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My mail solution

I'm trying to host my mail solution, bought a new domain name for my business, and am trying to control everything by creating my email using CyberPanel.

I want to make the following emails:

support, info, sales, no-replay, and some personal ones.

What are the best ways to host this CyberPanel VPS, VDS, or web hosting? are there any better panels better than CyberPanel?









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rrrmmmrrrmmm • 1y ago • Edited 1y ago



However, especially nowadays people barely switch components when they think of a "mail server". They want to have a single thing that just works great together.

And it makes sense because once you want to customize something, you don't want to have a totally separate style of configuration. This is why people started bundling the stuff together and abstracting as good as possible. Mailcow consists of a bunch of separate things too. ClamAV, RSpamD, Dovecot, Postfix and a lot of separate surrounding things. You can check in its compose file what's included. All these things are completely different tools, written with different mindsets behind them.

Stalwart components on the other hand were developed to be used together. Everything just fits and that shows.

Just a few examples are following:

config complexity

So if you want to <u>extend or change the Dovecot config</u> you'll need to use a syntax like <u>this</u> and if you want to <u>extend or change the Postfix config</u> you'll need to <u>use another</u>.

Well, Stalwart uses a single configuration format (TOML) for everything. Less complexity by consistency.

memory safety

And the most important components are written in C (i.e. <u>RSpamD</u>, <u>Dovecot</u> or <u>Postfix</u>). C is a language that's potentially memory-unsafe.

It's a security issue that modern languages don't want to have.

In fact, the US government recently suggested to finally avoid languages that aren't memory safe.

Which makes sense because why wouldn't one avoid a whole error class. This is naturally also true for mail servers.

Guess what? Stalwart components are written in Rust which is memory safe by default.

Security features

You know why people are recommending ProtonMail?

Because it allows to have very simple security out of the box. Right now the vast majority of emails is unencrypted at all times (hopefully there's transport encryption at least).

However, when a ProtonMail user writes an email to another ProtonMail user, this email is directly encrypted. Not even ProtonMail can read or modify the content.

And this is not even rocket science: the idea to have free tools like GPG and having them encrypt emails is from 1999 (or even from 1991 if you include PGP).

However, nobody really adapted that idea. Companies like Google, Apple or Microsoft would love to 'read'



And you can encrypt and decrypt easily out of the box with email clients like Thunderbird.

Since it would be nice to have at least unencrypted emails automatically encrypted so that they're encrypted at rest (in case an attacker or your hoster gains access to the storage), Mailcow allows you to encrypt your emails with Mail crypt.

As you can see this is yet another Bash script that's to use "at your own risk".

For Stalwart encryption is a native feature that's directly included and can be configured easily with the TOML config that you already know.

Apart from that Stalwart Mail was actively audited for security issues.

Development speed and having the cool stuff

The development of the aforementioned Mailcow components is consistent but rather slow. They're getting security and maintenance fixes but rarely really new features.

However, given how we use email nowadays, the underlying protocols IMAP and SMTP are not perfect. They're from the 80s and back then they were sufficient but nowadays we have smartphones that are switching connections whenever you move between towers and IMAP was just not meant for mobile networks with latencies.

That's why GMail and MS Outlook are using optimized protocols for their own clients. These protocols aren't open though and you can't just use them with your server. However, a company called Fastmail started creating an open standard with the same purpose in 2014 (ten years ago). They're offering this protocol on their servers and there are also email clients who speak that modern protocol (for Android I'd recommend Ltt.rs but Twake Mail looks nice as well and runs on Android and iOS).

Mailcow's Dovecot doesn't support JMAP yet. It has been planned to be implemented since 2016. Another old IMAP server, Cyrus supports it though. And of course Stalwart supports it.

Summary

So to summarize I'd say that Stalwart is has simpler components with unified configuration, is written in a memory-safe and resource efficient language also the project embraces security features and modern progolso,



Malaysouthat the harve been existed a few years earlier. ;)

WOW! Why nobody reply this great article? u/rrrmmmrrrmmm seems spent so much time to write down these words, and no-one reply?

I will gonna study Mailcow today, give it a try.



(一) 分 2 分

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Reply



rrrmmmrrrmmm • 3mo ago





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