

Re: Can we run a qemu instance as a dedicated home network firewall?

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On Sun, 30 Mar 2008 11:20:26 -0400, Mitchell Laks wrote:

Can we use a virtual qemu linux machine as a firewall for a real home network?

I have a small network at home, with a few desktops and a DMZ and a linux firewall machine.

Now that virtualization is working for me, via qemu, I would like to get rid of all the old equipment that I use for little tasks.

Ie I have

- 1) old 486 machine F used as dedicated arno-firetables firewall.
- 2) old 486 machine D used as dedicated web server in DMZ.
- 3) plus a few workstations on a LAN call them A, B C.

Internet -> firewall machine F -> local LAN -> machines A, B, C  
-> DMZ -> web server on D

1. Here F does NAT for machines A, B, C on 192.168.100.\* .
2. While F gets an outside internet IP via dhcp from my cable provider.
3. F has 2 physical NIC cards.

My question is:

Can I replace F (and D) by virtual machines running on one of my desktop machines A?

Sure NP. But if I were you, I'd keep those old equipment, for firewall at least. Keep them headless, using virtual keyboard to config (Ah, forgot the link!).

Anyway, if you do want to get rid of all the old equipments, qemu virtualization might not be the best solution. Give Linux-VServer a look,

<http://xpt.sourceforge.net/techdocs/nix/virtual/vt03-LinuxVServerInfo/>

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"Linux-VServer is a jail mechanism in that it can be used to securely partition resources on a computer system (such as the file system, CPU time, network addresses and memory) in such a way that processes cannot mount a denial-of-service attack on anything outside their partition. "

It will "share the same system call interface and do not have any emulation overhead". "Virtual private servers are commonly used in web hosting services, where they are useful for segregating customer accounts, pooling resources and containing any potential security breaches". Special care has been taken to save HD space.

HTH

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Tong (remove underscore(s) to reply)

<http://xpt.sourceforge.net/techdocs/>

<http://xpt.sourceforge.net/tools/>

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