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1. **WINDOWS USERS**

1.1. **DOWNLOAD OPENVPN CLIENT**

Before starting your Lab, download and install OpenVPN Client from here:


Run the installer with the default options. Make sure the following components are selected:

- TAP Virtual Ethernet Adapter
- Add OpenVPN to PATH

1.2. **CREATE USER AND PASSWORD**

In order to connect through the VPN, you first need to create a Username and a Password. To do that open the “Lab VPN Credentials” menu item in the upper-right corner of the site.

**Note:** Username and password work for all your VPN tunnels. The new credentials apply from the next tunnel creation.
1.3. **Start the OpenVPN GUI**

From the start menu, launch **OpenVPN GUI**. Once the application starts, you will see an icon with a display and a lock in the system tray. That is the OpenVPN GUI icon.

![OpenVPN GUI icon]

**IMPORTANT**

*On some systems the VPN connection might not work due to insufficient privileges. Therefore, it might be necessary to start OpenVPN GUI as Administrator: Right click on OpenVPN GUI icon, then click on Run as Administrator*

![Right-clicking on OpenVPN GUI]

1.4. **Start the Lab**

You can start the Lab by clicking the ‘Start’ button.
Note: The lab could take up to a few minutes to start.

Once the lab is deployed, the VPN tunnel file will become visible.

1.5. **DOWNLOAD CONFIGURATION FILE**

After you start a lab, you will need to click the key icon to download a VPN file to connect to the lab network. Save the OpenVPN file to the following folder:

```
C:\Program Files\OpenVPN\config
```

1.6. **CONNECT**

Once a lab scenario is started and you have downloaded the configuration file, it’s time to connect to the VPN tunnel. From the System Tray you should see the list of tunnels downloaded and for each of them connect to the respective tunnel by clicking on the **Connect** option:
If the connection is successful, you will be notified that the connection was established. At this point you will need to authenticate to the VPN server using the credentials you set during the first use wizard (you can configure them again in the VPN credentials menu item in your Members area):

If authentication is successful, you will see this message in the System Tray:
1.7. **Test the Tunnel**

If the tunnel works, you should have a new network interface with the same IP address displayed in the OpenVPN client.

1.8. **Enjoy the Lab**

Each Lab comes with a manual that explains the scenario, the goals and a list of tasks that will guide you through the steps necessary to reach the goals. At the end of the manual you will find detailed Solutions for the lab. You can download the Lab Manual by clicking on the PDF icon:

1.9. **Stop the Lab**

Once you have finished to use the Lab, remember to stop it by clicking on the ‘Stop’ button in the Members area.
Please consider that if you are using the On-Demand plan, you should stop the Lab as soon as you are done with your exercises.

This ensures that no account time is wasted.
2. LINUX USERS

2.1. DOWNLOAD OPENVPN CLIENT

Before starting your Lab, download and install OpenVPN Client from here:


Once the client is installed, reboot your system (you actually have to reboot to avoid later issues).

2.2. CREATE USER AND PASSWORD

In order to connect through the VPN, you first need to create a Username and a Password. To do that open the “Lab VPN Credentials” menu item in the upper-right corner of the site.

Note: Username and password works for all your VPN tunnels.

The new credentials apply from the next tunnel creation.
2.3. **START THE LAB**

You can start the Lab by clicking the ‘Start’ button.

![Lab Catalogue](image)

**Note:** The lab could take few minutes to start.

Once the lab is deployed, the VPN file icon will become visible:

![VPN Configuration](image)

2.4. **DOWNLOAD CONFIGURATION FILE**

After you start a lab, you will need to click the key icon to download a VPN file to connect to the lab network. Save the OpenVPN file to your local machine.
2.5. CONNECT

Once the lab is ready, run a new terminal,

1) move into the folder where the configuration file resides, then
2) run the following command:

```
>> openvpn lab_configuration_file.ovpn
```

If the connection works, you have to insert your credentials (see step b.) and then confirm. Once the connection is established, you should see something like this:
2.6. **Test the Tunnel**

You can test the tunnel by running ifconfig:

```
root@bt:~# ifconfig
```

![ifconfig output](image)

If you see a new network interface (tap0), the tunnel works fine.
2.7. **Enjoy the Lab**

Each Lab comes with a manual that explains the scenario, the goals and a list of tasks that will guide you through the steps necessary to reach the goals. At the end of the manual you will find detailed Solutions for the lab. You can download the Lab Manual by clicking on the PDF icon:

![Image showing the Lab Manual and Actions](image)

2.8. **Stop the Lab**

Once you have finished to use the Lab, remember to **stop it by clicking on the ‘Stop’ button** in the Members area.

![Image showing the Stop button](image)

Please consider that if you are using the On-Demand plan, you should stop the Lab as soon as you are done with your exercises.

This ensures that no account time is wasted.
3. Mac Users

3.1. Download OpenVPN Client

Before starting your Lab, download and install an OpenVPN Client for MacOSX such as Tunnelblick: [https://tunnelblick.net/downloads.html](https://tunnelblick.net/downloads.html)

- Run the installer with the default options.
- Create user and password

In order to connect through the VPN, you first need to create a Username and a Password. To do that open the “Lab VPN Credentials” menu item in the upper-right corner of the site.

Note: Username and password work for all your VPN tunnels. The new credentials apply from the next tunnel creation.

3.2. Start the OpenVPN GUI

From the Applications folder, launch Tunnelblick. Once Tunnelblick has been launched, you control it from the Tunnelblick icon in the Status Bar at the top of your screen. The
Tunnelblick icon is usually placed between the time and the Spotlight icon. When no VPN connection is active, the icon is dim.

3.3. **START THE LAB**

You can start the Lab by clicking the 'Start' button.

![Labs catalog](image)

*Note:* The lab could take up to a few minutes to start.

Once the lab is deployed, the VPN file icon will become visible.

![Labs catalog](image)

3.4. **DOWNLOAD CONFIGURATION FILE**

After you start a lab, you will need to click the key icon to download a VPN file to connect to the lab network. Save the OpenVPN file to your local machine.
3.5. **CONNECT**

Once a lab scenario is started and you have downloaded the configuration files, it’s time to connect to the VPN tunnel. Accessing Tunnelblick from the status bar, you should see the list of tunnels downloaded and for each of them connect to the respective tunnel by clicking on the **Connect** option:

![Tunnelblick interface](image)

If the connection is successful, you will be notified that the connection was established. At this point you will need to authenticate to the VPN server using the credentials you set during the first use wizard (you can configure them again in the Lab VPN Credentials menu item in the members area)

If authentication is successful, you will see this message:
3.6. **Test the Tunnel**

If the tunnel works, you should have a new network interface with the same IP address displayed in the OpenVPN client.

```
tap0: flags=8843<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,SIMPLEX,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 10.10.258.200 netmask 0xfffff00 broadcast 10.10.258.255
inet 169.254.185.88 netmask 0xffffff00 broadcast 169.254.255.255
media: autoselect
status: active
open (pid 37021)
```

3.7. **Enjoy the Lab**

Each Lab comes with a manual that explains the scenario, the goals and a list of tasks that will guide you through the steps necessary to reach the goals. At the end of the manual you will find detailed Solutions for the lab. You can download the Lab Manual by clicking on the PDF icon:
Once you have finished to use the Lab, remember to **stop it by clicking on the ‘Stop’ button** in the Members area.

Please consider that if you are using the On-Demand plan, you should stop the Lab as soon as you are done with your exercises.
4. **FIREWALL CONFIGURATION**

To have fully-isolated environments, Hera Lab makes use of dedicated ports selected (randomly during the first fresh start) from a wide port range. It’s not possible to reserve a static port to a customer.

We suggest you to talk with your sys admins in order to add a firewall exception. They should allow outgoing connections (to our Hera OpenVPN servers) with these parameters:

- protocol: udp
- destination port range: [33000 - 43000]
- destination ip addresses: 66.232.115.228 , 162.254.149.248

5. **LAB INFORMATION**

5.1. **HOW LONG IS THE LAB RUNNING FOR?**

In order to check how long a specific lab is running for, you can monitor the “Runtime” column for the lab scenario.

5.2. **HOW CAN I VERIFY HOW MUCH TIME I HAVE LEFT IN MY ACCOUNT?**
Please Log in to the Members area, click the "Virtual Labs" tab, and select the lab catalog that you want to view. Your remaining lab hours are visible on the top section of the lab catalog.

![Image of Hera Lab interface]

5.3. **How is my total time calculated with On-Demand model?**

You purchase an amount of hours to use on Hera Lab.

This amount of time is decreased when you use Hera Lab for exactly the number of minutes of each of your session.

_Eg._

You purchase 30 hours and you use the lab for 26 minutes you will have 29 hours and 34 minutes left. After that you then use the lab for exactly 72 minutes: you will have 27 hours and 22 minutes left.

Note: the time required for the Tunnel to be created/destroyed is not counted towards your remaining minutes.