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Subject: Re: OpenVZ problem or not ?

Posted by [rickb](#) on Tue, 28 Nov 2006 23:53:25 GMT

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Running any services on the HN is ill advised. The redhat init scripts aren't expecting many processes to be running, even though they are under VE context, HN can still see them in its /proc. So, if the initscript kills them in a lazy way, (killall), your VEs will suffer.

However, the problem exists for applications which are not "services"-apache, mysql, etc. For example, take crond in redhat/centos:

```
[root@gallium ~]# /etc/init.d/crond status
crond (pid 17077 8226 16661 22837 603 6829 19314 27367 14965 29437 9188 13289 9025 6810
6413 2284 18725 12985 4776 29353 24821 16585 6167 2093 28784 26881 8950 4117 15282
2945 2389 28970 25190 12507 9026) is running...
[root@gallium ~]#
```

Those are the cronds of VEs. Stopping cron from /etc/init.d/cron:

```
stop() {
    echo -n $"Stopping $prog: "
    if [ ! -e /var/lock/subsys/crond ]; then
        echo -n $"cannot stop crond: crond is not running."
        failure $"cannot stop crond: crond is not running."
        echo
        return 1;
    fi
    killproc crond
    RETVAL=$?
    echo
    [ $RETVAL -eq 0 ] && rm -f /var/lock/subsys/crond;
    return $RETVAL
}
```

```
killproc:
    pid=
    if [ -f /var/run/${base}.pid ]; then
        local line p
        read line < /var/run/${base}.pid
        for p in $line ; do
            [ -z "${p//[0-9]}" ] -a -d "/proc/$p" ] && pid="$pid $p"
        done
    fi
    if [ -z "$pid" ]; then
        pid=`pidof -o $$ -o $PPID -o %PPID -x $1 || \
            pidof -o $$ -o $PPID -o %PPID -x $base`
    fi
```

So, if the pid file exists, there shouldn't be a problem. But, if that first [if] can't find the pid file, theres gonna be trouble for all of your VE cronds.

```
[root@gallium ~]# pidof crond
17077 8226 16661 22837 603 6829 19314 27367 14965 29437 9188 13289 9025 6810 6413
2284 18725 12985 4776 29353 24821 16585 6167 2093 28784 26881 8950 4117 15282 2945
2389 28970 25190 12507 9026
[root@gallium ~]# vzpid 17077
Pid  VPSID  Name
17077 9889165 crond
[root@gallium ~]# vzpid 8226
Pid  VPSID  Name
8226 9889429 crond
```

This is probably the reason all of your httpd's got killed. Hope this helps.

Rick Blundell

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