

Install VPN PPTP Server on CentOS 6

Written by BiRU

Sunday, 11 September 2016 09:41 -

At this moment, my designer encounter problem to access **target.com**, an online shopping website to see some of the stuff for their design work. Target.com only allowed connections from USA and Canada at this moment due to their website crash issue last couple of weeks. Since this is quite urgent, I need to setup a VPN server so they can use it as a jump point to access websites in USA and Canada. I will use my MySQL server to serve as VPN server as well.

In this tutorial, I will use **pptp** as protocol to connect to VPN server using a username and password, with 128 bit **MPPE** encryption. Variable as below:

OS: CentOS 6 64bit

VPN server: 209.85.227.26

VPN client IP: 209.85.227.27 – 209.85.227.30

VPN username: vpnuser

Password: myVPN\$99

1. Install **ppp** via yum:

```
$ yum install ppp -y
```

2. Download and install **pptpd** (the daemon for point-to-point tunneling). You can find the correct package at this website <http://poptop.sourceforge.net/yum/stable/packages/>:

```
$ cd /usr
```

3. Once installed, open **/etc/pptpd.conf** using text editor and add following line:

```
localip 209.85.227.26 remoteip 209.85.227.27-30
```

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4. Open **/etc/ppp/options.pptpd** and add authenticate method, encryption and DNS resolver value:

```
require-mschap-v2 require-mppe-128 ms-dns 8.8.8.8
```

5. Lets create user to access the VPN server. Open **/etc/ppp/chap-secrets** and add the user as below:

```
vpnuser pptpd myVPN$99 *
```

The format is: [username] [space] [server] [space] [password] [space][IP addresses]

6. We need to allow IP packet forwarding for this server. Open **/etc/sysctl.conf** via text editor and change line below:

```
net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1
```

7. Run following command to take effect on the changes:

```
$ sysctl -p
```

8. Allow IP masquerading in **IPtables** by executing following line:

```
$ iptables -t nat -A
```

Update: Once you have done with step 8, check the rules at **/etc/sysconfig/iptables**. Make sure that the POSTROUTING rules is above any REJECT rules.

9. Turn on the **pptpd** service at startup and reboot the server:

```
$ chkconfig pptpd on $ init 6
```