



VOM(R)S WG activity planning

https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LCG/VomsWG

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Reminder of the current WG mandate



- Bring together the VOMS/VOMS-ADMIN/VOMRS
 developers to ensure the products evolve in a coordinated
 fashion matching users', VO/ROC Managers', services'
 and security requirements.
- Maintain the quality of CERN HR database link, adapt to the new Oracle versions and report problems with other paraphernalia (e.g. java, tomcat etc) to the relevant gLite deployment bodies for performance and quality.
- Ensure thorough product testing and a forum to discuss issues before adoption in production.
- Agree on the priorities for bug fixing and information dissemination to users at large.





Current support situation



- Fermilab is willing to keep the responsibility for VOMRS product support and maintainance but does not do:
 - VOMRS testing in the CERN environment (Oracle and ORGDB == CERN HR DB for LHC VOs)).
 - Implementation of new features.
- In a period of reduced resources, it is hard to maintain expertise for testing and operating our special service setup (see the list of the required relevant documentation here).





How today's idea was born



- VOMS developers are adding more and more features that exist in VOMRS
- This started to show with the introduction of voms-admin-2.x and continues. (See material from recent presentation at FNAL discussed in our VOM(R)S WG regular checkpoint meeting of 2008-02-26 http://indico.cern.ch/materialDisplay.py?materialId=slides&confld=29598)





So it seems



- If all JSPG requirements like:
 - Periodic user expiration in the VO
 - Periodic AUP re-signing
- And additional VOMRS features like:
 - Multiple user DN support
 - Group/Role description/ownership/management
- get implemented in voms-admin ...





Which could mean



- Envisaging a switch to one product voms-admin instead of two, vomrs on top of voms-admin (?)
- Hoping for a simpler operation (?)
 - the automatic fail-over would be based on a dynamic loadbalanced DNS alias instead of LinuxHA.
 - Service operation and monitoring will be simpler.





BUT



- The major stopper is the absence of ability in voms-admin to talk to third party software (ORGDB) to verify the user identity.
- This is very important for security and reliable management of large VOs.
- A wise and elegant GDB requirement in 2004, the only way to manage Authentication of distributed VO population reliably.





Hence



- It is more profitable to request resources for porting the ORGDB interface to voms-admin than continuing to maintain vomrs/voms-admin development coordination.
- This will require time to be examined and carefully compare the products' functionality but... lets hear first reactions.





References



- Why vomrs on top of voms-admin
 https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LCG/VomrsFunctionality
- Proposal to the July 2004 GDB about ORGDB interface support http://edms.cern.ch/document/481701/

