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Subject: Why does chkpnt require iptables?

Posted by [rlawley](#) on Sun, 01 Mar 2009 10:01:08 GMT

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We're running the latest stable versions of OpenVZ on a Debian 4 HN, and one thing keeps confusing me - if I try and suspend a VPS using vzctl chkpnt CTID, this fails if the container does not have iptables installed.

The first thing I did when finding this out was to ensure that all of our templates come with iptables installed. However, this does not account for the fact that users are still in control of their containers - one of ours has removed iptables from his container and it can no longer be suspended using the chkpnt command...

Can not dump container: Invalid argument

Error: iptables-save exited with 255

Checkpointing failed

Is there a reason why chkpnt requires iptables to be present? I assume it is used to take a running copy of the iptables rules that are running prior to saving the machine, but if iptables isn't present then it stands to reason that there are no iptables rules to save, and this step could be skipped.

If there's something else I'm missing here, please point me in the right direction!

Regards,

Richard

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Subject: Re: Why does chkpnt require iptables?

Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 06 Mar 2009 11:01:22 GMT

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Hello,

please read this thread.

A workaround is proposed there

<http://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=msg&goto=29169&&srch=iptables-save+exited+with+255>

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Subject: Re: Why does chkpnt require iptables?

Posted by [rlawley](#) on Fri, 06 Mar 2009 11:08:27 GMT

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I've raised this as a bug since starting this forum post, since I don't believe that a user (within the container) should be able to prevent an external script from running. The workaround in that

thread involves changing files on the container.

We use the chkpnt function to suspend a VPS if we need to disable access to the VPS, and it is not ideal that the user can prevent us from doing this. My workaround has been to call vzctl stop if suspend fails, but I wanted to avoid shutting the user's VPS down if possible.

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Subject: Re: Why does chkpnt require iptables?

Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 06 Mar 2009 14:12:37 GMT

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Please, don't hesitate filing a bug giving your point of view.

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