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Subject: openvz on SAN?

Posted by [whatever](#) on Wed, 20 Feb 2008 04:12:21 GMT

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Has anyone tried openvz on SAN?

How's the performance on SAN?

Thanks

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Subject: Re: openvz on SAN?

Posted by [Andrey Mirkin](#) on Wed, 20 Feb 2008 11:12:03 GMT

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Hello,

What exactly you are going to do on SAN?

If you want to have failover solution using ext3 partitions on SAN then performance will be good.

If you want to have shared storage based on GFS then performance will be not the same as on ext3 partitions, because GFS itself is very complicated file system with distributed lock manager which uses network for communication.

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Subject: Re: openvz on SAN?

Posted by [whatever](#) on Wed, 20 Feb 2008 11:19:43 GMT

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I plan to run VPS on SAN. Where we connect multiple server to one SAN. but I believe it won't be good idea after reading your reply.

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Subject: Re: openvz on SAN?

Posted by [Andrey Mirkin](#) on Wed, 20 Feb 2008 11:59:05 GMT

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So, you will need file system like GFS, to be able to mount it on multiple servers at the same time. You can try to play with GFS a little bit. If nodes will be connected with 1GB network, then performance should be good enough.

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Subject: Re: openvz on SAN?

Posted by [rickb](#) on Wed, 20 Feb 2008 14:54:55 GMT

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Hi, I have deployed openvz using san and gfs.

- apple xserve xraid (fiber channel interface, 2gbit)
- fc switch
- 2 nodes with fc card
- openvz running ves with the same ips
- lvs cluster in front to load balance/rewrite layer 3 traffic across ves

To compile the kernel I had to edit some filesystem hooks and add some arguments to functions so that the gfs patch would add, but it was self explanatory. I don't have the patch on me for this but it took only 5 minutes.

The performance is "OK"- I see many processes stay in disk wait for very long, iowait is much higher then it would be on ext3 (unshared). I don't think gfs is really designed for performance at this stage. The performance is much less then ext3 on the same hardware. I set up this openvz/gfs deployment this to meet a technical need (HA) and luckily didn't need screaming performance. I think using an open source alternative like iscsi (no expensive fc equipment) would be lower performance but I am interested in hearing from people doing this.

Rick