FAQ's

REGISTRATION

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USING THE EGEE GRID

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REGISTRATION
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1

Q How can I generate a private key?

A On a Linux/Mac machine execute the following command with a username you wish:
```
openssl genrsa -des3 -out <username>.key 1024
```

Let's assume that this username is "papantoniou". This means you have to execute:
```
openssl genrsa -des3 -out papantoniou.key 1024
```

Following that, you are going to be asked for a passphrase in order to protect your private key. A passphrase of at least 15 characters is recommended. The result of this action is a file containing your private key. For this example, the file created is `papantoniou.key`.

2

Q How can I generate a certificate request?

A For generating a certificate request, a private key is required. If you do not have a private key, see first the Question 1. If you have a private key then proceed with the following steps:

1. In order to generate a valid certificate request, download the appropriate configuration file at http://cygrid.org.cy/CyGridCA/ra-hpcl.cnf and save it to the directory you have the private key.
2. Change directory to the one in which the private key and the configuration file exist.
3. Execute the following command on a Linux/Mac machine:
```
openssl req -new -key <username>.key -out <username>.csr -config ra-hpcl.cnf
```
Replace
> <username> with the usename that you used for the private key. See Question 1 for more information.

The passphrase of your private key is going to be requested. In addition to that, you have to answer basic questions(i.e. country code that is CY, organization, full name and email address). Note that, you are asked for an organization two times. The first time just press ENTER for the default entry or give CyGrid. The second time give the organization you work for.

The result of the above actions is a file containing the certificate request.

3

Q I am student/researcher at the University of Cyprus. What do I have to fill-in at the organization question when I am creating a certificate request?

A UCY

4

Q The registration link of the Virtual Organization (VO) does not work or seems "dead". What's wrong?

A You are able to register to Virtual Organization only if your personal certificate (that is signed by the CyGrid Certification Authority) has been imported to your web browser. If you have registered for a certificate then you must have at least two files, the private key file and the signed certificate file. These files are in a format not suitable for importing them to the web browser. In order to convert them to a format that is recognizable by the web browser issue the following command (always on a Linux/Mac machine):

```
openssl pkcs12 -export -out keys.p12 -name "My certificate" -inkey <userkey>
-in <usercertificate>
```

Replace
<userkey> with the full path of your private key
<usercertificate> with the full path of your certificate

The result of the above command is the keys.p12 file. This file contains both your private key and your certificate. The important fact is that this file is importable to a web browser or an email client.
Note that you are going to be asked to set a password when you issue the above command. This password is going to be asked each time you try to import/use the new file generated.
If you need more specific information on how to import your certificate on your web browser, please check the information located at http://lcg.web.cern.ch/LCG/users/registration/load-cert.html

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Q I have just imported my personal certificate to my web browser. How do I know that this procedure was successful?

A You can check if you have imported a valid certificate into your web browser at the following link:

http://lcg.web.cern.ch/LCG/users/registration/cert-trouble.html

Just use the Test Certificate button!

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Q What is the URL which I have to use for registering to the SEE VO?

A https://www.grid.auth.gr/services/voms/SEE/request.php

Note that you have to import your certificate in your browser before accessing the above site; otherwise, the above will not work. See question 4 for more information on this.

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Q How can I access the EGEE Grid Network?

A There are three main steps that are required to access the EGEE grid network:
1. Get a certificate:
    - Download and Complete the application form located at http://cygrid.org.cy/docs/HPCL_EGEE_NewUserApplication-v.1.5.pdf
    - Make a photocopy of an official document that identifies you (i.e. passport, identity card)
    - Generate a private key (See Question 1)
    - Generate a certificate request (See Question 2)
    - Bring the aboves, EXCEPT the private ley, to the HPCL Lab located in room 217 at the Computer Science Department
2. Register to a Virtual Organization
3. Use a User Interface for submitting jobs to the network.

Note that the first two steps are necessary to be performed only once.

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Q How can I contact you?

A By Email at ioannou@cs.ucy.ac.cy or by phone at +22.89.26.63

USING THE EGEE GRID

9

Q I have a valid certificate signed by the Cyprus Certification Authority and I have registered to a virtual organization. How can I submit jobs to the grid network?

A There are two pathways:
1. The simplest one is to get an account to a machined named User Interface, or UI. This machine includes the User Interface component that allows you to submit jobs to the network. You just have to ask for an account.
2. The second solution is to install the User Interface component on your own machine. Instructions can be found at https://uimon.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LCG/TarUIInstall . Note that you do not even "root" access for installing the user interface, and hence, it can be installed on any machine that actually you have access.