

# Dos and Don'ts for Virtual Appliance Preparation – Hands-on Tutorial

*Tuesday, 10 November 2015 16:00 (2 hours)*

This tutorial closely follows Introduction to the EGI Federated Cloud –the user perspective [1]. It focuses on virtual appliance preparation (not just) for the EGI Federated Cloud.

Individual users and user communities can now prepare, upload, and launch their own appliances as virtual machines in the EGI environment. This brings new possibilities, but it also places considerable burden on users preparing such appliances.

This tutorial will discuss and demonstrate (hands-on) basic dos and don'ts of appliance preparation, focusing on the following topics:

- 1.) Operating Systems (Linux-based)
- 2.) Disk Image Formats
- 3.) Appliance Portability
- 4.) Contextualization
- 5.) Security
- 6.) Automation & Provisioning
- 7.) The EGI Application Database

Attendees are encouraged to bring up real-world problems and experiences for discussion.

For the hands-on parts, attendees are expected to have their own laptops with pre-installed VirtualBox [2] & Packer [3] ready.

[1] <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/contributionDisplay.py?sessionId=42&contribId=71&confId=2544>

[2] <https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>

[3] <https://packer.io/downloads.html>

## Links, references, publications, etc.

### Image Building

<https://www.virtualbox.org/>

<https://packer.io/>

<https://github.com/jedi4ever/veewee>

<https://github.com/CISOfy/lynis>

<https://cloudinit.readthedocs.org/en/latest/>

### Appliance Preparation & Management

<https://puppetlabs.com/download-learning-vm>

[https://docs.chef.io/chef\\_solo.html](https://docs.chef.io/chef_solo.html)

<http://www.ansible.com/home>

<http://saltstack.com/>

## Additional information

Includes a hands-on tutorial. Participants are required to bring their own laptops with working VirtualBox installation to participate in the hands-on parts.

A basic knowledge of Linux-based operating systems is a prerequisite.

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