
Subject: /usr/bin/hostid in VPS

Posted by [ajneil](#) on Tue, 10 Jun 2008 19:07:21 GMT

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I would like to encapsulate a server that runs a variety of license managers including flexlm. Many of these systems rely on generating a hostid generally either the MAC address of the primary network interface or a hash generated by /usr/bin/hostid. In an OpenVZ VPS hostid returns 00000000, is there a way to spoof this so that I can keep the license managers happy regardless of the system/network interface it is actually using? I tried setting up a veth device that spoofed the original MAC address but hostid still returns 00000000.

Thanks, Alastair

Subject: Re: /usr/bin/hostid in VPS

Posted by [Josip Rodin](#) on Fri, 13 Jun 2008 08:06:19 GMT

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On Tue, Jun 10, 2008 at 03:07:21PM -0400, Alastair Neil wrote:

> I would like to encapsulate a server that runs a variety of license managers
> including flexlm. Many of these systems rely on generating a hostid
> generally either the MAC address of the primary network interface or a hash
> generated by /usr/bin/hostid. In an OpenVZ VPS hostid returns 00000000, is
> there a way to spoof this so that I can keep the license managers happy
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> setting up a veth device that spoofed the original MAC address but hostid
> still returns 00000000.

That program basically returns the value of the gethostid() call, and that comes from <unistd.h>. As far as I can tell from glibc sources (sysdeps/unix/sysv/linux/gethostid.c) all you need to do is edit the file /etc/hostid (either with something that calls sethostid() or manually)...?

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2. That which causes joy or happiness.
