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Grid Interoperation Now DRAFT Charter
Open Grid Forum

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1. Administrative Information

Name and Acronym: Grid Interoperation Now (GIN)

Chairs: Erwin Laure, CERN (Erwin.Laure@cern.ch)
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Email list: gin@ogf.org

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2. Charter

2.1 Focus/Purpose

Many production grid projects have begun to offer services to end-users during the past several years, with an increasing number of application projects that require access to resources in multiple grid systems. Most of the production grid projects regularly interact with other grid projects in pair wise fashion, discussing opportunities to collaborate and to work toward interoperation. These bilateral discussions have identified a number of opportunities where, with minor modification, specific services offered by multiple grid systems could interoperate.

Based on these observations the GIN community group was created at GGF16, February 2006 with a lifetime of one year. At OGF19, January 2007, a continuation of the GIN activity was decided. <mark>Do we need a lifetime?</mark>

The purpose of this group is to organize and manage a set of interoperation efforts among production Grid projects interested in interoperating in support of applications that require resources in multiple Grids. The results of the GIN work is expected to lead to a more seamless usage of different Grid infrastructures by applications, however, GIN does not provide resources or support application porting. This is subject to individual negotiation with the application group and the targeted Grid infrastructures.

The focus of this group is to plan and implement interoperation in specific areas, initially data location and movement, authentication and identity management, job description and execution, and information services. <mark>– Others to be discussed at f2f</mark>

2.2 Scope

The scope of the group is to pursue interoperation on 6-8 month horizons using solutions for which there are working implementations available, wherever possible using standards. Links with appropriate standards groups will be established and feedback to these groups given; links with software providers will be established in a similar manner. The standards groups identified

include ogsa-hpcp, gsm, ogsa-dmi, glue, ogsa-authz to be completed at f2f; the software providers include Condor, gLite, Globus, Naregi, Unicore, to be completed at f2f

A number of documents are expected to result from this work, however the objective is working interoperation services, and the documents are important from the standpoint of (a) ensuring clarity of plans and scope and (b) providing feedback and experience into the standards effort, to middleware providers, as well as into production interoperation efforts.

2.2.1   Informational Documents

Grid Interoperation Now: GIN Plans for 2007. This document will record the background and plans for the different areas of interoperation in 2007, reporting on a face-to-face meeting that took place in March 2007. This document will be available by OGF20

2.2.2   Experimental Documents (one for each of the interoperation areas)

Outline interoperation plans, specifications used, implementations and guidelines, and experience bringing services into production during the first year of GIN. First drafts of these documents will be available by OGF20.
Further experimental documents reporting on experiences during 2007 will be produced in the course of 2007 depending on the progress made in the respective area.

2.2.3   Community Practice Documents

It would not be unlikely that a community practice document would result from some of the experience gained in these interoperation efforts.

2.3   Goals and Milestones

The goals and milestones of this group are as follows.

Mar 2007	Update plans for interoperation in 2007 focus areas
Apr 2007	Complete interoperation plans. Draft INFO and EXP documents available
May 2007	Group meeting at OGF20 to review progress and plans, interact with standard groups, adjust plans and schedules as necessary, review INFO and EXP documents and submit to OGF editor.
Oct 2007	Group meetings at OGF21 to review progress and plans, interact with standard groups, adjust plans and schedules as necessary.
Nov 2007	Coordinated demonstrations at SC06.
Jan 2008	Drafts of EXP documents capturing experience of 2007 to be discussed at OGF22; definition of future plans

Focused meetings with several software providers or standards groups are likely but cannot be planned for, yet.

3. Management Issues

The group has an ambitious plan, and it is quite possible that progress in all planned areas will not be possible. The three co-chairs plan to work with a handful of Grid projects who are willing to assign workers (and whose workers are responsive and active). The group will move ahead based on consensus of at least four participating Grid projects in each area, allowing dissenting views to pursue parallel efforts (with full blessing!) if consensus is not reached on a common approach. The rationale is that while such a bifurcation would create multiple "islands" it would also reduce the number of islands in place today!

3.1   Evidence of Commitment to Carry Out WG Tasks

This effort began in 2005 and during the course of 2006 GIN was among the most active community groups in OGF. Representatives of XX Grid infrastructures were present at the face-to-face meeting in March 2007 and committed effort.

A number of mailing lists are already active for the focus areas of 2006 (gin-jobs, gin0data, gin-auth, gin-info, gin-ops) as well as the group mailing list gin@ogf.org.

3.2   Pre-existing Documents

Several workshop contributions are available on the Gridforge site.

3.3   Exit Strategy

At the first OGF meeting of each year the plans for the coming year will be laid out. In case the interest in GIN is decreasing significantly over a year, a final report will be produced and the group closed. Otherwise, the group will continue with milestones as set out above.

3.4   Other Relevant Information

The following individuals have made commitments on behalf of their production Grid projects during the March 2007 face-to-face meeting: <mark>to be completed at meeting</mark>

Already Contributing Effort:

Pledged to Contribute Effort:

Intending to Collaborate (testing, use cases, evaluation)