Foreman - Feature #24290

Use chronyd instead of ntp in provisioning templates on RHEL systems

07/18/2018 03:28 PM - Daniel Lobato Garcia

Status:	Closed		
Priority:	Normal		
Assignee:	Stephen Benjamin		
Category:	TFTP		
Target version:			
Difficulty:	easy	**Fixed in Releases:**	1.20.1, 1.21.0
Triaged:	Yes	**Found in Releases:**	
Bugzilla link:	1601602	**Red Hat JIRA:**	
Pull request:	https://github.com/theforeman/community-templates/pull/530		

Description

Cloned from https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=1601602

Description of problem: In the current default provisioning templates there is a step to do an initial time sync using ntpdate:

```
#update local time
echo "updating system time"
/usr/sbin/ntpdate -sub <%= host_param('ntp-server') || '0.fedora.pool.ntp.org' %>
/usr/sbin/hwclock --systohc
```

In order for this to work the ntp package is also installed in the %packages system since is not install in rhel by default.

From my understanding this line is just to do a quick initial sync. chronyd has an option to do this [1].

Most of our docs are (or are being updated to) prefer chrony [2].

So rather then install the ntp package to just use ntpdate once, we should probably consider using the 'chronyd -q' option.

[1] https://chrony.tuxfamily.org/faq.html#_does_code_chronyd_code_have_an_ntpdate_mode
[2] https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=1589712

History

#1 - 10/09/2018 12:42 PM - Aditi Puntambekar

*- Subject changed from Use chronyd instead of ntp in provisioning templates on RHEL systems
to Use chronyd instead of ntp in provisioning templates on RHEL systems*

Hello, are we planning to implement this feature by introducing chronyd ?

#2 - 10/09/2018 12:59 PM - Aditi Puntambekar

- Assignee set to Aditi Puntambekar

#3 - 10/11/2018 09:36 AM - Lukas Zapletal

I don't agree with a simple replacement, there are features which are better in chrony and feature better in the original ntpd. They are both available on most systems, including RHEL7, we should have templates with both and let user to decide.

https://access.redhat.com/solutions/2070363

#4 - 10/12/2018 06:22 AM - Aditi Puntambekar

Lukas Zapletal wrote:

> I don't agree with a simple replacement, there are features which are better in chrony and feature better in the original ntpd. They are both
> available on most systems, including RHEL7, we should have templates with both and let user to decide.

So, should we install chrony and ntp both ? Also, how should chrony -q be then used along with ntpdate ?

#5 - 10/12/2018 11:29 AM - Lukas Zapletal

We should default to chrony but when there is host parameter passed ntp-service and set to "ntpd" then we should use ntpd. Something like that IMHO.

#6 - 10/24/2018 07:38 AM - Aditi Puntambekar

So does this mean if a host parameter say, ntp-service: string (default="ntpd") is passed, it should use ntpd, right? But, since this is already set to ntpd then how will it default to chrony ?

#7 - 11/01/2018 11:10 AM - Lukas Zapletal

- Status changed from New to Closed

- Assignee changed from Aditi Puntambekar to Stephen Benjamin

- Difficulty set to easy

- Triaged changed from No to Yes

- Pull request https://github.com/theforeman/community-templates/pull/530 added

This patch https://github.com/theforeman/community-templates/pull/530 introduced new option:

use_ntp = host_param_true?('use-ntp') || (is_fedora && os_major < 16) || (rhel_compatible && os_major <= 7)

Our templates are now compatible with boths, default to chrony on modern systems. This is overrideable via use-ntp option.

#8 - 12/04/2018 01:09 PM - Tomer Brisker

- Fixed in Releases 1.20.1, 1.21.0 added