

NAME

`qemu-start` – start qemu safely with tap devices

SYNOPSIS

`qemu-start [OPTIONS] -- QEMUOPTS...`

DESCRIPTION

This manual page documents the **qemu-start** command.

qemu-start is a small program that helps you start qemu in a safe and useful way. It presumes all qemu instances will run under the same user-id (*qemu*). A group *emulator* is created; only members of this group are allowed to start qemu. Qemu is started with one ethernet interface, which is bound through a tap device. Xauthority data is automatically transferred if the DISPLAY variable is set.

PARAMETERS

The parameter **--tapnr TAPDEVNR** is the number of the tap-device. Use 0 for tap0, etc. See below how you safely can define tap devices.

The parameter **--vlan VLAN** is the VLAN you want to add this adapter to. Usually, using 0 will do.

The parameter **--nic-model NICMODEL** is the model type of the emulated nic presented to the guest os. Use `qemu -net nic,model=?` for information on allowed values for this parameter

The parameter **--macaddr MACADDRESS** sets the MAC address for the emulated nic presented to guest os.

The parameter **--system SYSTEM** is the system you want to emulate. Leave out if you want to use your current architecture; in this case, `/usr/bin/qemu` will be called. If you want to simulate some other type of system, specify it here; in that case, `/usr/bin/qemu-system-SYSTEM` will be called.

The parameter **--window-left X** sets the left-most column of the window (in pixels) to X.

The parameter **--window-top Y** sets the top-most row of the window (in pixels) to Y.

All options and parameters after `--` are fed to qemu.

TAP DEVICE (DEBIAN SPECIFIC)

You must create a tap device for use by qemu. The nicest way of doing this is combining it with a bridge. This section describes how you can do this.

Make sure you have the packages *bridge-utils* and *uml-utilities* installed.

Edit `/etc/network/interfaces`. Find the section where your current ethernet interface is described; we will assume here it is *eth0*. Change its name to *br0* and add the following line to the stanza:

```
bridge_ports eth0 tap0
```

You can add more *tap* devices later if you want. Now add a stanza for the new tap interface:

```
auto tap0
iface tap0 inet manual
    tuncctl_user qemu
```

Finally, restart your network by issuing a command `/etc/init.d/networking restart`

SEE ALSO

`qemu(1)`

AUTHOR

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