Subject: Re: Azione nella list dell'MB
From: Dario Barberis <Dario.Barberis@cern.ch>
Date: Mon, 18 Sep 2006 19:19:26 +0200
To: Alberto Aimar <alberto.aimar@cern.ch>
CC: worldwide-lcg-management-board@cern.ch

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Dear all,

  in response to the following WLCG MB action:

  31 Jul 06 - Experiments should express what they really need in terms
  of interoperability between EGEE and OSG. Experiments agreed to send
  information to J.Shiers.

... here is the ATLAS response. Cheers,
                                        Dario
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ATLAS position on Grid interoperability - 18 September 2006

Of course we assume here that all Grids recognise the ATLAS VO as defined in the VOMS
database and ancillary tools, therefore all members of the ATLAS VO can submit jobs to
all available resources, within the shares defined by internal ATLAS policies.

The information system is clearly at the base of any interoperability possibility. If
the ISs are not compatible between Grids, there is no way for any service discovery
mechanism to work in an automatic way.

We have different strategies for Production and Analysis procedures on the different
Grids. Our production system is providing an additional layer which does the
abstraction of different Grid infrastructures. Also we have several ways to submit
analysis jobs (Ganga, Panda). Therefore interoperability in the sense that we can
cross-submit jobs from one Grid to the next is for us nice to have in the medium term
(mainly for analysis), but not an issue with high priority. It is important instead to
have efficient plugins for ProdSys, Ganga and Panda.

Better interoperability in terms of (CPU and storage) resource allocation, monitoring
and accounting is instead a real necessity. There is at the moment also no consistent
way to allocate job priorities or storage areas to different groups/roles within the
VO. Compatible accounting is essential.

We have a strong need for interoperability on the data management level. This includes
components as Storage Elements with SRM interfaces, data catalogues, FTS and the like.
Here interoperability is fundamental for us. We have in particular to be able to
transfer data from our production to the sites where we want to analyze them. There are
different issues in different Grids, but these items have to be followed up with high
priority.

SRM: work is ongoing in this area with contributions from the various Grid providers so
we do not expect any major problems. Nonetheless, it is important that the deployment
of SRM-enabled storages on all sites proceeds as fast as possible.

FTS: ATLAS is deploying FTS on both EGEE and OSG (that is, US Tier-2s and Tier-1 have
their own FTS server and channels defined just like EGEE sites). We are not sure this
is actually realised by others. The issue with FTS interoperability is on the
information system. FTS has a 'neutral' plugin for information systems, but more
advanced FTS functionality (e.g. service discovery) requires a compatible information
system.
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