

Table of Contents

Overview

Linked nodes

Server profiles

Implementation

Phases

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# cPanel Linked Nodes Roadmap

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## Overview

This document describes linked nodes, server profiles, how they work together, and the future plans for the linked nodes project.

## Linked nodes

In cPanel & WHM version 86, we introduced WHM's *Link Server Nodes* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Server Configuration >> Link Server Nodes*). This interface allows you to link two servers together, a *parent node* and a *child node*. The parent node can offload certain functionality to the child node (for example, mail).

## Server profiles

In cPanel & WHM version 76, we introduced WHM's *Server Profile* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Server Configuration >> Server Profile*). Server profiles optimize servers to perform specific tasks or functions. Each profile enables and disables a set of roles. Each role allows or disallows certain services related to the server's task. For example, a server that runs a *Mail* server profile only enables services essential to mail. The profile disables all other services, such as Web Disk and FTP.

Important:

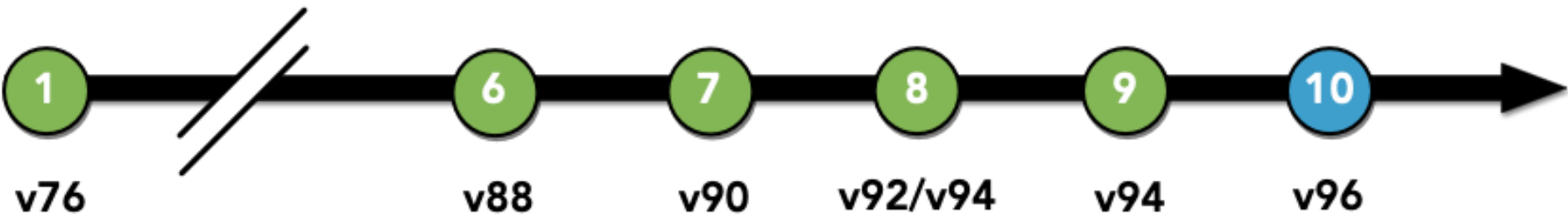
Server profiles provide performance improvements, **not** necessarily additional security.

Distributed accounts have the **same** level of access on the child node as they do on the parent node. This access allows linked nodes to work smoothly with existing systems. We are researching methods to transition to a reduced access security model in a future version.

## Implementation

Together, these two interfaces allow you to optimize each server for separate, distinct functionality. This combination frees up resources on the parent node and allows you to optimize the hardware for each server.

- For information about linked nodes, read our [cPanel Linked Nodes Guide](#) documentation.
- For more information about server profiles, read our [How to Use Server Profiles](#) documentation.



A visual representation of the phases.

## Phases

This project has several phases. Each phase will deliver more improvements, functions, and controls. You can read about each phase in the following section:

Phase	Description	Notes	Status
1	Introduce server profiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We introduced the <i>Standard</i>, <i>Mail</i>, <i>Database</i>, and <i>DNS</i> server profiles. These profiles let you optimize a server for a specific task or function.</li><li>Each profile enables and disables a set of roles. Each role allows or disallows specific services that relate to the server's task.</li></ul>	Complete
2	Improve email deliverability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improve how a server will deliver, receive, and process email.</li><li>We added WHM's <i>Email Deliverability</i> interface (<i>WHM &gt;&gt; Home &gt;&gt; Email &gt;&gt; Email Deliverability</i>). This interface helps you identify and fix any problems with your server's DKIM, SPF, and PTR records.</li></ul>	Complete
3	Manage API Tokens in cPanel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We introduced cPanel API tokens.</li><li>Users can issue these API tokens in cPanel's <i>Manage API Tokens</i> interface (<i>cPanel &gt;&gt; Home &gt;&gt; Security &gt;&gt; Manage API Token</i>). This feature lets users create, list, update, and revoke API tokens.</li></ul>	Complete
4	Standalone <i>DNS</i> server profile licensing	Support of <i>DNS</i> server profile licenses.	Complete
5	Link a new <i>Standard</i> parent node to a new <i>Mail</i> child node	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Allow new cPanel accounts on a <i>Standard</i> parent node to connect to a <i>Mail</i> child node.</li><li>Assign the mail tasks for new cPanel accounts to a different server.</li></ul>	Complete
6	Transfer existing linked cPanel accounts between nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support for transfers to and from a server with attached nodes.</li><li>Provide the ability to back up accounts with data from all of your server nodes.</li><li>Preserve a node setting when you transfer an account from one server to another.</li></ul>	Complete
7	Modify a cPanel account to offload mail	Offload a cPanel account's mail storage to a <i>linked node</i> in WHM's <i>Modify an Account</i> interface ( <i>WHM &gt;&gt; Home &gt;&gt; Account Functions &gt;&gt; Modify an Account</i> ).	Complete
8	Modify a cPanel account to host mail locally	Modify a <i>distributed cPanel account</i> to use only the local server in WHM's <i>Modify an Account</i> interface ( <i>WHM &gt;&gt; Home &gt;&gt; Account Functions &gt;&gt; Modify an Account</i> ).	Complete
9	Production Ready	Support a linked <i>child node</i> server with a <i>Standard</i> or <i>Mail</i> server profile in a production environment.	Complete
10	Future plans	Performance and optimizations.	In progress

### Additional Documentation

- Calendar and Contacts Server
- Full Disaster Recovery
- How to Set Up iOS Push Notifications
- How to Use Server Profiles
- Linux Containers