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GENIUS/EnginFrame Grid Portal: new features and enhancements

Content :

In order to address new challenges in modern e-Science and technological developments, the needs to have a transparent access to the distributed computational and storage resources within the grid paradigm is becoming of particular importance for different applications and communities.
So far, the basic know-how requested to access the grid infrastructures is not so easy, especially for not ITC expert users. Scientists and researchers have to learn many instructions on the command line interface, and the learning curve might be not easy.
Using the Web technology and its new recent developments, Grid Middlewares details can be hidden to the end users, giving access to the infrastructures in a very easy way as such as the common sense in web usage. This can be done with a Computing Web Portal.
GENIUS Grid portal, powered by EnginFrame, is an increasingly popular mechanism for creating customizable, Web-based interfaces to Grid services and resources.
This work describes GENIUS Grid Portal capabilities such as portal login, VOMS Proxy creation, access control, display management, access to remote catalogs referring storage data, new approach to building reusable portal components as plugins, better performance results as consequence of EnginFrame core functions improvement, simple tools and wizards to compose and submit jobs to the in an easy way.
Finally, new features about integration of new kind of certificates, the Robots one, are described in this work as a facility that helps different communities to use the required VOMS Proxy authentication without use of Personal certificates.

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