New Obvious and Obscure MikroTik RouterOS v5 features

Budapest, Hungary MUM Europe 2011

Good News Everyone!!!

RouterOS v5.0 full release is almost here!!!

(there is still chance to delay it by reporting nice errors – it is all in your hands)

Support for New Products

 Full support of announced and unannounced new RouterBOARD devices will be added only for RouterOS v5.x (and above)



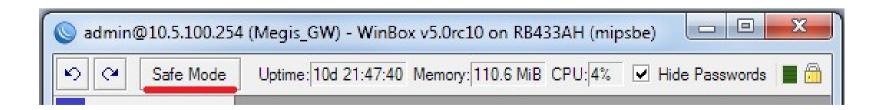
Linux Kernel

- RouterOS 4.17
 - Linux kernel version 2.6.27.39
- RouterOS 5.0
 - Linux kernel version 2.6.35

 For more detailed information see: http://www.kernel.org/

Updated features: Winbox

- Much more usable for low resolution screens
- More independence from Windows
- Faster and less resource demanding
- Suitable for further improvements
- Safe mode



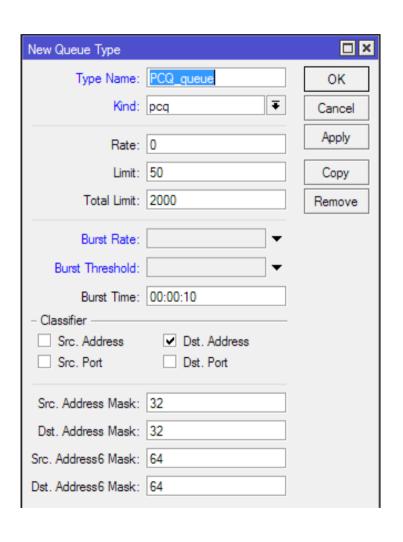
Updated features: IPSec

- Added new and updated cyphers
- Added IPv6Sec (IPv6 support for IPSec)
- Added support for NAT-T drafts
- Now works on EOIP, GRE
- Also works on PPTP and L2TP tunnels

Updated features: SSH

- Completely MikroTik rewritten SSH
- Up to date with all the newest improvements
- SSH is now reduced to only necessary functionality, so it uses less resources
- SFTP, SCP works faster

Updated features: PCQ



- PCQ was completely rewritten to optimize it for high throughput both in Mbps and pps
- Added burst feature for sub-streams
- Added option that allows you to specify sub-stream size by network mask

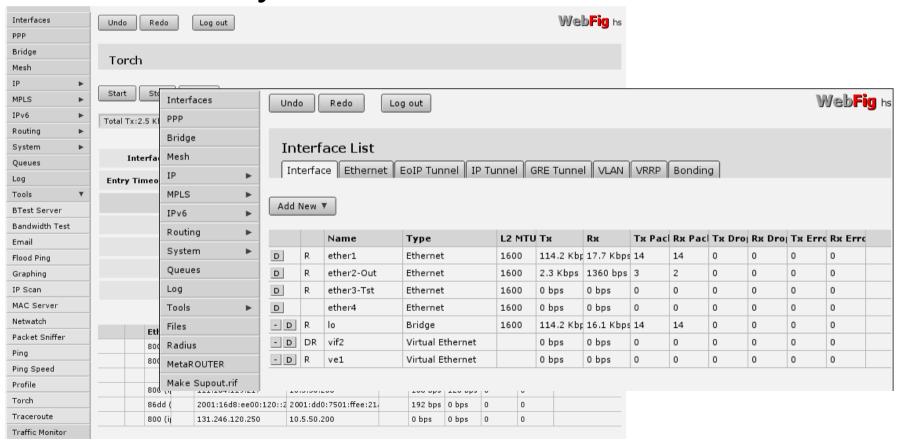
New Features: WebFig



 WebFig is a web based RouterOS configuration utility. It is accessible directly from the router

New Features: WebFig (2)

 Alternative of WinBox, similar layouts and access to almost any feature of RouterOS.



New Features: SSTP

- Secure Socket Tunneling Protocol is a method to transport PPP tunnel over SSL 3.0 channel.
- The use of SSL over TCP port 443 allows SSTP to pass through virtually all firewalls and proxy servers.
- If both client and server are MikroTik routers, then it is possible to establish SSTP tunnel without certificates

New Features: GRE Tunnel

- Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE) tunnel is one of the most popular tunneling solutions
- RouterOS GRE tunnel is compatible with all other vendor implementations
- GRE tunnels are completely stateless, but it uses keep-alive mechanisms to tear down the tunnel in case of failure.

IPv6 Support

- RouterOS v5 has obtained overall "Ipv6ization"
 - most of the features now have IPv6 support
- IPv6 address example:
 - fe80::/10 link-local addresses
 - 2001:db8::/32 documentation only addresses
 - face:dead:co1d:beef:02:f1ee::1
 (in theory perfect IP address for steak house)
- There are way too many to mention them in slides – so lets take a look at what few features are still coming.

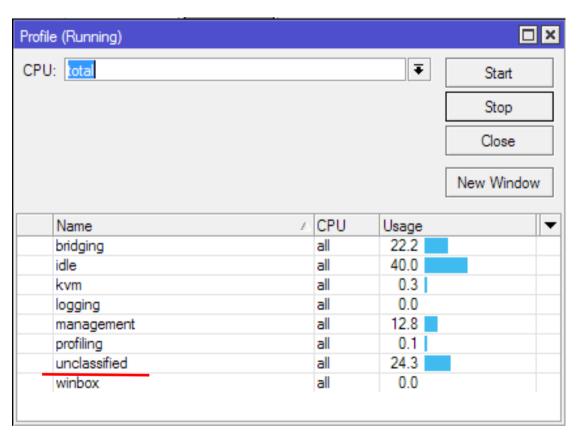
IPv6 Planned Features

- In RouterOS v5 IPv6 support is planned for:
 - IP Pools
 - PPP
 - DHCP
 - Hotspot
 - Webproxy
 - SSTP
 - L2TP

Better Hardware Management

- RouterOS 5.x allows you to
 - monitor system load per processes
 - monitor load on every CPU core
 - manually distribute load between cores
- Currently we are working on making most of the common and resource demanding processes to utilize advantages of multi-threading

CPU Load: Tools Profile(r)

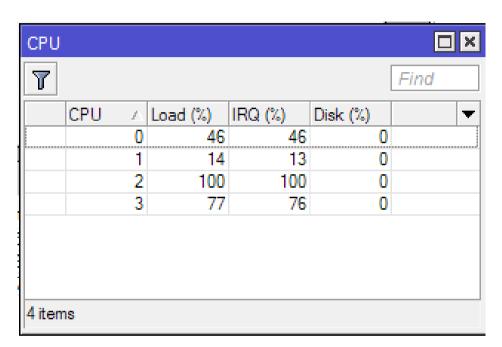


- RouterOS 5.x can report system usage by processes
- Work is still in progress
- Please, report all "unclassified" processes to support@mikrotik.com (with supout.rif)

CPU Usage

- Common misconception is that router works slower (bigger latency, more drops, less throughput) on 70% CPU load, then it does at 20%.
- As long as load is not 100% CPU can handle all that is thrown at it. So 1%, 17%, 50% or 98% all the calculations are done without delays and there are no slowdowns because of CPU.
- Exceptions are multi-core systems

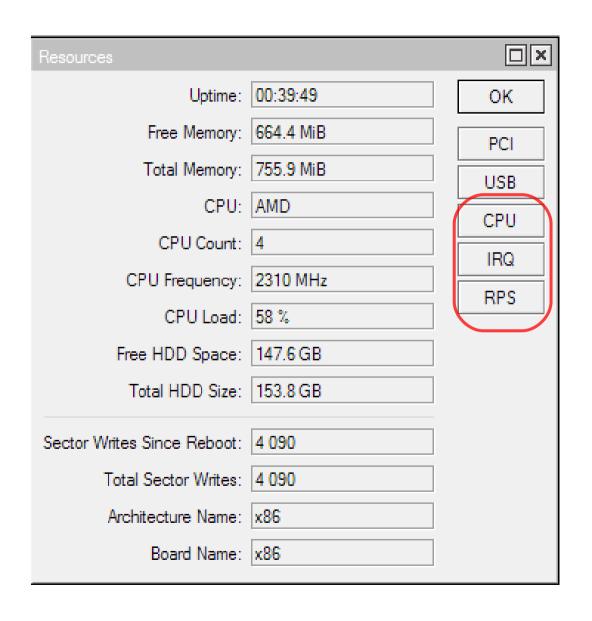
CPU Load per Core



In RouterOS version
 5.x multi-core
 routers can report
 CPU load per core

- At this point is is possible to recognize CPU usage from disk operation and interrupt request handling (most common usage)
- From CLI just use "/tool resources cpu print"

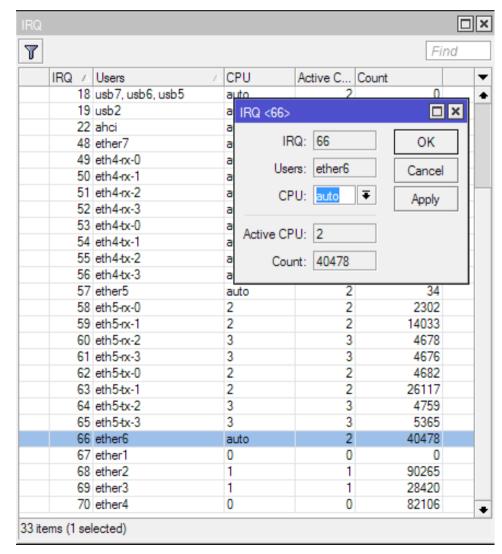
System Resources Menu



- RouterOS
 version 5.x users
 will have much
 more control
 over their multi core routers
- Controls can be found in "/system resources" menu.

IRQ Load Balancing

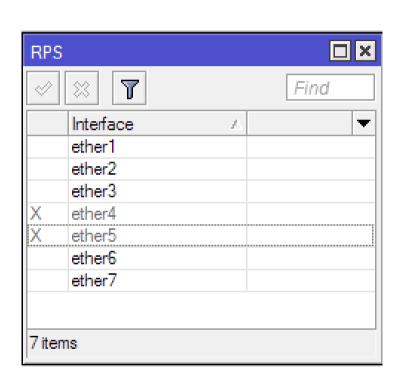
- It is possible to assign CPU cores to specific IRQ's
- Device distribution to IRQ's is done by hardware (not RouterOS)
- Auto mode works based on number of interrupts



NAPI ("New API") feature

- NAPI is an optional modification to the device driver packet processing framework.
- NAPI allows drivers to run with significantly lower number of interrupts during times of high traffic.
- NAPI-compliant drivers can often cause packets to be dropped in the network adapter itself, before the Kernel sees them at all
- NAPI can force "auto" mode to use only one core

RPS: Receive Packet Steering

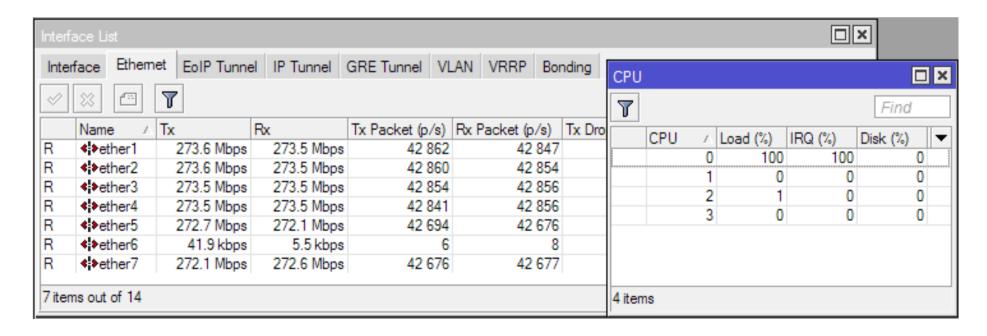


 NAPI can become a bottleneck under high packet load because it is serialized per device queue

 RPS allows you to distribute the load of received packet processing across multiple cores

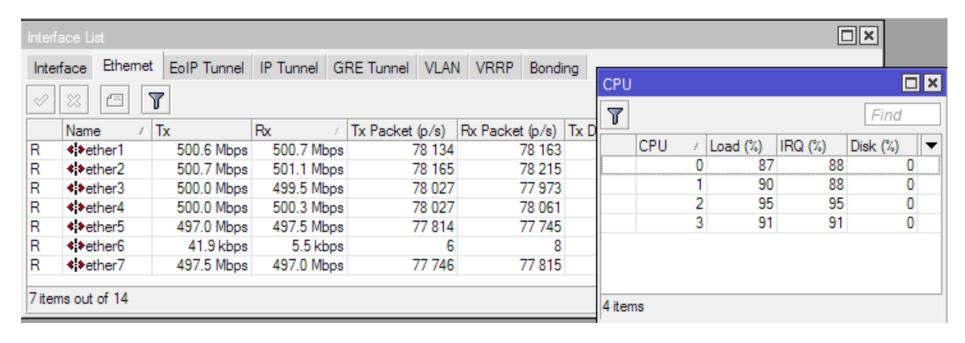
Performance before optimization

- IRQ balancing = auto
- NAPI working (lots of packets)
- RPS disabled



Performance after optimization

- IRQ balancing static assignation (mostly)
- NAPI enabled (even more packets)
- RPS enabled only on interfaces with "RX drops"



There are lots of new wireless features, but those was covered by Uldis presentation yesterday

Questions!!!