Plans for the OSG glidein factory

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Current situation

The OSG glidein factory is being hosted at UCSD. This is the only instance of the factory, and all OSG VOs that use this service rely on this one instance only.

Hardware is provided by CMS, operations is covered mostly with OSG-paid personnel, with help from CMS-paid workforce.

The factory is being run 24x7, but only 8x5 support is guaranteed at a 90% level, as per SLA.

The software and the configuration used are backed-up locally at UCSD, with no external auditing. The factory operators are free to modify both the software and the configuration as needed, as long as major changes are broadcast to the frontend administrators with sufficient advance notice; frontend admins can provide feedback and request a delay in such change.

Proposed new setup

The OSG will provide new hardware at the GOC to host an additional instance of the OSG glidein factory. Operation of this additional factory would still be carried out by the same team, based out of UCSD, as before. The GOC system administrators will manage the operating system, the backups and versioning systems. SSD is required and a preliminary cost estimate for this machine is $6,000.

The GOC will also host a node for an integration glidein factory. It is anticipated that a virtual machine should be adequate for this purpose.

The factory instance at GOC will adhere to strict change management policies, with all changes being first validated on the integration factory before being put into production. A well defined schedule (e.g. weekly) for updates will also be defined. Moreover, most changes will be reviewed during the change management meeting before being put into production. All changes will be versioned.
Note: There may be some exceptions to this rule, due to operations needs, like temporarily disabling a malfunctioning site. These exceptions need to be well defined.

The factory at UCSD will be kept running, and will continue to operate as before.

Each OSG VO that wants to use the OSG glidein factory will be encouraged to use both factories. However, due to the different approach to change management, in both quality and speed, they may opt to use only one on a regular basis and use the other one only as a backup solution (e.g. in case the preferred one is down). If many VOs elect to run this way, we should re-evaluate this plan.

Operations requirements at GOC

The factory operators will need login privileges on the factory node at the GOC center, both as a non-privileged user and as root. While they will not operate any system services, factory operations occasionally do need root access. And while those actions are likely few, we currently do not have a complete list, so unlimited root access is needed.

The GOC system administrators should devise ways of versioning and backing up the software and the configs. The factory operators need to be consulted in order to guarantee that the chosen solution is feasible with the current software.