# Report from Sub-committee on OSG's Relationships with Industry

DRAFT Jan 2013



## Charter of the Sub-Committee

A sub-committee of the Open Science Grid Council is asked to write a proposal for strategic goals for industry relationships and engagement by OSG over the next 5-10 years:

- Clarify the goals, principles and approaches for the OSG's interactions with Commercial Organizations (where organizations covers physical and virtual organizations, as well as the individuals who are part of such organizations).
- Make a proposal for the nature of Commercial Organizations with which OSG should engage.
- Make a proposal for Commercial Organization activities and interactions useful for the OSG in 2020.

## Recommendations

The sub-committee recommends a strategy that:

- Supports use of OSG mechanisms for centralized provision of effective "pay-for" services its members;
- Encourages a pilot OSG activity to engage with and depend on one or more commercial cpu and storage provider and report back on the results;
- Uses the DigiCert Certificate Authority engagement as relevant experience, with an annual report on the status and lessons learned reviewed by the Council.
- Explores "pay-for" partnerships for at least one TBD additional service in the OSG.
- Further understands the potential benefits the STTR/SBIR program
- The current Policy on OSG use by Commercial Entities[1] is maintained as is.

## Approaches

### Criteria for discussion with Commercial Organizations.

OSG will use the following criteria as guidelines for engaging with Commercial Organizations:

[1] http://osg-docdb.opensciencegrid.org/cgi-bin/RetrieveFile?docid=851&extension=docx

- An agreed upon understanding of the proposed nature of the engagement and how it align with OSG's mission and principles? (e.g. will it hinder or encourage future inclusion of new researchers and customers):
  - Collaboration or customer/provider.
  - OSG as a customer or a provider of services.
  - The dependencies, in one or both directions, that would result (including for services, resources, software, consulting, expertise etc.).

- A documented understanding of the potential benefit to OSG from the engagement:
  - The benefits to contributors, users and providers.
  - An analysis of the cost impacts and savings.
  - The benefit to future OSG activities and fabric of services.

- A Technical Risk Assessment of the outcomes in terms of:
  - Functionality.
  - Quality of service.
  - Protection and Security.
  - Sustainability (e.g. if a contract for services is pursued, what promise is there that the price or quality of the services will remain available/affordable and/or how stable and reliable is the company?).

- A comparison is done between providing the engagement activity in-house in OSG (including sponsoring a satellite) and/or using open source/ no-cost alternatives and the commercial engagement.

### Benefits from working with Commercial Organizations.

The OSG is positive towards working with commercial organizations because of:

- The opportunity to improve the services, software and consulting provided by the OSG.
- The potential for adoption and integration of OSG services by a greater number of users.
- The potential for sustained support outside of the short-cycle of NSF/DOE funding for any service provided.
- Availability of and access to a deeper layer of production and operations experience and delivery.

## Initial Activities

### Purchasing access to compute and storage resources

We encourage an OSG pilot use of Amazon compute and storage[2] that a) provides resources purchased centrally b) explores the security, policy and allocation issues

[2] At least 2 VOs are already piloting the use of commercially purchased resources

associated with sharing of those resources and c) assessed the operational impact of and extensions needed in the OSG fabric of services to provide this access in production. We recommend that the OSG Project investigate spending ~$10K (~300,000 CPU hours as reported by US CMS[3] )of existing project funds to purchase such resources.

We would like an approach to Google and Microsoft to see the potential and interest in an equivalent pilot and a report back to the Council on whether these look feasible for the execution of OSG jobs.

### Focus Group Workshop on SBIR/STTR Possibility

We recommend a day-long focus group in the summer of 2013 to engage potential SBIR and STTR partners and explore potential projects. The focus group would be organized (contributed) by Council members in collaboration with the Executive Director. The existing list of DOE and NSF SBIR and STTR recipients, as well as other companies with whom OSG members already work would be the source of the invitation list (keeping in mind the rules that companies eligible for such grants have <=500 employees).

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from Amazon.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TwEJ_GKD66W0864HKpKjJLpY8l7K8KX3svbGZvCZOW8/edit
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vets1PsJ2xd1BkHURnkhzYEAdrOSuM4Kzq8reeJoDaE/edit

[3] http://dl.dropbox.com/u/26164791/aaa_130108.pdf