qemu-img create sometimes fails with exit code 1 but no apparent error message

27/03/2020 09:07 am - okurz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>Workable</th>
<th>Start date:</th>
<th>26/03/2020</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
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<td>Due date:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignee:</td>
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<td>% Done:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category:</td>
<td>Feature requests</td>
<td>Estimated time:</td>
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<td>Target version:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Difficulty:</td>
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**Description**

Observation

https://openqa.opensuse.org/tests/1214063 is incomplete with

```
[2020-03-26T04:54:21.454 CET] [debug] running /usr/bin/qemu-img create -f qcow2 /var/lib/openqa/pool/17/raid/hd0 20G
cluster_size=65536 lazy_refcounts=off refcount_bits=16
[2020-03-26T04:54:21.478 CET] [debug] Backend process died, backend errors are reported below in the following lines:
runcmd failed with exit code 1 at /usr/lib/os-autoinst/osutils.pm line 121.
```

as reported by https://gitlab.suse.de/openqa/auto-review/-/jobs/186291

The system journal on the assigned worker machine openqaworker4 did not provide any more information. Seems like the command qemu-img create … was providing the output "Formatting …" but then failed silently with exit code 1 but no apparent error message. When executing a similar command manually this works fine and if one triggers an error, e.g. with incorrect parameters, incorrect permissions, etc., I see useful error messages

**Acceptance criteria**

- **AC1:** In case a failure from the qemu-img command can not be prevented we have a helpful message

**Suggestions**

- Maybe we can just retry the qemu-img command some times

**History**

#1 - 27/03/2020 09:07 am - okurz
- Copied from action #64854: qemu-img error message is incorrectly tried to be parsed as JSON auto_review:"malformed JSON string" added

#2 - 27/03/2020 09:07 am - okurz
- Status changed from New to Workable

#3 - 27/03/2020 09:08 am - okurz
- Copied from deleted action #64854: qemu-img error message is incorrectly tried to be parsed as JSON auto_review:"malformed JSON string"

#4 - 27/03/2020 09:08 am - okurz
- Parent task set to #62420

#5 - 30/03/2020 01:23 pm - okurz
- Priority changed from Normal to High
I have the feeling this is a problem only showing up recently, e.g. again in https://openqa.opensuse.org/tests/1218912

[2020-03-30T13:59:52.476 CEST] [debug] running /usr/bin/qemu-img create -f qcow2 -b /var/lib/openqa/pool/7/openSUSE-13.1-gnome64.qcow2 /var/lib/openqa/pool/7/raid/hd0-overlay0 42949672960
[2020-03-30T13:59:52.497 CEST] [debug] running /usr/bin/qemu-img create -f qcow2 -b /var/lib/openqa/pool/7/openSUSE-Tumbleweed-NET-x86_64-Snapshot20200329-Media.iso /var/lib/openqa/pool/7/raid/cd0-overlay0 143654912
[2020-03-30T13:59:52.520 CEST] [debug] Formatting '/var/lib/openqa/pool/7/raid/cd0-overlay0', fmt=qcow2 size=143654912 backing_file=/var/lib/openqa/pool/7/openSUSE-Tumbleweed-NET-x86_64-Snapshot20200329-Media.iso cluster_size=65536 lazy_refcounts=off refcount_bits=16
[2020-03-30T13:59:52.521 CEST] [debug] Backend process died, backend errors are reported below in the following lines:
  runcmd failed with exit code 1 at /usr/lib/os-autoinst/osutils.pm line 121.