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Running dnsmasq in Docker

Today we take a quick look at running dnsmasq as a docker container.

dnsmasq is a simple lightweight DNS (amongst other features) that can be used to easily set up various DNS records within your infrastructure. Our particular usecase is to set the TXT records <u>Eureka</u> requires for DNS based bootstrapping.

Getting started

I've built and release an alpine based dnsmasq image which configures itself from a directory of .conf files. I chose this approach so that different services can include themselves in dnsmasq during provisioning.

You can see the Dockerfile here - https://github.com/storytel/dnsmasq

Starting the container

There are three options here to note:-

- 1. --cap-add=NET_ADMIN is required for dnsmasq to interact with the network stack
- 2. --net=host runs the container with the host network stack, so that port 53 on the host becomes the DNS and is accessible from the rest of the network.
- 3. -v /etc/dnsmasq:/etc/dnsmasq maps our folder of .conf files inside the container.

Configuration

dnsmasq will read all the .conf files added to /etc/dnsmasq (a container restart is required to load changes). So we can add each service as it's own file, or put them all in one. Whichever suits your configuration needs.

```
# 0.base.conf
domain-needed
bogus-priv
no-hosts
keep-in-foreground
no-resolv
expand-hosts
server=8.8.8.8
server=8.8.4.4
# 1.eureka.conf
address=/001.eureka.storytel/10.10.10.21
address=/002.eureka.storytel/10.10.10.22
address=/003.eureka.storytel/10.10.10.23
txt-record=txt.global.eureka.storytel,sweden.eureka.storytel
txt-record=txt.sweden.eureka.storytel,10.10.10.21,10.10.10.22,10.10.10.23
# 2.etcd.conf
address=/001.etcd.storytel/10.10.10.21
address=/002.etcd.storytel/10.10.10.22
address=/003.etcd.storytel/10.10.10.23
```

Access from another server

Once we have our container up and running we can then use the DNS from other servers on the network.

```
$ dig @10.10.10.1 TXT txt.global.eureka.storytel
; <<>> DiG 9.10.2-P4 <<>> @10.10.10.1 TXT txt.global.eureka.storytel
; (1 server found)
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 13897
;; flags: qr aa rd ra ad; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1
;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 4096
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;txt.global.eureka.storytel.
                                          TXT
;; ANSWER SECTION:
txt.global.eureka.storytel. 0
                                  IN
                                          TXT
                                                  "sweden.eureka.storytel"
;; Query time: 1 msec
```

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