

---

Subject: Re: Why use OpenVZ?

Posted by [alticon-brian](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 15:00:05 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Robin,

I think it depends more on what your target audience is. Both Xen & OpenVZ are great products and certainly their audiences overlap. At the core though, the idea behind OpenVZ is to increase the density of the number of virtual machines that can be run on a single hardware node. This is done through sharing a single running kernel between all of the virtual machines. In Xen on the other hand, the idea is to abstract the hardware entirely so that any OS (including Windows) can be run inside a virtual machine.

This means than while in OpenVZ it's not uncommon to run 10+ VEs on a single hardware node (and not unheard of to run hundreds) you would be hard pressed to get any where near those numbers with Xen.

As far as KVM goes, it's more or less Xen with a single VE inside of it so that if there is a kernel panic, you can still get to the box to do basic maintenance (basically a "poor man's" IPMI, iLO, etc).

--Brian

---