Subject: 64Bit CPU Required for high RAM OpenVZ Servers?
Posted by RapidVPS on Sun, 12 Mar 2006 09:36:41 GMT
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Hello. I have a question to the OpenVZ developers or anyone with knowledge to answer the question.

According to this page on linux-mm.org and assuming I understand it correctly, Linux can exhaust its memory by having a kernel memory space smaller than required to utilize 8GB of high memory (user space memory allocation).

Is this patched or other workaround in OpenVZ exist? If operating servers with 8-10GB, would a 64bit CPU be necessary as this page seems to suggest? From a provider position this information is valuable.

".....For these reasons it is recommended that if you buy a system with more than 4GB of memory, you should consider getting a 64 bit CPU and installing a 64 bit operating system."

http://linux-mm.org/HighMemory

Thank you for your time.

Subject: Re: 64Bit CPU Required for high RAM OpenVZ Servers?
Posted by dev on Mon, 13 Mar 2006 12:04:03 GMT
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RapidVPS,

kernel has really not that big normal zone for its own needs. in SMP kernel normal zone is ~700Mb, in enterprise it is ~3.5Gb.
But applications can use all the memory available up to 64GB on i686 architecture.
So if you have 8Gb of RAM you need to install enterprise or entnosplit kernel and everything will be fine. Kernel doesn't need that much memory to operate usually.

Subject: Re: 64Bit CPU Required for high RAM OpenVZ Servers?
Posted by dev on Mon, 13 Mar 2006 12:05:57 GMT
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Additional comment:
if you want to run 32bit apps/VPSs it is recommended to use 32bit OS.

Use 64bit only when you understand what you need and what you do
why? because, 32bit applications work not that perfectly on 64bit OS, and though almost all apps

work, some of them don't.