

The Gap between Grid Users and Infrastructure providers - a GridPP perspective

Friday 11 May 2007 12:00 (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).

GridPP is the major provider of EGEE resources in the UK and Ireland region. The community represented spans individual site administrators to regional coordination bodies.

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.

GridPP was setup primarily to provide, and help enable High Energy Physics applications to make use of, Grid resources. In practice the deployment and operations team of GridPP (which also form a large part of the EGEE UK&I ROC) spend time ensuring that a much broader community can use the Grid. Thus we can relay experience working with HEP groups outside of the LHC world, non-HEP groups such as the biomedical community and business applications (such as Cambridge Ontology and TOTAL E&P).

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)

- Requirements of large vs small VOs and how they interact with the grid resource providers
- Common problems in specifying job parameters
- VO local disk requirements
- Centralised monitoring of jobs
- Feedback on job failure reasons
- Keeping the grid secure
- Testing sites vs VO environment needs
- Working with users to resolve problems (via GGUS)
- VOMS groups and roles

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

The Grid is what the authors of this abstract are providing so this question is not possible to answer directly. Our project existence is based on the defined need for distributed computing that can cope with the data output and processing associated with experiments that will come on line with the Large Hadron Collider at CERN later

this year. There are thousands of scientists associated with this project, hundreds of whom are in the UK. In addition we work with scientists from other areas of High Energy Physics and Science to explore the potential value of Grid computing.

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