

Re: warning of pending commit attempt.

Re: warning of pending commit attempt.

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/current/2008-02/msg00912.html>

- *From:* Julian Elischer <julian@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 25 Feb 2008 21:31:40 -0800
-

Brooks Davis wrote:

On Mon, Feb 25, 2008 at 08:44:56PM -0800, Julian Elischer wrote:

At some stage in the next few weeks I will be trying to commit Marco Zec's vimage code to -current. (only 'trying' not for technical reasons, but political).

I'm making this announcement because this is sure to be a controversial move.

For those of you who do NOT know what it is, please go to the following website:

<http://imunes.tel.fer.hr/virtnet/>

This project has been going for a while and has been in production in its earlier versions in several places.

The current version referred to in the code is implemented in a manner that allows it to be COMPILED OUT. so that those who do not want the risk or the performance gain/loss (yes it surprisingly seems to actually speed up some things) can compile it out and have a system that for all intents and purposes, is as it is now.

Is this true to the level of checksums of .o files?

No. There are some minor reorganisations of where some variables are, and some minor changes but they are pretty easy to confirm as being "functionally equivalent". Macros are used to do a lot but there are some places where it was not possible to hide it behind a macro, so small re-orgs were required.. they really are small in comparison to the whole work though, and as I said. quite "provable".

Re: warning of pending commit attempt.

what do we gain?

Jail on steroids

A framework that can be extended to other virtualisation avenues.

The ability to have full virtual machines on almost any layout of physical hardware.

Why now?

The code is in a shape where the compiled out version of the system is stable.

In the compiled in version, it is functional

enough to provide nearly all of what people want. It needs people with other interests to adapt it to their purposes and use it so that it can become a solid product for future releases.

The website has a snapshot with a date over a month old and many comments about unstable interfaces. I've seen zero reports of substantial testing...

I and others have run it but there are obviously things to still do. there is of course a limited amount of testing that a couple of people can do. having said that I feel comfortable with it now or I wouldn't have suggested this. As I said the compiled out version is much easier to verify, and this would give a much larger testing population.

Solaris and Linux have seen what BSD can do with jails and have upped the ante. it's time for FreeBSD to take our jails to the next logical step.

As it will be committed it does have some missing parts to the jigsaw, but it is complete enough that a system compiled in this manner can be fully functional and fully backwards compatible.

Basically no userland changes need be made to get the full effect.

I expect the usual nay-sayers no matter what is proposed, but I hope we can have a decent discussion about this..

From purely procedural perspective, the "next few weeks" seems rushed and poorly motivated. We're still finding and fixing bugs from the last major round of network changes. We should at least get the first batch of 7.0 errata out the door before making changes that will certainly make merging non-trivial network stack changes more difficult. We also need credible, qualitative reports verifying that it works and what its impacts are.

Re: warning of pending commit attempt.

Re: warning of pending commit attempt.

I say the next few weeks because we need it to happen NOW and not "just before 8.0" It's been tested and run for over a year. how much more do you want? No-one is talking about putting it in 7.0 yet, but I don't want to make the same mistake we made when we didn't put it in -current when 6.x was done. (slight hyperbole there... :-)

Don't get me wrong. I think this is interesting work and that it could be a major asset to FreeBSD. I also recognize that it should go in the next 6-9 months (12 at the outside) if it's not going to cause problems with 8.0. I simply don't see any valid motivation for doing it with undue haste.

This is not haste.. this has been waiting in the wings for over a year. I'd like to see it in -current at most 2 months after 7.0 hits the streets. We need to give it soak time and get people up to speed on how to extend it and other virtual facilities, and probably for feedback to result in design fixes so that when 8.0 gets out the door we have something that we can really be proud of.

-- Brooks

freebsd-current@xxxxxxxxxxx mailing list

<http://lists.freebsd.org/mailman/listinfo/freebsd-current>

To unsubscribe, send any mail to "freebsd-current-unsubscribe@xxxxxxxxxxx"