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Information and Monitoring Services within a Grid Environment

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The R-GMA (Relational Grid Monitoring Architecture) was developed within the EU DataGrid project, to bring the power of SQL to an information and monitoring system for the grid. It provides producer and consumer services to both publish and retrieve information from anywhere within a grid environment. Users within a Virtual Organization may define their own tables dynamically into which to publish data.

Within the DataGrid project R-GMA was used for the information system, making details about grid resources available for use by other middleware components. R-GMA has also been used for monitoring grid jobs by members of the CMS and D0 collaborations where information about jobs is published from within a job wrapper, transported across the grid by R-GMA and made available to users. An accounting package for processing PBS logging data and sending it to one or more Grid Operation Centres using R-GMA has been written and is being deployed within LCG. There are many other existing and potential applications.

R-GMA is currently being re-engineered to fit into a Web Service environment as part of the EU EGEE project. Improvements being developed include fine grained authorization, an improved user interface and measures to ensure superior scaling behaviour.

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