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Subject: AutoFS/NFS

Posted by [bkosick](#) on Fri, 04 Aug 2006 19:42:31 GMT

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Hi All,

I have a non-VZ NFS server with a few exports that I use autofs/automount to mount /home and /software as needed. I am having issues getting autofs to work properly on a VZ-VPS

```
/usr/sbin/automount --timeout=60 /home file /etc/auto.home
[root@qavmXX ~]# !ps
ps ax | grep auto
27830 tty0    S    0:00 /usr/sbin/automount --timeout=60 /home file /etc/auto.home
27835 tty0    S+   0:00 grep auto
[root@qavmXX ~]# ls -l /home/bkosick
ls: /home/bkosick: No such file or directory
```

There's no corresponding error in /var/log/messages  
autofs works just fine on the HW node.

Anyone run into this before? I've read that VZ has issues with NFS server (SW-Soft thinks that NFS is too unstable under linux!) but that the client should work.

[Edit]

The Node is running FC5/2.6.16-1.2111\_FC5.026test012smp the VPS is running RHEL4

Also, I just read a threat stating that there are 2-3 kernel patches to apply before NFS clients will work. Is this true? and if so where do I get them?

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Subject: Re: AutoFS/NFS

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Mon, 07 Aug 2006 06:20:00 GMT

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1. In OpenVZ kernel from rpm autofs is off, so if you want to use autofs on HOST with OpenVZ you should recompile your kernel with CONFIG\_AUTOFS\_FS, CONFIG\_AUTOFS4\_FS parameters on.
2. However autofs (and nfs) are not virtualized, so you can't use it inside VE.
3. You can mount autofs somewhere on HOST, and then do --bind mount inside any VE you wish. May be such scenario passes for you.
4. Yeap, there were some patches here at forum, that makes autofs/nfs available in VE. Try to use search. However, after such patching you kernel becomes unsecure.

HTH, vass.

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Subject: Re: AutoFS/NFS

Posted by [bkosick](#) on Mon, 07 Aug 2006 14:40:51 GMT

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Hi,

Are the --bind and mount/unmount scripts capable of mounting/unmounting on demand inside the VPS's? The reason I'm using autofs, is that I do not want the extra overhead, of having the NFS shares mounted full time/nor the problems associated with NFS when something dies/goes wrong (Client lockups etc).

I used Virtuozzo extensively (probably around 300-400 VPS's/two full racks of HW nodes) at my last job and was extremely pleased with it. But now I have a different set of requirements.... and if I cannot mount/unmount the NFS shares dynamically, OpenVZ/Virtuozzo does not meet my needs.

Thanks,  
Brian

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Subject: Re: AutoFS/NFS

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Tue, 08 Aug 2006 05:23:40 GMT

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Well... I meant slightly different scenario:

On host node you are mounting autofs on, say,  
/mnt/nfsshare/nfs1, /mnt/nfsshare/nfs2, etc.

Then do  
mount --bind /mnt/nfsshare/nfs1/ /vz/root/100/home/  
mount --bind /mnt/nfsshare/nfs2/ /vz/root/101/home/  
....

I suppose, appropriate nfs mount will be automounted only when you are using /home inside appropriate VE and automatically unomunted after some time... Well, usual autofs.

However, it might not work for various reasons:

- 1) --bind "get" nfs and it is always mounted
- 2) atomounter don't recieve a "signal" from VE to mount an NFS partion (this is very probably).

So, it's necessary to check all these stuff!  
If you'll do it - please post your results here.  
I'll try to do something like that in the near future...

Thanks.

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Subject: Re: AutoFS/NFS  
Posted by [bkosick](#) on Tue, 08 Aug 2006 13:10:43 GMT  
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Hi,

Thanks for your reply's I'll go ahead and give it a hot today, and let you know the results.

Brian

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Subject: Re: AutoFS/NFS  
Posted by [bkosick](#) on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 18:28:35 GMT  
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OK,

I've tested it out, and it doesn't seemd to work very well. I reported earlier that the autofs worked on the HW node with the fedora kernel... Well it does kinda...

For example. After starteing autofs on the HW node, you can do a "ls /home/bkosick" and it works fine. However if you immediately do the same thing on another user "ls /home/lchamp". It comes back with "No such file or directory". Wait a few minutes, and do the "ls /home/lchamp" command it suddenly works. Note that /home/bkosick is still mounted.

so with these still mounted, I perform the mount --bind command

```
mount --bind /home /vz/root/334/home
```

then enter the VPS, vzctl enter 334

and do an "ls /home/bkosick" it comes back with no such file or directory.

```
ls bkosick
ls: bkosick: No such file or directory
-bash-3.00# ls /home/bkosick
ls: /home/bkosick: No such file or directory
-bash-3.00# cd /home/bkosick
-bash-3.00# ls
ls: .: No such file or directory
```

Doh!

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