



Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

GGUS Workflow

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Support workflow

TPM VO TPM VO Support ROC First Line Support **Units Support Units** Services Support Units **Middleware Deployment** Other Grid Network **Support Units Support Units** Infrastructures Support Software Support Units **External Support Units**

TPM tasks



- TPMs provided by ROCs
 - 1 week shifts, currently 14 teams so ~ 4 shifts/year (+ backup)
- Respond to new tickets, ideally in < 1 hour in working hours
- Main task is to assign the ticket to another Support Unit (SU)
 - Often trivial, sometimes not
- Sometimes the TPM can solve tickets directly
- Sometimes the TPM needs to ask the submitter for more information, or otherwise investigate the problem
- Follow what's happening to all active tickets
 - Intervene if necessary/helpful
- (Follow up on old tickets with no activity)



Other ticket paths

TPM bypassed in various cases:

- Network tickets
- CIC-on-duty tickets
- VO-specific tickets for VOs with their own TPM
- VO alarm and team tickets
- Anyone with supporter privilege can assign tickets directly



ROC SU functions

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- GGUS expectation is that ROCs have an internal helpdesk and manage tickets for their own sites internally
 - UKI tried this with Footprints but it didn't work very well, currently using GGUS directly
 - Use "Assign ticket to specific person(s)" field
 - https://www.gridpp.ac.uk/deployment/support/index.html
 - Put the site name in "Affected Site"
 - Are all our sysadmins registered with GGUS and au fait with the web interface?
 - VOs now want to be able to ticket sites directly, but ROCs should keep an overview
- ROC functions similar to TPM, one level down:
 - Assign a ticket to a site in < 1 hour
 - Tickets to multiple sites need to be split
 - Use master/save or parent/child links if necessary
 - Reassign tickets to a different SU if they were miss-assigned
 - To TPM if you don't know where it should go
 - Solve tickets or provide help where possible
 - Monitor the progress of tickets, check that things are going properly and follow up if they aren't
- Number of tickets is fairly low (~ 2/day?) so not too much work, but needs a fast response, and someone with a general understanding of the Grid



Ticket states

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- assigned: the ticket has just been assigned to this SU
- in progress: someone has started work on the ticket
 - should set this immediately, it would help with statistics
- waiting for reply: a supporter is waiting for a reply from the submitter, and can't proceed until then
 - NB Not if someone is waiting for a reply from another supporter!
- on hold: the ticket can't be processed for an extended period, e.g. a site is waiting for new hardware to be delivered
 - Set the reminder date as appropriate
- reopened: the ticket was closed but the submitter thinks there is still a problem
 - Same semantics as "assigned"
- solved: a supporter (e.g. sysadmin) sets the ticket to "solved" when they think the problem is fixed
- unsolved: either the problem can't or won't be solved, or it has been moved to a different tracking system, often savannah
 - If the problem is subsequently fixed the ticket should be updated to "solved".
- verified: the submitter agrees that the problem is solved, or doesn't respond at all