

A VO-oriented AuthN/AuthZ approach

Friday 11 May 2007 14:00 (20 minutes)

Describe the scientific/technical community and the scientific/technical activity using (planning to use) the EGEE infrastructure. A high-level description is needed (neither a detailed specialist report nor a list of references).

The grid infrastructure is used by Virtual Organizations (VOs). VOs group together real organizations or businesses that are willing to share resources to gain computational power or provide services that would be unobtainable otherwise. Currently, most VOs belong to the field of High energy physics, however applications in other fields are emerging (e.g., bionformatics, astronomy, etc...)

Report on the experience (or the proposed activity). It would be very important to mention key services which are essential for the success of your activity on the EGEE infrastructure.

Our experience with the management of the INFN T1 at CNAF shows that an integrated solution for policy management and attribute authority administration is needed to simplify the daily setup and operation of the grid infrastructure. Currently, no available Grid middleware provides a similar service to VO and site administrators. This results in administrators being required to go manually from site to site in order to adjust the local setups to new VO requirements. This is especially cumbersome when there is no conceptual need to change a configuration at the site level, e.g. when a VO just wants to change the way its groups map into usage classes.

With a forward look to future evolution, discuss the issues you have encountered (or that you expect) in using the EGEE infrastructure. Wherever possible, point out the experience limitations (both in terms of existing services or missing functionality)

In this talk, we present a set of interfaces for policy management, targeted at VO and site administrators, that simplify the writing, validation and distributed deployment of complex authorization policies and does not have the shortcomings (e.g., policy propagation delays and inconsistency, manual configuration, etc..) of the currently available solutions.

Describe the added value of the Grid for the scientific/technical activity you (plan to) do on the Grid. This should include the scale of the activity and of the potential user community and the relevance for other scientific or business applications

We are creating an integrated administration service for authentication and authorization targeted at VO and site administrators. An integrated solution allows for easier management of authorization decisions and policies on grid resources at the VO and site level. The solution we are proposing is implemented on top of a few well-defined interfaces that group the administration work and will be discussed in detail in the talk.

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Session Classification: User/VO community support

Track Classification: Training and Support for Grid Users