

Enterprise Grid Requirements Research Group

Global Grid Forum, ARCH Area

Administrative Information

Enterprise Grid Requirements Research Group: EGR-RG

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TBD

TBD

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Charter

Focus/Purpose

The GGF community is developing a roadmap for the Open Grid Services Architecture. A number of companies are actively exploring the use of web services and potentially OGSA to provide flexible, enterprise-wide services that incorporate resources as multiple locations, e.g. at multiple data centers. Similarly, there is a growing number of customers who are seeking enterprise grid services. A variety of descriptions have been used to describe these enterprise grid capabilities, such as “on-demand,” “utility” and “automated” or “autonomic” computing. The purpose of this research group is to identify key technical requirements and common approaches to enterprise grid computing.

Scope

The work of this research group should include both an examination of technical requirements and an exploration of common use cases for enterprise (on-demand, utility, automated, etc.) grid systems. The group will engage end users (in this case those who are seeking to deploy enterprise grid systems) in developing use cases and prioritizing common requirements. The group expects to engage the OGSA-WG to provide application use cases and prioritized input from consumers. In addition, the group expects to engage other GGF groups and outside groups, e.g. the Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF).

Goals

This research group will begin with a survey of intended deployment scenarios, or use cases. Common requirements will be identified and prioritized. All documents are intended to be informational.

Mar 2004:	BOF with invited short presentations from 4-6 “producers” and 4-6 “consumers”
Mar 2004:	Outline: “A Survey of Enterprise Grid Deployments”
Jun 2004:	WORKSHOP: “Enterprise Grid Solutions and Deployments” (propose full day)
Jun 2004:	Draft: “A Survey of Enterprise Grid Deployments”
Jul 2004:	Final: “A Survey of Enterprise Grid Deployments”
Jul 2004:	Outline: “Common Requirements for Enterprise Grids”
Oct 2004:	Draft: “Common Requirements for Enterprise Grids”
November 2004:	Final: “Common Requirements for Enterprise Grids”

Evaluation Criteria (from GFD-C.3)

While these questions apply primarily to WG's, we provide answers as appropriate for a RG.

Is the scope of the proposed group sufficiently focused?

The term "Enterprise Grid" is entirely unfocused, and the use of terms such as "utility computing," "on-demand computing" and "automatic computing" further the ambiguity. The purpose of this RG is to bring clarity to these terms by determining what use cases and requirements are common among "producers" and "consumers."

Are the topics that the group plans to address clear and relevant for the Grid research, development, industrial, implementation, and/or application user community?

As relevant as it gets!

Will the formation of the group foster (consensus-based) work that would not be done otherwise?

If this work is not done then confusion will continue because each vendor defines these concepts differently. No other group is attempting to address this issue.

Do the group's activities overlap inappropriately with those of another GGF group or to a group active in another organization such as IETF or W3C?

No. OASIS (web services) has no overall focus on use cases or requirements- they are only a specification generation activity. DMTF is not looking at this particular question, nor is W3C, IETF, or WS-I.

Are there sufficient interest and expertise in the group's topic, with at least several people willing to expend the effort that is likely to produce significant results over time?

The Japanese Business Grid project (Fujitsu, Hitachi, NEC) is focused primarily on these use cases. In the US, IBM, HP, Oracle, Sun, and Platform among other companies are defining offerings aimed at "enterprise" grids and thus have interest in understanding customer requirements and common priorities.

In terms of leadership, Greg Astfalk has volunteered to initiate the effort and will recruit another person to help from HP. Satoshi Sekiguchi has agreed to recruit individuals from Fujitsu, Hitachi and NEC to help as well.

Does a base of interested consumers (e.g., application developers, Grid system implementers, industry partners, end-users) appear to exist for the planned work?

The documents produced by this RG will be of use to the OGSA efforts as well as those of other groups. These types of documents are frequently requested by the GGF community, and in particular the "consumer" community.

Does the GGF have a reasonable role to play in the determination of the technology?

If GGF intends to drive forward with an architecture then these use cases, and understanding their requirements, are absolutely essential.