Infrastructure Policy Group

Date of Meeting: 27th February 2008

Minutes author: Bob Jones

Attendees :
EGEE: Bob Jones, Erwin Laure
DEISA: Victor Alessandrini, Stefan Heinzel, Andreas Schott, Hermann Lederer, Thomas Soddemann
OSG: Miron Livny, Ruth Pordes
TeraGrid: JP Navarro
NAREGI: Satoshi Matsuoka

Each infrastructure provided a short paper before the meeting outlining their views on the items to be discussed.

Mandate, Membership, Identification of Scope

The Infrastructure Policy Group is a forum for the discussion of principles and practices for policies of distributed infrastructures. The goal of the Infrastructure Policy Group is the achievement of seamless interoperation of leading Grid Infrastructures worldwide. The focus of the group is the needs of the users, resource providers and service administrators who operate across and/or interface between collaborating infrastructures. Concrete technical implementations are out of scope for the group.

The foreseen added value of this group to Infrastructures is that by explaining, sharing and aligning their policies they can learn from each other and improve the services they offer to their users. Each Infrastructure expects to be able to offer a broader range of facilities to users due to interoperable Infrastructures and consequently increase the number of users and level of utilisation.

The membership of the group is limited to representatives of large-scale, multi-disciplinary Infrastructures. Membership of the group is by appointment only with agreement by a majority of the existing members required for a new appointment. The initial membership is drawn from the following Infrastructures:
- EGEE (EU)
- DEISA (EU)
- NAREGI (Japan)
- TeraGrid (US)
- OSG (US)

Europe is currently working out operational models for sustainable infrastructures via the EGI_DS and PRACE projects and expects the work of this group to be relevant for these projects who may wish to join once their structures have been defined. To ensure the group remains at a

manageable size, individual European states should have their policies represented via these projects.

No additional members are foreseen for the US at the moment.

The representation of Asian countries will be discussed at the next meeting and take into account information about the extent of Asian Infrastructures as presented at the ISGC2008 symposium in April 2008.

The minutes of the Infrastructure Policy Group will be made public.

Identification of Infrastructure Policy and Strategy Areas of Common Interest

Authentication, Authorization, Accounting, and Auditing (AAAA) are seen as the areas of highest priority for aligning policies across the Infrastructures. User support is also considered important but will be dealt with in a second phase. It was agreed that the goal for the first year of the Group is to document policies for AAAA and make a public version of these policies available to user communities.

Governance Structure and Meeting Frequency

The group will operate by consensus and will meet twice per year preferably during OGF events. The next meeting will take place on Monday 15th September during OGF24 in Singapore. The following meeting will be organised during OGF25 in spring 2009 at a location in Europe.

Relations to Other Bodies

The group will keep close links with OGF and potentially other standardization bodies relevant for its mandate. Particularly strong links need to be established with technically focused interoperability/interoperation groups like GIN but also pair-wise interoperability work between Infrastructures is relevant.
This group will offer a way of interacting as a whole with user communities of an international nature that are interested in making use of the Infrastructures.

Actions:

1. Erwin: set-up email list for members
2. Each Infrastructure to prepare documents explaining their current policies for AAAA by end of July 2008
3. Each Infrastructure to identify and contact user communities they believe are likely to be prepared to interact with the Infrastructure Policy Group

Decisions:

1. Mandate, membership and scope of the Infrastructure Policy Group agreed.
2. Meeting frequency defined as 2 meetings per year preferably during OGF events.
3. The goal for the first year of the Group is to document policies for AAAA and make a public version of these policies available to user communities.