



The Kea Config Backend

Scalable DHCP configuration management with MySQL

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Some notes on Kea

- Modern DHCPv4 and DHCPv6 server (1.6 in Aug 2019)
- Performance (1000s leases/sec)
- High Availability, NETCONF, RADIUS
- Databases (CSV, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Cassandra)
- Hooks (ISC and 3rd party libraries)
- REST API (120+ commands and counting)



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The Backend Concept



**DHCPv4, DHCPv6
server**



MySQL

- Leases (addresses, prefixes)
- Host reservations (per host details)
- Options
 - Pools
 - Subnets
 - Shared networks
 - Option definitions
 - Global parameters

Lease Backend

Hosts Backend

Config Backend



Config Backend

Ability to retrieve configuration from a database



DHCPv4, DHCPv6 server

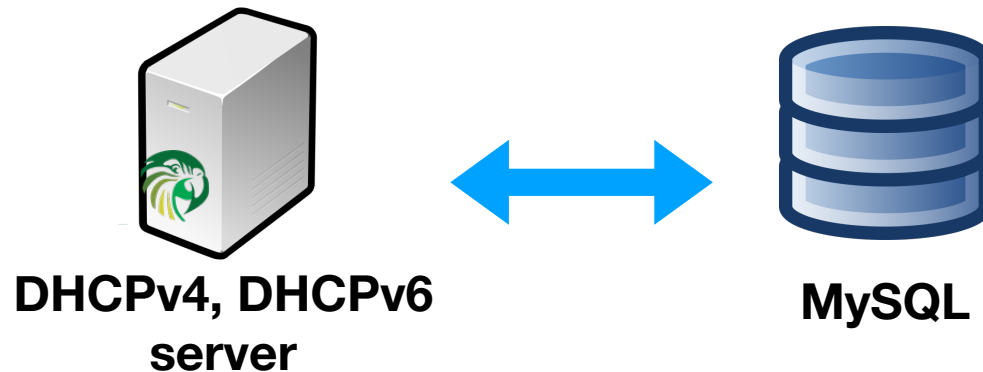


MySQL

- Database stores DHCP configuration elements
- MySQL server can be colocated with DHCP or remote
- Multiple Kea servers can share one remote MySQL DB
- Database can be modified when DHCP servers are off-line



Capabilities



- Changes made to the configuration database are applied to all servers without needing to restart.
- Pull model with configurable delay:
 - `config-fetch-wait-time`



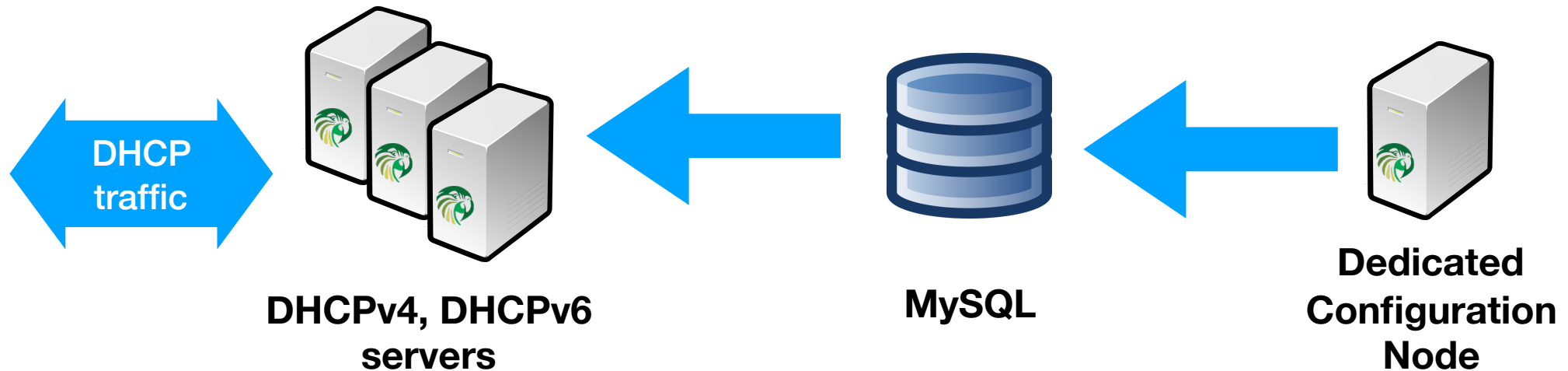
Local or remote



- MySQL can be colocated with DHCP or remote
- Multiple DHCP servers can share one MySQL instance
- Configuration database can co-exist with other databases



Offline Configuration



- Dedicated Kea node for configuration management
- Manage configuration even when servers are offline
- Allows firewalling of configuration management



Use Cases

- Sharing configuration between HA partners
- Frequently changing configuration
- Automated configuration management
- Large configuration / Large deployments
- Scaling up or down
- Database Monitoring, Reporting, Backup, Redundancy



Config Backend

- Currently MySQL only
 - PostgreSQL considered in a future release
- DHCPv4 and DHCPv6 servers only for now
 - DDNS, Control Agent, etc. are not (yet) supported
- Some parameters must be configured via the JSON configuration file
 - For example: `server-tag`



Minimalist Configuration

- Using the configuration backend, "hard-coded" configuration can be significantly reduced:

```
"server-tag"
```

```
"interfaces-config"
```

```
"control-socket"
```

```
"config-control"
```

```
"hooks-libraries"
```

```
"lease-database"
```

```
"expired-leases-processing"
```

Who am I?

Where am I?

How do I talk?

Where is my config?

Where do I store data?

When do I get rid of it?



Minimalist Configuration

- "Everything else" obtained from the Config Backend
 - Global Parameters
 - Option Definitions
 - Subnets & Shared Networks
 - Pools
 - Options





Communicating with Kea

- `kea-ctrl-agent`
 - Listens on a configurable TCP port
 - `http` - directly
 - `https` - reverse proxy (nginx)
 - Listens on a UNIX socket (per service)
 - Consumes and Emits JSON

JSON



Enabling "Remote" Control

A sample `kea-ctrl-agent.conf` configuration file:

```
{
  "Control-agent": {
    "http-host": "127.0.0.1",
    "http-port": 8080,

    "control-sockets": {
      "dhcp4": {
        "socket-type": "unix",
        "socket-name": "/tmp/kea-dhcp4.sock"
      },
      "dhcp6": {
        "socket-type": "unix",
        "socket-name": "/tmp/kea-dhcp6.sock"
      },
      "d2": {
        "socket-type": "unix",
        "socket-name": "/tmp/kea-dhcp-ddns.sock"
      }
    }
  },
  ...
}
```

Multiplexed TCP
Communication here
requires the service
to be specified

UNIX Socket



Communicating with Kea

- `kea-shell`
 - Included with the Kea distribution
 - Built when configured with `--with-shell`
- `socat`
- `curl`
 - Available with most UNIX/Linux distributions



Communicating with Kea

- kea-shell

```
kea-shell --host 127.0.0.1 --port 8080 \  
--service dhcp4 config-get
```

- Postprocess
 - | jq .
 - | python -m json.tool



Communicating with Kea

- socat

```
echo '{ "command": "config-get" }' | \  
socat /tmp/kea-dhcp4.sock -,ignoreeof
```

- curl

```
curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{ "command": "config-get", \  
      "service": [ "dhcp4" ] }' \  
http://127.0.0.1:8080/
```



Enabling Config Backend

A sample `kea-dhcp6.conf` configuration file:

```
"Dhcp6": {  
  "server-tag": "headquarters",  
  "config-control": {  
    "config-databases": [{  
      "type": "mysql",  
      "name": "kea",  
      "user": "kea",  
      "password": "password",  
      "host": "192.0.2.1",  
      "port": 3306  
    }  
  ],  
  "config-fetch-wait-time": 20  
},  
"hooks-libraries": [{  
  "library": "/lib/kea/hooks/libdhcp_mysql_cb.so"  
}, {  
  "library": "/lib/kea/hooks/libdhcp_cb_cmds.so"  
}],  
  ...  
}
```

Server Tag

DB Credentials

Refresh Interval

CB Hook
where to look for config

CB Command Hook
exposes JSON-based REST API

Other DHCP6 Server Parameters



Command List

```
{  
  "command": "list-commands",  
  "service": [ "dhcp6" ]  
}
```

```
{  
  "arguments": [  
    "build-report",  
    "config-get",  
    "config-set",  
    "config-test",  
    "remote-global-parameter4-del",  
    "remote-global-parameter4-get",  
    "remote-global-parameter4-get-all",  
    . . .  
    "remote-subnet6-list",  
    "remote-subnet6-set",  
    "shutdown",  
    "statistic-{get,remove,reset}",  
    "statistic-{get,remove,reset}-all",  
    "version-get"  
  ],  
  "result": 0  
}
```



Server Tags

- Server tags allow the creation of "groups" that are then be applied to one or more servers.
- Each server has exactly one server tag associated with it.
- Each object can have one or more server tags associated with it.
- There is a global "all" tag that will be associated with all servers.



Server Tags

Given Objects with IDs and server tags as shown:

id: 100,
server-tags:
["all"]

id: 101,
server-tags:
["headquarters"]

id: 102,
server-tags:
["headquarters",
"remote"]

id: 103,
server-tags:
["backup"]

id: 104,
server-tags: []



headquarters



backup



remote



Create Server Tags

```
#!/bin/bash
echo '"servers": [ {
    "server-tag": "headquarters",
    "description": "The machine at HQ (v4)" } ]' | \
  kea-shell --host 127.0.0.1 --port 8080 --service dhcp4 \
  remote-server4-set | jq ""

echo '"servers": [ {
    "server-tag": "headquarters",
    "description": "The machine at HQ (v6)" } ]' | \
  kea-shell --host 127.0.0.1 --port 8080 --service dhcp6 \
  remote-server6-set | jq ""

echo '"servers": [ {
    "server-tag": "remote",
    "description": "The machine in the field (v4)" } ]' | \
  kea-shell --host 127.0.0.1 --port 8080 --service dhcp4 \
  remote-server4-set | jq ""

[...]
```



Create Server Tags (output)

```
[
  {
    "arguments": {
      "servers": [
        {
          "description": "The machine at HQ (v4)",
          "server-tag": "headquarters"
        }
      ]
    },
    "result": 0,
    "text": "DHCPv4 server successfully set."
  }
]
[...]
```




Get all DHCP4 Server Tags

```
{  
  "command":  
    "remote-server4-get-all",  
  "service": [ "dhcp4" ]  
}
```

```
{  
  "arguments": {  
    "count": 2,  
    "servers": [  
      {  
        "description": "The machine at HQ (v4)",  
        "server-tag": "headquarters"  
      },  
      {  
        "description": "The machine in the field (v4)",  
        "server-tag": "remote"  
      }  
    ]  
  },  
  "result": 0,  
  "text": "2 DHCPv4 server(s) found."  
}
```



Create IPv6 Subnet

```
{
  "subnets": [
    {
      "id": 100,
      "subnet": "2001:db8:1::/48",
      "shared-network-name": "",
      "pools": [
        {
          "pool": "2001:db8:1::/64"
        }
      ]
    }
  ],
  "server-tags": [
    "remote"
  ],
  "command": "remote-subnet6-set"
}
```

```
{
  "arguments": {
    "subnets": [
      {
        "id": 100,
        "subnet": "2001:db8:1::/48"
      }
    ]
  },
  "result": 0,
  "text": "IPv6 subnet successfully set."
}
```



Get a specific Net by ID

```
{  
  "command":  
    "remote-subnet6-get-by-id",  
  "subnets": [ { "id": 100 } ]  
}
```

```
{  
  "arguments": {  
    "count": 1,  
    "subnets": [  
      {  
        "id": 100,  
        "metadata": {  
          "server-tags": [  
            "remote"  
          ]  
        },  
        "option-data": [],  
        "pd-pools": [],  
        "pools": [  
          {  
            "option-data": [],  
            "pool": "2001:db8:1::/64"  
          }  
        ]  
      }  
    ]  
  },  
  "result": 0,  
  "text": "IPv6 subnet 100 found."  
}
```



List All IPv6 Subnets (tag)

```
{  
  "server-tags": [ "all" ],  
  "command": "remote-subnet6-list"  
}
```

```
{  
  "arguments": {  
    "count": 4,  
    "subnets": [  
      {  
        "id": 101,  
        "metadata": {  
          "server-tags": [  
            "all"  
          ]  
        },  
        "shared-network-name": null,  
        "subnet": "2001:db8:2::/48"  
      },  
      ...  
    ],  
    "result": 0,  
    "text": "4 IPv6 subnet(s) found."  
  }  
}
```



Create an Option Definition

```
{
  "command": "remote-option-def4-set",
  "arguments": {
    "option-defs": [
      {
        "name": "foo",
        "code": 222,
        "type": "uint32",
        "array": false,
        "record-types": "",
        "space": "dhcp4",
        "encapsulate": ""
      }
    ]
  },
  "server-tags": [
    "headquarters",
  ]
}
```

```
[
  {
    "arguments": {
      "option-defs": [
        {
          "code": 222,
          "space": "dhcp4"
        }
      ]
    },
    "result": 0,
    "text": "DHCPv4 option definition
            successfully set."
  }
]
```



Get an Option Definition

```
{
  "command": "remote-option-def4-get",
  "arguments": {
    "option-defs": [
      {
        "code": 222,
        "space": "dhcp4"
      }
    ],
    "server-tags": [
      "headquarters"
    ]
  },
  "service": [
    "dhcp4"
  ]
}
```

```
{
  "arguments": {
    "count": 1,
    "option-defs": [
      {
        "array": false,
        "code": 222,
        "encapsulate": "",
        "metadata": {
          "server-tags": [
            "headquarters"
          ]
        },
        "name": "foo",
        "record-types": "",
        "space": "dhcp4",
        "type": "uint32"
      }
    ]
  },
  "result": 0,
  "text": "DHCPv4 option definition 222 in 'dhcp4' found."
}
```



Moving to Config Backend

- Moving from a non-database configuration to the Config Backend requires understanding of the existing infrastructure
- Common elements must be pulled out of existing configurations and grouped
- This will be a topic for a future webinar!



Feedback requested

Development | Label: ~config-backend x

ISC Open Source Projects > Kea > Issue Boards

Open 22 +

- cb_cmds: inheritance in config file should be overridable in config-backend
bug config-backend #585
- Consider MySQL CB schema changes to make it compatible with NDBCLUSTER
config-backend db low #593
- forbid using empty string as value of shared-network-name parameter in remote-subnet4-set command
api config-backend #598
- interface-id should be empty in subnet and not copied from shared-network if not specified directly
bug comments needed config-backend low removal-candidate #652

Doing 0 +

Review 3 +

- Update cb_cmds with commands using embedded parameters
Review cb_cmds config-backend low #418
- Create config backend design
Review config-backend #88
- How configure client-class for pools in db?
Review config-backend medium #659

Questions?

Comments?





kea.isc.org

gitlab.isc.org/isc-projects/kea