Subject: Best practices to get an "image" of a perfect, fresh-install VM
Posted by ugob on Tue, 10 Apr 2007 20:18:05 GMT
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Hi,

here is my question.

I've made myself a bare bone "image" of a VM, so that I don't have to do all my tweaks every time I install a new VM.

What I've done:

To create the image (Step A)
- Suspend the VM
- Tar up the private area
- Dump the state
- Resume the VM

Then, when I want to create a new VM based on this "image"(step B):

- Copy the private area to the destination server
- Create a config
- Restore the state
- Restart

I'm sure I'm doing too many steps...

What would be the best way to create such an image? It is not important to me that the original VM stays up in the process. Would it be posssible to simply stop the VM, then tar up the private area and restart the vm when done instead of my step A?

BTW, I could write an how-to if you'd like...

Regards,

Ugo Bellavance

Subject: Re: Best practices to get an "image" of a perfect, fresh-install VM
Posted by rickb on Tue, 10 Apr 2007 20:22:33 GMT
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Quote: Would it be posssible to simply stop the VM, then tar up the private area and restart the vm when done instead of my step A?

This is the way I have done it for years, and it has always worked fine.

Subject: Re: Best practices to get an "image" of a perfect, fresh-install VM
Posted by ugob on Thu, 12 Apr 2007 03:47:10 GMT
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Is it possible to edit a file in the tarball before 'restoring' it?

Subject: Re: Best practices to get an "image" of a perfect, fresh-install VM
Posted by Andrey Mirkin on Thu, 12 Apr 2007 11:17:12 GMT
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If you want just to start (using command "vzctl start") a VE after restoring it from backup file, then you can edit files in tarball.

If you want to make something like snapshot (fs + processes state (suspend and dump)), then you must keep fs in tarball unchanged.