

Global Grid Forum

Trusted Computing Research Group (TC-RG)

Notes of meeting held at GGF-15, Boston

Monday 3rd October 2005, 11.00am – 12.30pm

These notes should be read in conjunction with the slides used at the meeting, which are archived on GridForge.

1. Housekeeping

Andrew Martin opened the meeting and drew attention to the GGF IPR statement.

Andrew Martin and Wenbo Mao and Inder Monga were note-takers.

2. Progress on TC-enabled GSI

Wenbo Mao presented progress against implementation goals relevant to the TC-RG deliverable 1. (see slides).

A question arose about the risk of making the gridmap file available in cleartext. This appeared to be largely an issue of integrity, but also a matter of privacy.

The way in which a TPM interface should be integrated with other parts of the software stack was discussed. PKCS11 gives an interface for H/W security modules; so one should implement such an interface for the TPM, too, rather than implementing new ones. For curtailed memory etc., separate interfaces may be needed (more than GSS-API), but as a first step, to get people to use the technology, a PKCS interface would encourage take-up. The Trusted Software Stack (TSS) *is* used to deliver PKCS11 functionality to crypto API.

3. Use case document

Andrew Martin presented progress on the Use Case document. It had not been published to GridForge in time for this meeting, but would be uploaded this week. The “Use Cases” which have emerged are in character requirements upon middleware (informed by end user requirements); “Use Case” appeared a suitable term nevertheless. Each would be structured as “Threat/Issue”, “TC contribution”, and “Ease of implementation”. Few contributions had been received so far, but perhaps when the draft was uploaded, more discussion would arise.

The use cases should represent a spectrum – from straightforward easy gains through more innovative examples. This is not because novelty is good *per se*, but because this technology has the potential to allow big classes of application which have simply been impossible in the past. Genuinely improved functionality (where needed) is worth exploring.

Leon Gommans has been looking at the Trusted Computing Group's *Trusted Network Connect* specification – and expects to explore this within the Firewall Issues Research Group, since it potentially offers a means for providing *ad hoc* access through firewalls, as needed for applications like GridFTP.