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Subject: custom location for OS template

Posted by [knewnd](#) on Tue, 03 May 2011 12:17:15 GMT

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Hi!

Almost a month ago (on April 4th) I had posted a message [1] to Discussion thread on OpenVZ forum but I still haven't got reply. So I am trying to ask in OpenVZ mail list.

----- start quotation -----

Is there any way to specify a location for os templates? The default one is written in /etc/vz/vz.conf as  
template=/vz/template

but I would like to have a possibility to specify the custom one e.g. with absolute path:

```
$ vzctl create --ostemplate /vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz <CTID>
```

with corresponding value for ostemplate variable in VE config:  
ostemplate="/vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz"

I think that way would provide more flexibility.

Should I submit a feature request on that?

----- end quotation -----

Thanks!  
Nikolay.

[1]

[http://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=msg&goto=42369&&amp;srch=os+template+location#msg\\_42369](http://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=msg&goto=42369&&amp;srch=os+template+location#msg_42369)

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Subject: Re: custom location for OS template

Posted by [kir](#) on Sat, 07 May 2011 23:37:16 GMT

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On 05/03/2011 04:17 PM, knewnd@gmail.com wrote:

```
> Is there any way to specify a location for os templates? The default one
> is written in /etc/vz/vz.conf as
> template=/vz/template
>
> but I would like to have a possibility to specify the custom one e.g.
> with absolute path:
> $ vzctl create --ostemplate /vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz<CTID>
```

Why such a feature would be needed? Is that a problem to put a tarball

(or just a symlink)  
to /vz/template/cache?

> with corresponding value for otemplate variable in VE config:  
> otemplate="/vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz"

This will definitely break the /etc/vz/dists/\* logic of choosing proper distscripts.

> I think that way would provide more flexibility.

There are infinite ways to provide more flexibility for vzctl -- the question is which ones are worth implementing.

Maybe you have some specific use case for such feature -- please share the scenario with us.

Kir.

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Subject: Re: custom location for OS template  
Posted by [knewnd](#) on Tue, 10 May 2011 13:43:29 GMT  
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Kir Kolyshkin wrote on 08/05/11 03:37:

> On 05/03/2011 04:17 PM, knewnd@gmail.com wrote:  
>> Is there any way to specify a location for os templates? The default one  
>> is written in /etc/vz/vz.conf as  
>> template=/vz/template  
>>  
>> but I would like to have a possibility to specify the custom one e.g.  
>> with absolute path:  
>> \$ vzctl create --ostemplate /vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz <CTID>  
>  
> Why such a feature would be needed? Is that a problem to put a tarball  
> (or just a symlink)  
> to /vz/template/cache?

For my needs I am trying to implement OpenVZ support in OpenNebula [1] with minimal changes in OpenNebula code. OpenNebula creates directory on remote host (cluster node) like \$VM\_DIR/<VM\_ID>/ with some files inside it including VM deployment (a.k.a config) file, OS template/image, etc. All VMs on remote nodes are running under unprivileged user belonging to certain group (e.g. oneadmin:cloud). So it seems that the easiest way to create VM from certain OS template would be to do something like \$ vzctl create --ostemplate <path\_to\_OS\_template> <CTID> but indeed it looks like such approach would break the /etc/vz/dists/\* logic of choosing proper distscripts.

So probably I will try to use symlinks. Thanks for idea!

Regards,  
Nikolay.

[1] <http://www.opennebula.org>

>

>> with corresponding value for otemplate variable in VE config:

>> otemplate="/vz/tmpl/centos-5-x86.tar.gz"

>

> This will definitely break the /etc/vz/dists/\* logic of choosing  
> proper distscripts.

>

>> I think that way would provide more flexibility.

>

> There are infinite ways to provide more flexibility for vzctl -- the  
> question is

> which ones are worth implementing.

>

>

> Kir.

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