

## GNU/Linux Administration - Bug #327

### Recovering Mail Server Using Rsnapshot Backup

02/04/2014 10:03 PM - Daniel Curtis

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Daniel Curtis	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Category:</b>	Mail Server	<b>Estimated time:</b>	3.00 hours
<b>Target version:</b>		<b>Spent time:</b>	3.00 hours

#### Description

My mail server went down recently, and I managed to have automated rsnapshot backups going to my NAS every weekend. The following method is how I restored the virtual mail server to another virtual instance on a different machine. Luckily I use puppet for managing software packages and configuration, so I had a class for my mail server base configuration. So all I had to do was restore the vmail folder, postfix, and dovecot configurations; then run the ISPConfig update process.

#### Create New Container

- I used the previous container template, mail.tmpl, I just changed the IP address and gateway address to the correct addresses for the new VPS host.

```
lxc-create -n mail.example.com -t debian-wheezy -f /path/to/mail.tmpl
```

- Once this finished make the container autostart at boot on the VPS host

```
ln -s /var/lib/lxc/mail.example.com/config /etc/lxc/auto/mail.example.com
```

- Then start or log into the container

```
lxc-start -n mail.example.com
```

- Then login and change the root password, as well as run a few post installation configurations:

```
passwd  
dpkg-reconfigure locales  
dpkg-reconfigure tzdata
```

- Update and upgrade

```
apt-get update  
apt-get upgrade
```

- Join mail server to the puppet domain

```
puppet agent -vt --waitforcert 30
```

This guide assumes that a proper puppet configuration for the mail server is present.

- If there is a problem, it is likely that the SSL keys don't match and need to be cleaned from the puppet master server.

```
puppetca clean mail.example.com
```

- And then on the puppet master server, sign the new puppet client certificate for the mail server.

```
puppetca sign mail.example.com
```

- This will restore the puppet clients package manifest and configurations. When this finishes, update and upgrade again.

```
apt-get update  
apt-get upgrade
```

## Restoring from backup

- I copied the .tar.gz file from the NAS to /root on the mail server.

```
cd /root  
cp /var/backup/2014-01-25/mail.example.com.tar.gz .  
tar xzf mail.example.com.tar.gz  
cd mail.example.com
```

- Restore the mail server contents

```
rsync -avh var/vmail /var
```

- Restore the MySQL database

```
mysql -u root -p < mysqldump/mysqldump_all_databases.sql
```

- Restore local ispcnfig folder

```
rsync -avh usr/local/ispcnfig /usr/local/
```

- Restore the server configurations

```
rsync -avh etc/dovecot /etc/  
rsync -avh etc/postfix /etc/  
rsync -avh etc/mailname /etc/  
rsync -avh etc/getmail /etc/
```

## Run ISPConfig update on new virtual server

- Now that all the previous server packages and configurations have been restored, run the ISPConfig update to refresh the mail server information with the hosting control panel master node.

```
/usr/local/ispcnfig/server/scripts/update_from_tgz.sh
```

Once the update finished I was able to control the new server from the hosting control panel. The server was successfully migrated.

## History

#1 - 02/04/2014 10:04 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

**#2 - 02/10/2014 11:10 AM - Daniel Curtis**

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed

**#3 - 02/16/2015 02:06 PM - Daniel Curtis**

- Project changed from 31 to GNU/Linux Administration

- Description updated

- Category set to Mail Server