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Major Standards Development Organizations Collaborate to Further Adoption of Resource Management Standards

Cross Institutional Group Pursuing Clarity of Standards Landscape

LEMONT, Ill. (June 27, 2005) – Global Grid Forum (www.ggf.org), today announced a collaboration with leading technology Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) to coordinate and communicate standards for the management of networked resources. Organizations expected to participate in this round-table style collaboration include: the Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF), the Global Grid Forum (GGF), the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS), the Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA), and the Tele Management Forum (TMF). Other standards development organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), the International Telecommunication Union – Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) have expressed an interest and will encourage their technical experts to participate in this activity.

To support this collaboration a public working group within the GGF is being established and anyone with relevant technical skills, interest and commitment can participate. While the working group is organized within GGF this does not mean GGF will lead the technical activity. Rather, GGF will provide the necessary infrastructure and organization to support these activities.

This working group in GGF will be known as the Standards Development Organization Collaboration on Networked Resources Management (SCRM). Most SDOs already have many one-to-one liaison relationships which are effective and productive for handling specific issues. This round table-style collaboration provides a "bird's eye view" of this broad and complicated technical area, helping further the work already underway between these leading standards bodies. This is the main reason SCRM was born.

The organizations involved have agreed to form a cross institutional working group (SCRM-WG) open to everyone within SCRM to sketch a current landscape of standard specifications and share a futuristic view of the management of resources used in a network or individually. These standards include the functions of discovery, deployment, resource availability, statefulness, event coordination, notification and lifecycle tracking over a set of resources including data objects as well as physical objects like devices.

SCRM-WG is building a landscape document designed to provide information regarding the definitions, taxonomy and interplay of the various specifications of each respective organization.

GGF

“Standardization of grid computing relies on a set of existing standards and emerging web services specifications being developed within the broad computer industry,” said Mark Linesch, Chairman of Global Grid Forum. “As standards organizations, we share a common interest in exploring communication mechanisms and projects that can speed the delivery of industry standards while better communicating interactions, dependencies and status to sponsors and the industry at large. GGF is working for the pervasive adoption of grid computing in the commercial and industry sectors.”

DMTF

"The DMTF's long-standing commitment to sharing our expertise in distributed management infrastructure and resource modeling continues through our active collaboration with these leading SDOs in this new work group," said Winston Bumpus, president, DMTF. "Our ongoing collaboration with the 17 standards bodies in our Alliance Partner program is designed to ensure that the Common Information Model (CIM), Systems Management Architecture for Server Hardware (SMASH) and Web-Based Enterprise Management (WBEM) standards address the industry's requirements, including those for utility computing and grid technology. We look forward to the additional collaborative opportunities presented by the SCRM-WG, and will work with this body to help coordinate standards initiatives for the benefit of the industry."

OASIS

"Users demand collaboration between standards bodies--and with good reason," claimed Patrick Gannon, president and CEO of OASIS. His group is responsible for some of the core efforts in networked resources management, including the Web Services for Distributed Management (WSDM) OASIS Standard, the WS Notification and WS for Resource Framework specifications, the Data Center Markup Language (DCML), and other related work. "End users deserve more than a laundry list of specifications. They need to understand the real scope and purpose of each effort, and ideally, how the standards fit together in a cohesive solution. While OASIS members work to communicate that clarity internally, through the SCRM, we gain the opportunity to coordinate our views into a unified description that will serve the greater community."

SNIA

"The storage industry's success in advancing the adoption of storage networks as complete and trusted solutions has been fuelled by the rapid development and adoption of standard specifications, like the SNIA Storage Management Initiative Specification," said Wayne M. Adams, Chairman of SNIA. "To continue this success, the SNIA is further expanding its interactions with several standards development organizations, such as the newly launched SCRM-WG, to jointly further reduce IT integration efforts."

About Global Grid Forum:

The Global Grid Forum (GGF) is the community of users, developers, and vendors leading the global standardization effort for grid computing. The GGF community consists of thousands of individuals in industry and research, representing over 400 organizations in more than 50 countries. Together we work for the pervasive adoption of grid computing worldwide because we believe grids will lead to new discoveries, new opportunities, and better business practices. The work of GGF is carried out through community-initiated working groups, which develop best practices and specifications in cooperation with other leading standards organizations, software vendors, and users. GGF is funded through its Sponsor Members, including technology producers and consumers as well as academic and government research institutions. GGF meets as a worldwide community three times annually to share best practices and further develop grid-related specifications. For more info about GGF, visit the GGF Web site at www.ggf.org.