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Subject: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Sat, 05 Sep 2009 20:16:36 GMT

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I have the correct time on the node, but the VPS's themselves will not get the correct time. I get a permission error when doing ntpdate pool.ntp.org on the VPS.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [tomp](#) on Sat, 05 Sep 2009 23:07:50 GMT

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The VPS will take the time from the hardware node, so just use NTP on the hardware node.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Sat, 05 Sep 2009 23:16:12 GMT

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but they aren't...they are totals wrong, a few hours off...some are a day or two off.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [marc@ion](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2009 09:30:35 GMT

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OpenVZ does take the time from the HN, but it doesn't take the timezone.

Depending on your distribution, there are other ways to set a timezone.

In Ubuntu:

`dpkg-reconfigure tzdata`

Best regards,

MM

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2009 15:50:10 GMT

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how about in centos?

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [divB](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2009 20:48:33 GMT  
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Please lookup up in the Wiki and/or the manual.

There must be only one place where the time is set. Either on the HN or one container.

It is even recommended to use a container and set the time with NTP within one container for security reasons. In this case you have to:

- a) assign a capability SYS\_TIME to set the system time
- b) give access to the /dev/rtc0 device if you want to also set the time back to the RTC clock

The time set will the UTC and all container use UTC+offset as their system time whereas offset is a constant specific for each container, usually the time zone and/or daylight saving. You have to lookup in the CentOS docs how to set the timezone there (this is an OpenVZ forum ).

Regards,  
divB

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2009 20:51:28 GMT  
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How would I do that? I would prefer to have the hardware node actually handle the time, not a container.

Could you link me the wiki article? I tried searching it, but it came up with no good results.

I was trying to set NTP in the centos's located in my OpenVZ nodes, that's why I came here, because I was getting restriction errors, saying I cannot install NTP.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [divB](#) on Sun, 06 Sep 2009 20:56:29 GMT  
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1.) If you want to set the time on the hardware node you do not have to care about anything. Just run `ntpdate <ntp-server>` and additionally `hwclock`. Please consult the CentOS manual on how to install `ntpdate` (or use a system that you can handle )

2.) If you want to set the time through a container as explained by me, look up for a PDF called "OpenVZ User's guide". There is a section "Changing System Time from VPS".

Regards,

divB

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Mon, 07 Sep 2009 02:48:06 GMT  
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ntupdate is good, the node is up to date/time.

How do I make sure the VPS's use that clock and not whatever they are currently using?

I have not heard of hwclock, and google is proving useless on that.

again, I do not want to use a container to keep other containers up to date.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [Xahil](#) on Mon, 07 Sep 2009 08:42:47 GMT  
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google: "centos setting timezone"

first hit: <http://forum.slicehost.com/comments.php?DiscussionID=1180>

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [divB](#) on Mon, 07 Sep 2009 08:59:30 GMT  
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Your containers will automatically use "that clock".

hwclock is a tool to modify the RTC. You can either set the system clock from the RTC (this is done on startup) or save the current system clock to RTC.

If you have a 24x7 system with guaranteed internet connection and use ntpdate you may no need to use the RTC.

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?  
Posted by [vivithemage](#) on Mon, 07 Sep 2009 18:21:20 GMT  
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there we go, this line worked great :

Quote:rm /etc/localtime

In -s /usr/share/zoneinfo/America/Chicago /etc/localtime

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [zeldor](#) on Tue, 13 Oct 2009 18:38:46 GMT

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vivithemage wrote on Mon, 07 September 2009 20:21there we go, this line worked great :

Quote:rm /etc/localtime

In -s /usr/share/zoneinfo/America/Chicago /etc/localtime

thx it was really helpful, it worked great under debian 5.0.3 (lenny) even without restart or other extra stuff

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Subject: Re: How to set time in OpenVZ VPS?

Posted by [shamu](#) on Sun, 06 Mar 2011 16:22:10 GMT

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I want a ntpd running in a container adjust the hw node's time (step a), see below) and the systems hw clock. As far as I know on not virtualized machinges it could be done using the command '/sbin/hwclock -w'. But, how to do it from within a container?

Quote:It is even recommended to use a container and set the time with NTP within one container for security reasons. In this case you have to:

- a) assign a capability SYS\_TIME to set the system time
- b) give access to the /dev/rtc0 device if you want to also set the time back to the RTC clock

Well, a) is o.k. and already done on my system. But, in detail, how can I perform step b) ?

Thanks for your help in advance!

Greetinx

shamu

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