

Grid Interoperation Now DRAFT Charter

Global Grid Forum

1-March-2006

1. Administrative Information

Name and Acronym: Grid Interoperation Now (GIN)

Chairs: *Erwin Laure (CERN) Erwin.Laure@cern.ch
Phil Papadopoulos (UCSD) phil@sdsc.edu
Stuart Martin (UChicago) smartin@mcs.anl.gov*

Area: Community / Grid Operations
Note: Multiple GFSG members are actively participating in leadership of this group, including C. Catlett, D. Skow, S. Pickles, S. Newhouse, H. Jin, D. Kranzmueller, S. Matsuoka, and will actively steer through participation. The group will report to the Community / Grid Operations area.

Secretary/Webmaster: *Carolyn Peters (cpeters@mcs.anl.gov)
Cindy Zheng (zhengc@sdsc.edu)*

Email list: gin@ggf.org

Web page: <https://forge.gridforum.org/projects/mgi>

2. Charter

2.1 Focus/Purpose

Many production grid projects have begun to offer services to end-users during the past several years, with an increasing number of application projects that require access to resources in multiple grid systems. Most of the production grid projects regularly interact with other grid projects in pair wise fashion, discussing opportunities to collaborate and to work toward interoperation. These bilateral discussions have identified a number of opportunities where, with minor modification, specific services offered by multiple grid systems could interoperate.

The purpose of this group is to organize and manage a set of interoperation efforts among production Grid projects interested in interoperating in support of applications that require resources in multiple Grids. The results of these interoperations may feed back into the interoperability efforts being conducted by the Standards Working Groups.

The focus of this group is to plan and implement interoperation in specific areas, initially data location and movement, authentication/authorization and identity management, job description and execution, and information services.

2.2 Scope

The scope of the group is to pursue interoperation on 6-8 month horizons using solutions for which there are working implementations available, wherever possible using standards (including

those in progress where feasible). A number of documents are expected to result from this work, however the objective is working interoperation services, and the documents are important from the standpoint of (a) ensuring clarity of plans and scope and (b) providing feedback and experience into the standards effort as well as into production interoperation efforts.

2.2.1 Informational Documents

Grid Interoperation Now: GIN Plans for 2006. This document will record the background and plans for four areas of interoperation in 2006, reporting on a planning meeting that took place in November 2005 and a workshop that took place at GGF-16 in February 2006.

2.2.2 Experimental Documents (one for each of four interoperation areas)

Outline interoperation plans, specifications used, implementations and guidelines, and experience bringing services into production during 2006.

2.2.3 Community Practice Documents

We may expect a community practice document resulting from some of the experiences gained in these interoperation efforts.

2.3 **Goals and Milestones**

The goals and milestones of this group are as follows.

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| Mar 2006 | Complete interoperation plans; initial implementation by groups of at least 4 grid projects.

Draft INFO document submitted to GGF Editor. |
| May 2006 | Workshop at GGF-17 to review progress in each of the four focus areas, adjust plans and schedules as necessary. |
| Sep 2006 | Workshop at GGF-18 to review draft EXP documents for each of the four focus areas (data, info, auth, jobs). |
| Nov 2006 | Cooperative Multi-Grid Application demonstrations at SC06. |
| Jan 2007 | Final drafts of EXP documents capturing experience providing interoperation services in the four target areas. (goal to submit to editor in time to complete public comment by GGF-19) |
| Feb 2007 | (GGF-19) Workshop reporting Grid Interoperation Now (GIN) 2006 vintage experience.

Planning and assessment meeting to determine whether to select new areas for 2007 and repeat.

Propose new charter or disband. |

3. Management Issues

The group has an ambitious plan, and it is quite possible that progress in all four areas will not be possible. While it is positive that leadership of 15 Grid projects have endorsed the effort and pledged to assign staff, these types of activities often do not reach escape velocity. The co-chairs and GFSG participants (see above) plan to work with a handful of Grid projects who are willing to assign workers (and whose workers are responsive and active). The group will move ahead based on consensus of at least four participating Grid projects in each area, allowing dissenting views to pursue parallel efforts (with full blessing!) if consensus is not reached on a common approach. The rationale is that while such a bifurcation would create multiple “islands” it would also reduce the number of islands in place today!

3.1 Evidence of Commitment to Carry Out WG Tasks

This effort began with the initiative of the chairs, holding a planning meeting in November 2005 that involved management (director level and chief technical staff) from nine Grid projects. Draft plans were drafted and circulated for discussion in late January and early February, with all four focus areas successfully drafting plans. A workshop was held at GGF-16 highlighting the plans and discussing alternatives. Finally, in addition to the three co-chairs the following individuals have agreed to oversee the four focus areas:

Steven Newhouse, UK OMII (Job Description/Execution) (s.newhouse@omii.ac.uk)
Erwin Laure, CERN (Data) (Erwin.Laure@cern.ch)
Dane Skow, UChicago (Authentication) (skow@mcs.anl.gov)
Yuji Saeki, NII/NAREGI (Information services) (ysaeki@grid.nii.ac.jp)

Additionally, Phil Papadopoulos led an effort that brought production resources from PRAGMA and TeraGrid together to do initial interoperation testing with an application. This led to a plan to have PRAGMA coordinate a set of early-adopter sites in each participating Grid so that we can implement and evaluate the interoperation services on production resources within each Grid project but without having to get buy-in from all sites.

A group mailing list (gin@ggf.org) has been put in place and each of the four focus areas have begun to populate mailing lists (gin-jobs, gin-data, gin-auth, gin-info) with individuals planning to participate.

3.2 Pre-existing Documents

Several drafts have been produced to date and are posted at the project Gridforge site, thus for all planned documents there are early drafts.

3.3 Exit Strategy

A “report out” workshop will be held at GGF-19 (early 2007) and by that time the group will have already discussed whether or not to repeat the activity with new focus areas (building on the first four) in 2007. Thus the GGF-19 workshop will be either a final report or a progress report with future plans.

3.4 Other Relevant Information

During a workshop held at GGF-16 (13-14 February 2006, Athens, Greece) the following individuals made commitments on behalf of their production Grid projects, as noted:

Already Contributing Effort:

C. Catlett – TeraGrid
S. Matsuoka - NAREGI
E. Laure – EGEE
M. Green - OSG
V. Alessandrini - DEISA
P. Arzberger – PRAGMA
N. Geddes- UK NGS

Pledged to Contribute Effort:

H. Jin - China Grid
M. Mazzucato - Italian Grid
A. Wu - Taiwan National Grid
W. Gentzsch - D-Grid
R. Davies - APAC
R. Lee - Korean National Grid
O. Sminova - NorduGrid

Intending to Collaborate (testing, use cases, evaluation)

S. Moralis - GridCC
P. Kunszt - Swiss Grid
B. Ugolotti - NEES
T. Sasaki - Japanese HEP Grid
D. Kelsey - GridPP