

OGSA Data Architecture Working Group Charter

Global Grid Forum, Data Area

1. Administrative Information

Name and Acronym:

OGSA Data Architecture (OGSA-D)

Chairs:

Dave Berry, National e-Science Centre, UK
Allen Luniewski, IBM, USA

Secretary(s)/Webmaster(s) (both optional):**Email list:**

ogsa-d-wg@ggf.org

Web page:

<http://forge.ggf.org/projects/ogsa-d-wg>

2. Charter

Focus/Purpose

This WG will be formed from the OGSA-WG data design team. The purpose of forming a WG is threefold:

1. To give greater visibility and accessibility to the work of the data design team
2. To formalize the mailing list, making it easier to people to subscribe and unsubscribe
3. To require formal declarations of goals, scope and timetable

The working group will produce an initial architecture for the subset of OGSA that deals primarily with data. This will be an informational document. This activity is seen as a subset of the overall OGSA activity within the GGF. All documents produced by the OGSA WG and the OGSA-D WG must maintain consistency with each other.

Scope

The scope of the proposed working group is to produce an overall data architecture for OGSA. It will identify message patterns and interfaces that form part of that architecture. Where possible, it will use existing specifications to form appropriate parts of this architecture, liaising with the groups defining those specifications to encourage them to fit into the overall OGSA picture. Where existing specifications are not available, the WG will encourage the creation of new groups to fill the gaps. The proposed WG will not define detailed specifications itself, leaving this for other groups.

Where a set of relatively stable specifications exists that addresses part of the data architecture, the proposed WG will produce an initial OGSA data profile. Depending on the maturity of the specifications, this may be either an informational document (a "candidate profile") or a recommendation document. We do not give timescales for this work in the current charter. When the group is ready to begin work on a profile we will re-charter the group accordingly.

The proposed group will liaise closely with a range of existing groups and leverage existing specifications. However, the goal is to produce a coherent architecture for OGSA; therefore the group does not guarantee to use any given specification from an existing group.

The potential scope of a data architecture is vast. For the initial documents, the group will address data transfer, data access, data description and some aspects of data factories, data

management and data replication. Some areas that may not be addressed in detail include transactions and semantic description of data. The architecture will pay careful attention to performance, QoS and the use of policies.

Goals

This group will deliver an initial architecture document.

Deliverable/Milestone 1: Draft architecture document, June 2005.

Deliverable/Milestone 2: Revised architecture document, September 2005.

Deliverable/Milestone 3: Documents ready for public review, December, 2005.

Deliverable/Milestone 4: Final documents, Spring, 2006.

Management Issues

The working group will hold frequent meetings, either teleconferences or F2F, usually every week. The co-chairs and other members will also attend OGSA WG meetings as appropriate, including joint review discussions before every milestone. The working group will also contribute to revisions of the main OGSA architecture document. The group will liaise with other working groups in the data area and attend data area meetings.

Evidence of commitments to carry out WG tasks

The architecture document is well under way. The data design team has been working for a year, including three face-to-face meetings. A range of written material has been contributed for discussion. Several members are currently working on the architecture document.

The members of the WG will actively seek to recruit further members, e.g. to work on the replication story or to start the profile work. One intention of forming a WG is to increase the visibility of the existing work and hence encourage further participation beyond the existing core.

Pre-existing Document(s) (if any)

The OGSA v1.0 document describes the capabilities of the data subset of OGSA. The data design team is working on an informational document describing the architecture. Other material has been contributed as input for discussion.

Several documents from other working groups are relevant. These include the draft specifications and working documents from the DAIS, InfoD, GSM, GFS, DFDL and OREP working groups. Architecture documents from major Grid projects such as Globus, EGEE and NextGrid are also relevant.

Exit Strategy

When both the initial architecture and profile documents are complete and have entered the public comment period, the future of the working group will be reviewed. It may be necessary to produce further versions of the architecture document and/or further data profiles; in which case this WG may be the most appropriate forum in which to continue this work. Alternatively, the working group could be dissolved or merged back into the OGSA WG as a design team after both initial documents have passed through the necessary public comment period and editor review.

Any other relevant information

While the members of the data design team think that the route of forming a WG is the most appropriate for our work, we do not attempt to generalize this to other design teams in the OGSA WG. Each design team has been created and operated in different circumstances.