g7sh

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Name

g7sh — Command line shell to interface g7ctrl daemon

Synopsis

`g7sh` [options...]

Description

The g7sh(1) is a command line shell meant to interface the **g7ctrl** daemon. The program offers full command line editing (emulating **emacs** command set) as well as history. This makes it the preferred way to interface with the daemon for the full feature set. The alternative command line way is to connect directly to the daemon port using for example **telnet** or **nc**, however this is only recommended for troubleshooting purposes.

The shell can be run either on the same server as the daemon or on a separate computer. In the forst case it is simple a matter of starting the shell with

`$> g7sh`

If it is run on a separate computer the IP-address to the server must be given

`$> g7sh -s 192.168.0.10`

If the config file can not be found in the common place (i.e. `/etc/g7ctrl/g7ctrl.conf`) then the shell will look for a shell specific config file "`.g7sh`" in the users home directory. Command line argument will however always override any ini file setting.

Arguments

The following command line arguments are supported when starting the shell

`-s, --server` *IP-address*
    Specify the server that is running **g7ctrl**. Default value is *localhost*

`-p, --port` *TCP/IP cmd port*
    TCP/IP port where the **g7ctrl** server is listening. If the shell is run on the same server as the daemon then the port will be automatically determined from the **g7ctrl** config file.

`-h, --help`
    Print a short help and exit.

`-v, --version`
    Print program version information and exit.

`-e, --exec` *"command-string"*
    Execute the given commands and terminate. Multiple commands are separetaed with a semicolon ";"

Using the shell as a login shell

One possible way to use the shell is to use it as a *system login shell*. In this way it will be possible to login directly to the server by using, for example, **ssh** and connecting as a dedicated user who uses **g7sh** as default login shell.

In order to do this there are two things that must be done:

1. Add a new user to the server and specify **g7sh** as the login shell. This is done by adding a line in the `/etc/passwd` file. For example as

    `g7m:x:0:0:g7ctrl shell user:/home/g7ctrl:/usr/bin/g7sh`

The above line creates a new user called *pvr* which uses **g7sh** as login shell. (The '*x*' in the password field indicates that the system is using shadow passwords.). You can also use the system tools you are comfortable with in order to create a new user.

2. Allow **g7sh** to be used as system shell by adding it to the list of allowed system shells in '`/etc/shells`'

Files

`/etc/g7ctrl/g7ctrl.conf`
    Default configuration file

`~/.g7shrc`
    Default configuration file if `/etc/g7ctrl/g7ctrl.conf` does not exist

`~/.g7ctrl_history`
    Stores the history of previous commands

Resources

- SourceForge: <`http://sourceforge.net/projects/g7ctrl/`>

Known defects

- Limited line editing and history function on Apple OSX due to different terminal behavior and no native readline library support. Full support requires the installation of GNU libreadline if built on OSX.

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See also

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