

VM: GRUB Error / LoxBerry Update hanging

Problem

In different available VM's lately we saw LoxBerry Update hanging during the update. Also plugin installations may have been affected.

Error patterns are:

- Calling the "Update" widget, also after a long while, this message appears: "*Error: It seems that another update is currently running. Update request was stopped. (Lockstate dpkg)*"
- Inside of the Update log, a message like "*Configuring grub-pc*" appears (see screenshot)

```
05.12.2022 20:06:56 TASK STARTED
Update Reboot script /opt/loxberry/sbin/loxberryupdate/updatereboot_v1.2.0.pl started.
INFO: LoxBerry Version 2.2.0.4 | is_vmware.cfg is_x64.cfg |
INFO: Loglevel: 7
INFO: Message : Doing system upgrade (emsked from upgrade to V1.2.0)
INFO: This script already started 6 times.
INFO: Try to reach download.loxberry.de
OK: download.loxberry.de is reachable, so network seems to be up.
INFO: Repair broken apt database from broken update v1.2.0.2
Reading package lists...
Building dependency tree...
Reading state information...
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 1 not upgraded.
1 not fully installed or removed.
After this operation, 0 B of additional disk space will be used.
Setting up grub-pc (2.06-3-dm10u2) ...
debconf: unable to initialize frontend: Dialog
debconf: ITERM is not set, so the dialog frontend is not usable.
debconf: falling back to frontend: Readline
Configuring grub-pc

The GRUB boot loader was previously installed to a disk that is no longer
present, or whose unique identifier has changed for some reason. It is important
to make sure that the installed GRUB core image stays in sync with GRUB modules
and grub.cfg. Please check again to make sure that GRUB is written to the
appropriate boot devices.

If you're unsure which drive is designated as boot drive by your BIOS, it is
often a good idea to install GRUB to all of them.

Note: It is possible to install GRUB to partition boot records as well, and some
appropriate partitions are offered here. However, this forces GRUB to use the
blocklist mechanism, which makes it less reliable, and therefore is not
recommended.

1. /dev/sda (37500 MB; GEM1_HARDDISK) 3. none of the above
2. - /dev/sda1 (35432 MB; /)

(Enter the items you want to select, separated by spaces.)

GRUB install devices:
```

Reason

During the Debian update, the bootloader GRUB updates it's configuration (usually because the volume id of your VM volume has changed) and requests a user input to decide what volume should be used. This question LoxBerry cannot autorespond in *LoxBerry Update*, therefore the dpkg package manager stalls.

Solution

- Before you begin, make sure that you really got the GRUB problem (check the LoxBerry Update log for the messages shown in the screenshot).
- Create a snapshot of your VM as a backup.

Follow these instructions to solve the problem:

- Restart your LoxBerry VM. If the Power widget is locked, restart the VM by the VM Management (e.g. ACPI shutdown), or logon at the console with user root and run `sudo reboot`.
- After the restart, logon as root. If you use Putty, logon as user loxberry, and get root by entering `su`.
- Run the following command: `dpkg --configure -a`
- This will run the configuration process. After some time, the configuration of GRUB ("*Configure grub-pc*") takes place, asking for your boot configuration.
- At the question about the disk configuration, choose your *DEVICE* not the *PARTITION*. For example, you your options are `/dev/sda` and `/dev/sda1`, choose the `/dev/sda` option.
- The configuration now should finish without further problems.

You should reboot your LoxBerry VM again. After that, *LoxBerry Update* should run through.

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