Subject: Does Virtualization Technology benefit my running OpenVZ?
Posted by JimL on Sat, 24 Feb 2007 10:54:00 GMT
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I have a system with the Intel Virtualization Technology hardware. Does OpenVZ benefit in any way from this feature? If not will it in the future or is this not something the OpenVZ concept can utilize?

Thanks,
Jim

Subject: Re: Does Virtualization Technology benefit my running OpenVZ?
Posted by ehab on Sat, 24 Feb 2007 14:00:33 GMT
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No by vary nature openVZ and other kernel virtualization technologies like vserver do not NEEED CPU to have virtualization.

VMware and Xen allow you to have different kernels and operating systems on the same physical server, with this you need a lot of work or hardware support to have multiple kernels on the same physical server. But with openvz the same kernel (albiet a modified one) is shared accross all vps.

This means the following
no need for hardware virtualization

memory and CPU are seamlessly shared and can be dynamically allocated and even oversold between VPSs, whereas with vmware or xen memory allocation is fixed.

no slow hardware and disk access due to virtualization like in xen and vmware

Only one OS kernel can run, ie only linux so different VPSs can not have windows for example nor a different kernel.

Some operations can not be done in VPSs that are possible on physical hardware and XEN, VMware. Still Xen/vmware do have similar but less limitations.

If you are running only linux as a server and want multiple virtual machines on a dedicated server openvz is the way to go, if you just want to dabble and play around or want both windows and linux then go for xen/vmware.

Subject: Re: Does Virtualization Technology benefit my running OpenVZ?
Posted by JimL on Sat, 24 Feb 2007 16:41:08 GMT
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Thanks, I wasn't sure if there was anything it bought me. I have need for both a semi production environment and a "playground" to learn new stuff. I have VMware workstation and Xen running but am somewhat disappointed with Xen to date. OpenVZ even with the marginal Debian and Ubuntu support is still much easier to get to work. VMware is nice, but costly.

It would be nice to be able to run Windows in parallel with Linux, but I need access to the hardware from both and Xen doesnt' provide that worth a flip.

Jim.

Subject: Re: Does Virtualization Technology benefit my running OpenVZ?
Posted by ehab on Sat, 24 Feb 2007 17:42:59 GMT
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vmware player and lower end server are both free but not open source.

Subject: Re: Does Virtualization Technology benefit my running OpenVZ?
Posted by jarcher on Sat, 24 Feb 2007 20:03:52 GMT
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I have been looking t running Xen or VMware on my machine and then running Debian / OpenZY in one of the VMs. If I want, I can have two VMs with OpenVZ inside each one, one for production and one for testing. You could even put a Windows boz in a third. It all depends upon what your machine can do.

With VMWare (I don't know about Xen) your full virt machines can't have resources allocsted arbitrarily accross the VMs. If you have 4 BMs running, each one gets 25% of thye machine. That's the biggest problem.
