## **Switch Users and Sudo Access:**

## **Switch Users:**

Following is the user switch command that can be used to switch from one user to another

- su username
  - su invokes a login shell after switching the user. A login shell resets most environment variables, providing a clean base.
- su username just switches the user, providing a normal shell with an environment nearly the same as with the old user

## **Sudo Access:**

sudo command-name

The above command "sudo command-name" will run any command owned and authorized by root account as long as that user is authorized to run it in /etc/sudoers file

## Configuring sudo Access

- 1. Log in to the system as the root user.
- 2. Create a normal user account using the useradd command. Replace *USERNAME* with the user name that you wish to create.
  - # useradd USERNAME
- 3. Set a password for the new user using the passwd command.
- 4. # passwd *USERNAME*
- 5. Changing password for user USERNAME.
- 6. New password:
- 7. Retype new password: passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
- 8. Run the visudo to edit the /etc/sudoers file. This file defines the policies applied by the sudo command.
  - # visudo
- 9. Find the lines in the file that grant sudo access to users in the group wheel when enabled.

```
10. ## Allows people in group wheel to run all commands # %wheel ALL=(ALL) ALL
```

- 11. Remove the comment character (#) at the start of the second line. This enables the configuration option.
- 12. Save your changes and exit the editor.
- 13. Add the user you created to the wheel group using the usermod command.

- 14. Test that the updated configuration allows the user you created to run commands using sudo.
  - 1. Use the su to switch to the new user account that you created.

```
# su USERNAME -
```

- 2. Use the groups to verify that the user is in the wheel group.
- 3. \$ groups USERNAME wheel
- 4. Use the sudo command to run the whoami command. As this is the first time you have run a command using sudo from this user account the banner message will be displayed. You will be also be prompted to enter the password for the user account.

```
$ sudo whoami
We trust you have received the usual lecture from the local System
Administrator. It usually boils down to these three things:
#1) Respect the privacy of others.
#2) Think before you type.
#3) With great power comes great responsibility.
[sudo] password for USERNAME: root.
```

The last line of the output is the user name returned by the whoami command. If sudo is configured correctly this value will be root.

You have successfully configured a user with sudo access. You can now log in to this user account and use sudo to run commands as if you were logged in to the account of the root user.