

Dedicated Servers

How to Fix Milter Crash Issue in Plesk

Milter is an add-on to an SMTP server like postfix. It enables a SMTP server to use external tools like SpamAssassin, Drweb, Kaspersky etc to scan emails.

Usually milter service is managed via the startup script `/etc/init.d/psa-remote`

Milter is running on port 12768 and bound to "0.0.0.0:"

```
=====  
-bash-4.1# netstat -alpn | grep 12768  
tcp    0    0 127.0.0.1:12768      0.0.0.0:*           LISTEN    7216/psa-pc-  
remote  
=====
```

If milter service fails postfix wont be able to connect to port 12768 and it will stop email processing.

If milter service mail fails, you will see the following error in log & mail delivery.

```
=====  
postfix/smtpd[22697]: warning: connect to Milter service inet:localhost:12768:  
Connection refused  
postfix/smtpd[22697]: NOQUEUE: milter-reject: CONNECT from  
unknown[192.168.52.36]: 451 4.7.1 Service unavailable - try again later;  
proto=SMTP  
=====
```

Milter can fail due to different reasons due to bugs in milter, processing of malformed mail, large number of open files etc.

If you face issues due to frequent milter crash, the following solution may help.

Run following commands

```
=====  
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```

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```
mkdir /root/scripts;  
cd /root/scripts;  
wget http://files.bytehouse.co.uk/watch-milter.sh  
chmod -v 755 /root/scripts/watch-milter.sh
```

=====

Add following cron.

=====

```
* * * * * /root/scripts/watch-milter.sh
```

=====

Notes

1. Make sure that /etc/init.d/pc-remote service exists & it manages milter
2. Make sure that nc(netcat) is installed & /usr/bin/nc is available. Else, please install it using "yum install nc"
3. This script is optimised for plesk servers & it assumes that /usr/local/psa/var/log/maillog is the mail log

For more information regarding Milter crash, contact our specialised team at www.bytehouse.co.uk/contact for more assistance.

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