



European Middleware Initiative (EMI)

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Primary Objectives

Consolidate

Consolidate the existing middleware distribution simplifying services and components to make them more sustainable (including use of off-the-shelf and commercial components whenever possible)

Evolve

Evolve the middleware services/functionality following the requirement of infrastructure and communities, mainly focusing on operational, standardization and interoperability aspects

Support

Reactively and proactively maintain the middleware distribution to keep it in line with the growing infrastructure usage

Increased Usability

- One of the major complaints of research users about the middleware is about its limited “userfriendliness”
 - Deployment, configuration, service management, interoperability, security mechanisms, flexibility, etc.
- Unnecessary duplication of services and libraries
- User requirements (ESFRI, VRCs)
 - EMI is requirement driven and will actively participate to the definition of user requirements with the major user communities and infrastructures

Security

- One of the most important and most difficult aspects of the middleware
 - **Usability**: existing certificate-based technologies are needed, but too complex to manage or use for the typical user or not easy to integrate in existing security contexts
 - **Reliability**: the increasing use of distributed computing and the handling of sensitive data require reliable and auditable security methods
 - **Interoperability**: the chosen methods must be common across all services and implementations