Traceability & isolation evolution

Vincent BRILLAULT, CERN/EGI-CSIRT

GDB Mars 2015, Amsterdam











Overview

- Why traceability and isolation?
- Current situation
- What's "new"
- "glExec"
- Black boxes
- The future?



Why?

For security, but not only!

- Traceability: Identify, reconstruct & understand
 - Security incidents: catch bad users, fix vulnerability
 - Issues/bugs/strange behaviors

- Isolation:
 - Prevent credential theft & impersonalization
 - Prevent jobs from harming each-other



Current situation

- Site responsible for (policy-wise):
 - Recording all activity: when, where, who, what
 - Securely and centrally store logs for months
 - Process logs upon CSIRT request during incidents
- Identifying and isolating users:
 - WN/pilot jobs: glExec (if/when deployed & used)
 - Endpoint/services: end-user x509 certificate/proxy
- Multi-site analysis difficult:
 - Broadcast warning/regex and wait/hope...
 - Rely on VO frameworks or central services



What's "new"

- New technology on the rise:
 - Virtualization & VMs: black boxes managed by VOs
 - Cgroups/namespaces: new isolation solution?

Multi-user pilot-jobs on the decline

VOs have large frameworks & log activity



"glExec"

- Promising technology: cgroup & namespaces
- Explore new solutions:
 - Identify what needs to be isolated from users, e.g.
 - Pilot job own credentials (if kept)
 - VO logging facilities & framework callback (if any)
 - See if new technology can cover out needs
 - Identify/resolve OS dependencies (EL7+?)
- Accept a split log "responsibility"
 - − When/where → Who: Site + VO
 - When/where What: Site & VO

We may be able to retire glExec and close this debate!



Black boxes

- Pilot jobs/VMs becoming black boxes
 - Site: Log externally observable behavior
 - VOs: Log what happens inside
- Identify how to keep site expertise:
 - Identify strange behaviors (e.g. Bitcoin mining)
 - Debugging/problem resolution
- Keep response capability:
 - User suspension:
 - Service/endpoints: OK (x509 certificates/proxy)
 - Shared resources (e.g. network): ??
 - Properly integrate VOs in response procedures



The future?

- New model possible:
 - Consider pilot jobs/VMs as black box
 - Build and trust central security VO logs
 - Concentrate on unprivileged isolation
- There is a lot of questions, no clear solution yet
- VOs' expertise needed:
 - Keep making sure pilot jobs are protected
 - How to take advantage of job frameworks
- Sites' expertise needed:
 - What data/access/control is needed
 - What technology can be supported

