with different RPMs. At first I thought it was a corrupt RPM, but it's very reproducible.

This is the same behavior I had previously with the 31 kernel running over NFS and was told it (DB corruption on a DB4 database) was likely a known kernel issue running over NFS. Given that I am no longer using NFS, and the problem can be reproduced on the 39 kernel but not 31, I'm wondering if there isn't something else going on.

sean

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum

Posted by [dcox](#) on Mon, 10 Dec 2007 02:26:28 GMT

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I have always experienced the same problems with OpenVZ using CentOS 4 or 5.

Currently with 2.6.18-53.el5.028stab051.1PAE and a local ext3 file system.

Initially I thought the best fix was: rpm --rebuilddb

But in fact that has often removed the record of many packages.

A fix which now seems to work is: rm -f /var/lib/rpm/\_\_.db\*

Which I need to do almost every time I use vzyum.

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum

Posted by [jthomps](#) on Mon, 10 Dec 2007 04:33:23 GMT

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dcox wrote on Sun, 09 December 2007 20:26 I have always experienced the same problems with OpenVZ using CentOS 4 or 5.

I noticed the same thing for all VE's I create using CentOS 5. I have noticed that yum will fail after a VE is started, unless I run a RPM command first in the VE. After that, all vzyum commands seem to work just fine.

For example:

```
vzctl start 100
```

```
vzyum 100 list updates (fails)
```

```
vzctl exec 100 rpm -qa (works)
```

```
vzyum 100 list updates (works)
```

Very strange, but at least the workaround seems to be 100% reliable.

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Subject: Re: RPM DB corruption when using vzrpm/vzyum

Posted by [Sambo](#) on Sun, 13 Jan 2008 05:42:22 GMT

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Could it be something to do with the fact that rpm on Centos 5 is version 4.4.2 and rpm inside the Centos 4 VE is 4.3.3 ? Or else some other incompatibility (does rpm use bdb or something?).

I have the same problem and it's pretty annoying.

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