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The holy cluster. Part 1 ISCSI Setup

By: Chris Mertens (https://www.suse.com/c/author/christoph_mertens/) | 4,194 views

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Since I need to support quite some customers using High Availability Clustering I was quite often in the need to of having a test lab where I can try re-producing customer issues. Sometimes even trying to understand customer issues as well;-).

So I thought hey there must be a complete guide A-Z on how to set things up. Yes there is very nice and informative documentation but not a complete guide from A-Z which also has all the tiny bit's and pieces that are needed for such a test cluster setup like shared storage. How do I set it up? What can I use? Do I really need a SAN storage in the backend to get things running? So that's the reason I wrote this blog post now.

The god answer to the above questions is: Quite easy setting things up. You can use e.g. your kvm server. NO you don't need a real SAN storage in the backend. Even though it would be nice to have one wouldn't it;-). Anyway Don't wanna hold you up! So let's start with part one of the setup ISCSI LIO Server for shared storage.

1. Prerequisites:

I've listed my lab environment here so feel free to adjust it to your needs.

1 x SLES 12 SP2 Server running kvm + iscsi LIO server Free disk space for an LVM Volume Group and for two logical lvm volumes

- one for a sbd 5 MB
- one for a share ~ 20 GB (will be needed in Part 3 later) Ideal would be if you also do have at least a DNS server

2 x SLES 12 SP2 Server's as cluster nodes + iscsi initiator

For the rest of this guide please also note the following naming: ISCSI LIO Server: skinner.simpsons.gov

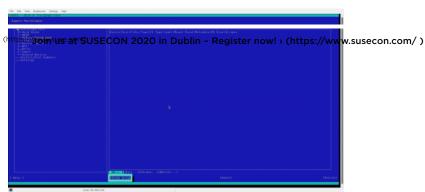
Cluster Nodes: bart.simpsons.gov maggy.simpsons.gov

2. ISCSI LVM preparations

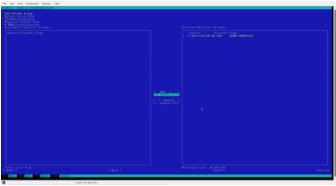
I did create a new LVM Volume group named cluster via Yast:

Yast2 > System > Partinioner > Volume Management > Add > Volume Group



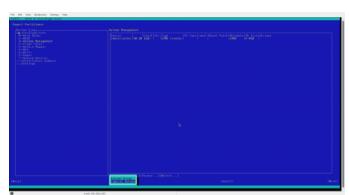


(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_2.png)



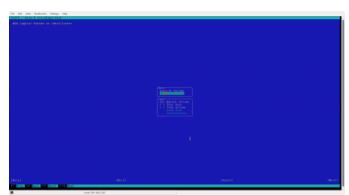
(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_3.png)

After the Volume Group has been created we need to add two Logical Volumes here one for the sbd device and one for the shared storage for the cluster.



(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_4.png)

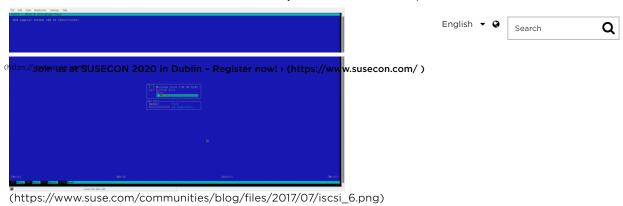
To be able to identify them later on easier I named the first volume sbd and the second shared.



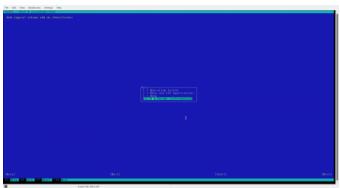
(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_5.png)

The sbd volume only needs to be 5 MB in size.



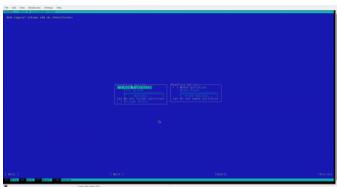


Please make sure to choose Raw Volume (unformatted)



(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_7.png)

Again do not format or mount the partition and just finish



(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_8.png)

Repeat the above for the shared volume as well and give it the rest of the space left in the volume group. When all is done the following should be shown when executing lvs on the console as root.

```
skinner:~ # lvs
LV VG Attr LSize Pool Origin Data% Meta% Move Log Cpy%Sync Convert
sbd cluster -wi-a---- 8,00m
shared cluster -wi-a---- 20,49g
```

3. Configuring the ISCSI LIO Server with targetcli

Please make sure the following packages are installed:





When the above packages are installed start the targetcli console to begin with the configuration.

```
ckinner:~ # targetcli

(httsa//981/clie shellsecon/2020linf biblin - Register now! > (https://www.susecon.com/)
Copyright 2011-2013 by Datera, Inc and others.
For help on commands, type 'help'.
```

Executing Is should show the following output:

Change into the backstores/block/ directory and create the corresponding block devices for the previously created logical lvm volumes:

```
/> cd backstores/block/
/backstores/block> create sbd /dev/cluster/sbd
/backstores/block> create shared /dev/cluster/shared
```

Afterwards the config should look like this:

Change into the iscsi directory to create the iscsi target:

```
/> cd iscsi
/iscsi> create
Created target iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d.
Created TPG 1.
Global pref auto_add_default_portal=true
Created default portal listening on all IPs (0.0.0.0), port 3260.
/iscsi>
```

Afterwards the config should look like this:



Change into the target directory and then into the tpg1 and then into the luns directory to create the corresponding luns:

```
/iscsi> cd iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d/tpg1/

/iscsi/iqn.20...d1fbfce8/tpg1> cd luns
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/luns> create /backstores/block/sbd

Created LUN 0.
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/luns> create /backstores/block/shared

Created LUN 1.
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/luns>
```

Afterwards the config should look like this:

```
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/luns> ls /
o-/.....[...]
o- backstores ...... [...]
o- block ...... [Storage Objects: 2]
| | o- sbd ...... [/dev/cluster/sbd (8.0MiB) write-thru activated]
| | o- shared ...... [/dev/cluster/shared (20.5GiB) write-thru activated]
o- pscsi ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
o- ramdisk ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
o- iscsi ...... [Targets: 1]
o- ign.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d . [TPGs: 1]
| o- tpg1 ...... [no-gen-acls, no-auth]
  o- acls ...... [ACLs: 0]
  o- luns ......[LUNs: 2]
 | o- lun0 ...... [block/sbd (/dev/cluster/sbd)]
 o- lun1 ......[block/shared (/dev/cluster/shared)]
  o- portals ...... [Portals: 1]
  o- 0.0.0.0:3260 ......[OK]
o- loopback ...... [Targets: 0]
o- vhost ...... [Targets: 0]
o- xen_pvscsi ......[Targets: 0]
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/luns>
```

Get the default initiator name from another console:

```
skinner:~ # grep -v ^# /etc/iscsi/initiatorname.iscsi
InitiatorName=iqn.1996-04.de.suse:01:a8c2aba2b371
```

Create the corresponding ACL's modifying the initiator name for each of the cluster nodes as follows:

```
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/acls> create iqn.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov
Created Node ACL for iqn.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov
Created mapped LUN 1.
Created mapped LUN 0.
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/acls> create iqn.1996-04.de.suse:maggy.simpsons.gov
Created Node ACL for iqn.1996-04.de.suse:maggy.simpsons.gov
Created mapped LUN 1.
Created mapped LUN 0.
```

Afterwards the config should look like this:

```
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/acls> ls /
                                               English ▼ 3
                                                                Q
o-/.....[...]
o- backstores ...... [...]
| | o- shared ...... [/dev/cluster/shared (20.5GiB) write-thru activated]
| o- fileio ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
| o- pscsi ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
| o- ramdisk ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
o- iscsi ...... [Targets: 1]
o-iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d . [TPGs: 1]
  o- tpg1 ...... [no-gen-acls, no-auth]
  o- acls ...... [ACLs: 2]
  o- ign.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov ...... [Mapped LUNs: 2]
  | | o- mapped_lun0 ...... [lun0 block/sbd (rw)]
  | o- mapped lun1 ...... [lun1 block/shared (rw)]
  o- iqn.1996-04.de.suse:maggy.simpsons.gov ....... [Mapped LUNs: 2]
  | o- mapped_lun0 ...... [lun0 block/sbd (rw)]
  o- mapped lun1 ...... [lun1 block/shared (rw)]
  o- luns ...... [LUNs: 2]
  | o- lun0 ......[block/sbd (/dev/cluster/sbd)]
  | o- lun1 ...... [block/shared (/dev/cluster/shared)]
  o- portals ...... [Portals: 1]
   o- 0.0.0.0:3260 ......[OK]
o- loopback ...... [Targets: 0]
o- vhost ...... [Targets: 0]
o- xen_pvscsi ...... [Targets: 0]
/iscsi/iqn.20...ce8/tpg1/acls>
```

Change into the portals directory to delete the default listener and to configure the new listener and port for the ISCSI LIO Server:

Afterwards the config should look like this:

```
/iscsi/iqn.20.../tpg1/portals> ls /
o-/.....[...]
o- backstores ......[...]
| o- block ...... [Storage Objects: 2]
| | o- sbd ......[/dev/cluster/sbd (8.0MiB) write-thru activated]
| | o- shared ...... [/dev/cluster/shared (20.5GiB) write-thru activated]
| o- fileio ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
| o- pscsi ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
o- ramdisk ...... [Storage Objects: 0]
o- iscsi ...... [Targets: 1]
o-iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d . [TPGs: 1]
 o- tpg1 ...... [no-gen-acls, no-auth]
  o- acls ...... [ACLs: 2]
  o-iqn.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov ...... [Mapped LUNs: 2]
  | | o- mapped_lun0 ...... [lun0 block/sbd (rw)]
  | | o- mapped_lun1 ...... [lun1 block/shared (rw)]
  o- iqn.1996-04.de.suse:maggy.simpsons.gov ...... [Mapped LUNs: 2]
  | o- mapped_lun0 ...... [lun0 block/sbd (rw)]
  / o- mapped_lun1 ..... [lun1 block/shared (rw)]
  o- luns ...... [LUNs: 2]
  | o- lun0 ...... [block/sbd (/dev/cluster/sbd)]
  | o- lun1 ...... [block/shared (/dev/cluster/shared)]
  o- portals ...... [Portals: 1]
   o- 192.168.2.235:3260 ......[OK]
```



o- vhost	[Targets: 0] [Targets: 0] [Targets: 0]	English ▼ 🍑	Search Q
/iscsi/iqii.zv/ipgi/portais https://ywimsuseatrousecon 2020 ii	n Dublin - Register now! > (https://www.susecon.com	/)	
For better handling we will n	now disable authentication (I do not recomme	nd this for product	ion environments!)
/iscsi/iqn.20/tpg1/portal	s> cd/		
	25, 64 11,		
/iscsi/ign.20d1fbfce8/tpg	g1> set attribute authentication=0		

The result should look like this:

```
ATTRIBUTE CONFIG GROUP
_____
authentication=0
```

If set to 1, enforce authentication for this TPG.

```
cache_dynamic_acls=0
```

/iscsi/iqn.20...d1fbfce8/tpg1>

Last but not least change back to the / directory, save the configuration and exit the targetcli console.

```
/iscsi/iqn.20...d1fbfce8/tpg1> cd /
Last 10 configs saved in /etc/target/backup.
Configuration saved to /etc/target/saveconfig.json
/> exit
```

4. Enable needed services, configure initiators and test the configuration

Enable the targetcli, iscsid and target services for autostart on boot:

```
skinner:~ # systemctl enable targetcli.service
 skinner:~ # systemctl enable iscsid.service
 skinner:~ # systemctl enable target.service
Discover the iscsi target on the server
```

```
skinner:~ # iscsiadm -m discovery -t sendtargets -p skinner.simpsons.gov
192.168.2.235:3260,1 iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d
```

Edit the initiatorname.iscsi file to reflect the corresponding ACL names chosen above when creating the ACL's for the two nodes:



```
skinner:~ # vi /etc/iscsi/initiatorname.iscsi

##

## /etc/iscsi/iscsi.initiatorname

(https://www.susecon.com/)

## Default iSCSI Initiatorname.

##

## DO NOT EDIT OR REMOVE THIS FILE!

## If you remove this file, the iSCSI daemon will not start.

## If you change the InitiatorName, existing access control lists

## may reject this initiator. The InitiatorName must be unique

## for each iSCSI initiator. Do NOT duplicate iSCSI InitiatorNames.

#InitiatorName=iqn.1996-04.de.suse:01:a8c2aba2b371

InitiatorName=iqn.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov

InitiatorName=iqn.1996-04.de.suse:maggy.simpsons.gov
```

Afterwards restart the iscsid service to make the changes above effective:

```
skinner:~ # systemctl restart iscsid
```

Connect to the iscsi target on the server itself (also I would not recommend on a productions system but to test if everything works before configuring the clients it is just fine):

```
skinner:~ # iscsiadm -m node -p skinner.simpsons.gov --login
Logging in to [iface: default, target: iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d, portal: 192.168.2.235,3260]
Login to [iface: default, target: iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d, portal: 192.168.2.235,3260] succ
```

After successful login verify if the two luns are mapped once by path and once by id:

5. Configure the client's to connect to the iscsi target

On the iscsi initiator/iscsi clients (bart.simpsons.gov and maggy.simpsons.gov) install and enable the following services:

```
zypper in open-iscsi yast2-iscsi-client

systemctl enable iscsid iscsi

systemctl start iscsid iscsi
```

Discover the iscsi target:

```
bart:~ # iscsiadm -m discovery -t sendtargets -p skinner.simpsons.gov
192.168.2.235:3260,1 iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d
```

Edit the initiatorname.iscsi file to reflect the corresponding initiator names defined for the nodes on the ISCSI LIO

```
bart:~ # vi /etc/iscsi/initiatorname.iscsi

##

## /etc/iscsi/iscsi.initiatorname

(https://www.susecon.com/)

## Do Not Edit or Remove this file, the iscsi daemon will not start.

## If you remove this file, the iscsi daemon will not start.

## If you change the InitiatorName, existing access control lists

## may reject this initiator. The InitiatorName must be unique

## for each iscsi initiator. Do Not duplicate iscsi InitiatorNames.

InitiatorName=iqn.1996-04.de.suse:bart.simpsons.gov
```

Afterwards restart the iscsid service to make the changes above effective:

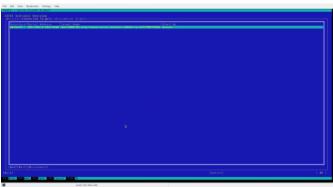
```
bart:~ # systemctl restart iscsid
```

Connect to the iscsi target on the server:

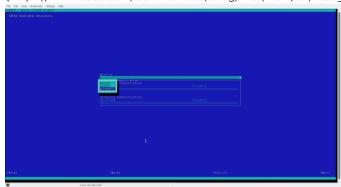
```
bart:~ # iscsiadm -m node -p 192.168.2.235 --login
Logging in to [iface: default, target: iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d, portal: 192.168.2.235,3260]
Login to [iface: default, target: iqn.2003-01.org.linux-iscsi.skinner.x8664:sn.1f9f4047108d, portal: 192.168.2.235,3260] succ
```

Last but not least set startup mode to automatic for the corresponding targets for the ISCSI Initiator via YAST:

YAST > Network Services > iSCSI Initiator > Connected Targets > Edit > Startup > automatic



(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_client_2.png)



(https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/files/2017/07/iscsi_client_3.png)

If all worked out fine and you did not have any typos. Hooodray you should have a running ISCSI LIO Server and two client nodes happily connected against the ISCSI targets.

In the second part (Holy Cluster Part 2 HAE Setup (https://www.suse.com/communities/blog/holy-cluster-part-2-hae-setup/)) I will concentrate on configuring and installing the HAE Cluster. Have fun!

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This entry was posted Tuesday, 11 July, 2017 at 11:34 am

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Comments



Dayal (http://nec.com.sg) says:

November 16, 2018 at 2:52 am (https://www.suse.com/c/holy-cluster-part-1-iscsi-setup/#comment-39204) Hi Chris

- 1) i have an issue with SBD , i deleted the SBD ,and now i am unable to create back ,if says it already exist in configFS , how do i recreate it.
- 2) I missed adding other SBD devices during the HA setup how can i add it now.

Thank you Dayal

Reply



Chris Mertens says:

November 16, 2018 at 11:58 am (https://www.suse.com/c/holy-cluster-part-1-iscsi-setup/#comment-39284) Hi Daval

please have a look at the following TID which should help you re-creating the SBD.

https://www.suse.com/de-de/support/kb/doc/?id=7018194 (https://www.suse.com/de-de/support/kb/doc/?id=7018194)

Cheers,

Chris

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