



Argus Future and Support meeting summary

v0.3

GDB, 14th Jan 2014

Maarten Litmaath
CERN/IT/SDC



Agenda (1/2)



- <http://indico.cern.ch/event/348018/>
- Good attendance and representation
 - Argus Product Team
 - WLCG Security + Operations
 - EGI Operations
 - OSG Software
 - Sites
- What problems can/does/should Argus address?
 - Various perspectives/wishes expressed by the different participants

Agenda (2/2)



- How should it do that?
- Might Argus become irrelevant in a few years?
- Might it take on new functionality?
- Is there a viable alternative?

- Federated identities?
 - Argus has been designed to be generic, not bound to X509

Deployment, performance, scalability

- HA setups may need to be better documented
- Instabilities usually occur under high load
 - *Update*: the main problem may rather be that the server can get blocked on something
 - E.g. OCSP checks (avoided in last fix by SWITCH)
 - Load testing setup is very desirable to help in debugging
 - *Update*: a small testbed may be sufficient if we can provoke the server getting blocked
 - The trouble may be in common Java libraries that nobody else uses the way we do
- Otherwise the service typically “runs itself”

Move to something else?



- Argus use cases in EGI go beyond what GUMS can do today or OSG foresee it to do
 - Hierarchical composition of policies
 - Continued identification of end users
 - Vs. just the VO
 - Evolution toward federated identities

Collaborative community efforts



- INFN supports PAP component
 - Could take PDP + PEPd on board if e.g. INDIGO-DataCloud gets approved
- NIKHEF supports C clients
 - Used e.g. by gLExec
- EGI
 - Release management, staged rollout, deployment campaigns
 - 1st and 2nd level support
 - Scale testing with partner sites
 - MW Readiness Validation activity

Potential new partners



- CESNET
 - Testing, maybe development
- UNICORE
 - Connection via CANL
- ARC
 - Client needs fixing
- Call for expressions of interest?
 - “You can make a difference and be recognized for it!”

Progress



- Argus code has been migrated to GitHub
 - New bug/task tracker will also be hosted there
 - Documentation to be moved there as well
 - Currently hosted in Twiki at CERN
 - Rpms can be built at CNAF
 - Google Groups mailing lists for developers, discussion, users and support
 - *Update*: a small testbed will be set up at CERN
- EGI will prompt sites to take Argus up again
 - And open tickets detailing issues as needed
- Next meeting ~early Feb, via Vidyo
 - After H2020 call results

Conclusions



- The meeting resulted in a **positive outlook**
 - Not all issues are solved yet, but we now see daylight at last
- A **community** is forming
 - Different institutions focusing on different aspects and needs
 - At least the critical bugs and vulnerabilities need to get fixed
 - On a **best effort** basis for the time being
 - A **stronger support** statement is desirable when the community has matured into a **collaboration**
 - **More participants** would be welcome
 - Can obtain **visibility** and **recognition**
- Progress will be reported in the GDB etc.