Installing Scientific Linux CERN under Parallels for Mac (Draft)

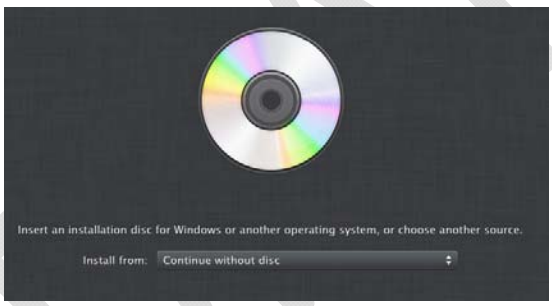
1. Prerequisites

a) A Mac with OS X connected to a **portable socket** on the CERN general public network
b) Parallels Desktop software installed from: smb://cerndata43.cern.ch/D-IT-S-LIC$/Parallels Desktop\Parallels Desktop v7.0 for CERN.dmg

2. Creating a VM in parallels with the correct settings

a) After starting Parallels, select "install Windows or another OS…" and click "Continue".

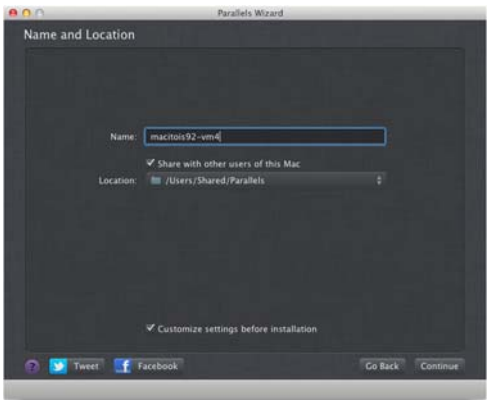
b) Select "Continue Without disc" and click "Continue".



c) Select the operating system: More Linux > Red Hat Enterprise Linux

d) Give a name to your virtual machine; you will need it later for registration at http://network.cern.ch. Then select the check box to customize your settings.

Consider selecting the checkbox "Share with other users of this Mac" to avoid storing the VM in your Documents folder. Click "Continue".



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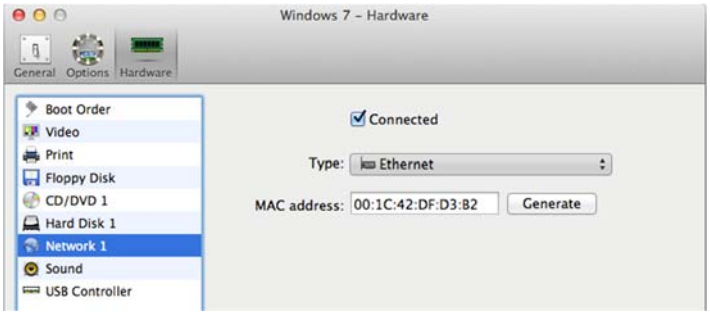
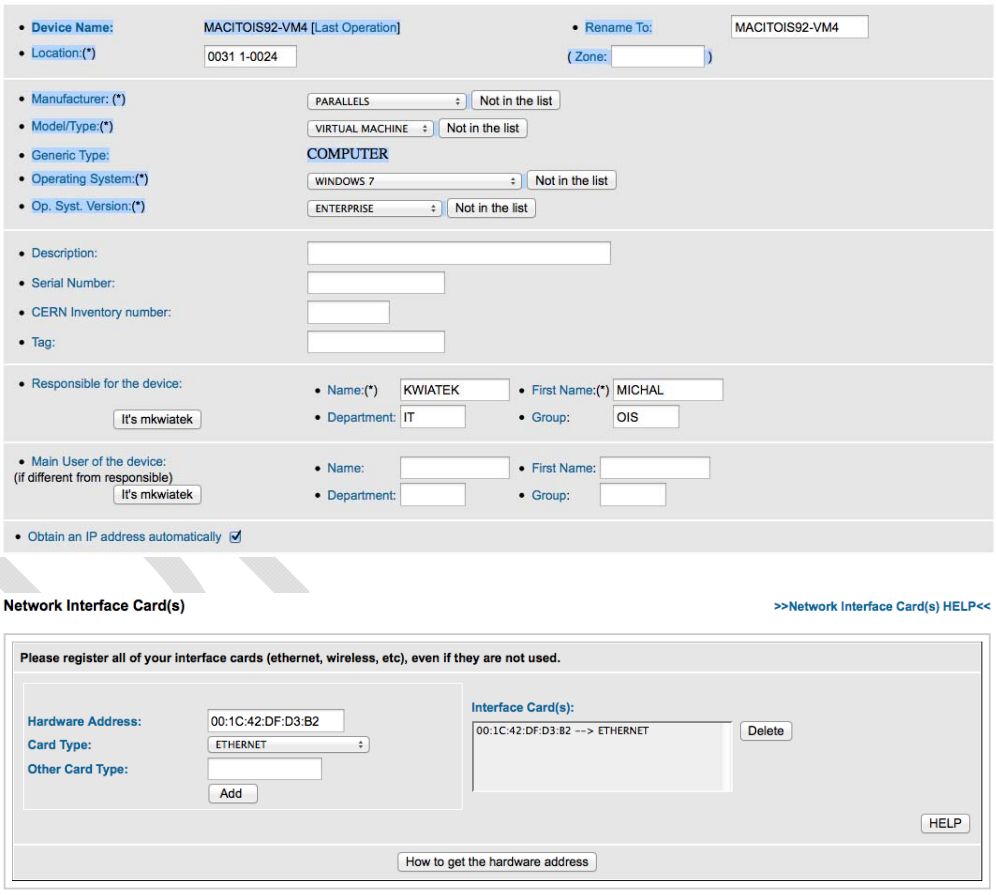
e) In the Hardware TAB > Network 1, select “Ethernet” and save your MAC address for future reference – you will need it for registration at http://network.cern.ch.



f) When you have completed these steps, the first part of your VM configuration is done. You can proceed to register it in the Network DB before you boot it for the first time.

3. Register the machine in the Network DB

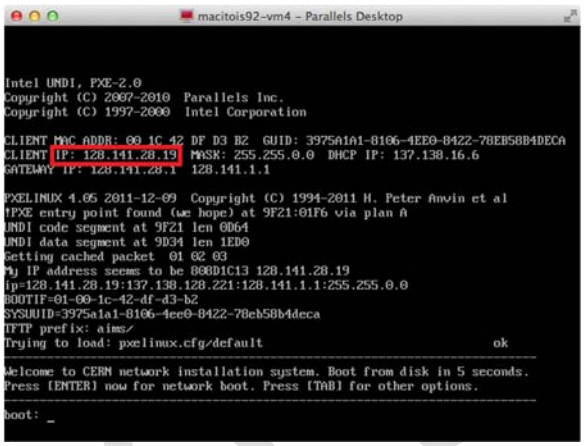
a) Go to http://network.cern.ch and register a **new portable** computer with the **correct Hostname (less than 15 characters) and OS**. Please associate the MAC address from point 2f above with Ethernet adapter (necessary for PXE) - check the example below.
Avoid reusing any existing entry previously registered in the Network DB.



A few minutes after this web form is submitted, you can boot your machine on the network to install Scientific Linux CERN in Parallels Desktop as if it was physical hardware.

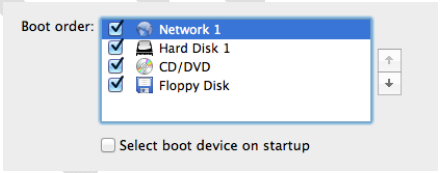
4. Install Scientific Linux CERN using PXE boot

a) When you boot your VM for the first time, it will try to boot using PXE. This is exactly what is needed to install SLC. When the PXE routine starts, press Enter to boot from the network installation server.



If the network installation server does not respond, please make sure that:

i. You are using Ethernet (Bridged) not Shared Network or wireless – you should see “Ethernet (Bridged)” under Devices > Network.
ii. You are connected to a portable socket – your IP address should be 128.141.x.x.
iii. You have correctly registered your Parallels MAC address in your network registration



Note also that after the virtual hard disk is formatted, your VM will try to boot from the hard disk. If the OS is not installed at that time, you may need to adjust the boot order on the Hardware tab of your VM configuration in Parallels, so that it boots from the network. This is not necessary if the OS is installed immediately after the system partition is created.

b) Select “Install Scientific Linux CERN 6 (SLC62) 64-bit” from the network installation menu.

c) Proceed with the SLC installation procedure as if you were installing it on physical hardware. You have to use your root account on first login. Then you can follow the procedure that you can find here: http://linux.web.cern.ch/linux/scientific6/docs/install.shtml, especially the “Configuring user accounts, root access, printers” part.

The installation will take about an hour. Make sure that you stay connected to the network. Keep the lid open so that you Mac does not go to sleep.

If you encounter any problems, please contact Linux.Support@cern.ch.

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