

Minutes for the French/UK N+N Middleware Working Group

November 4, 2003

Agenda:

1. Rules review and agreement.
 - No process discussion allowed. We will only address technical issues for collaboration and not how people will pay for it. That is some one else's problem.
 - Project ideas to run for about 6 months max.
 - Projects to complete within 18 months regardless of start date.
 - Need to have named owners on both sides. The owners need not be at the table today, but are the right people for the collaboration.
2. Agenda bashing.
3. SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis of UK and France

French: **Strengths**

- Specific problem focus
- Lower Layer Communication Layer Abstraction
- Fault tolerance and scalability
- Theoretical and conceptual aspects
- Grid 5000 Experimental Infrastructure
- Wider vision of Grids

Weakness:

- Limited engagement with industry/real world
- Difficulties in deploying engineering activities.
- No major focused funding on Grid/e-Science
- Lack of external visibility

UK: **Strengths**

- Existing Heterogeneous Grid infrastructure
- Unified managed program (Academe - CS and Science, Industry)
- Commitment to production Grid software
- Strong link with standards activities
- Weakness:**
- Changing funding structure
- implies only short term planning
- In fighting within the UK
- effort drain due to bidding process
- Possibly too early an attempt at production Grid
- Constrained vision of Grids (e.g. must be Globus)

4. Quick brainstorm - one or two words for each idea
5. Go back through brainstorm ideas one at a time.
6. Name projects and close.

Networking and exchange mechanisms:

- UK has GridNet to support travel etc.
- e-Science visitors program
- ACI Grid mechanisms possible

To be investigated: Michel Cosnard

- Set up Access Grid in France (£30,000)



UK Hetero-Grid and Grid 5000

- Deploy an application from each side on the other's grid.
- RealityGrid or ICENI on Grid 5000
- XtremeWeb or DIET deployed on UK-Hetro Grid
- Starting in about 12 months

Named people: Steve Newhouse (Stephen Pickles), Franck Cappello (INRIA), Frédéric Desprez (INRIA)

NONCOM

- Encourage participation id NONCOM (from both sides) and propose people from both for GFSG positions.

Named persons: Malcolm Atkinson, Michel Cosnard

Cross grids component deployment

- ICENI and GridCCM, ProactivePDC
- Interoperability prototype (both directions)

Named people: Christian Pérez (IRISA), Nathalie Furmento (IC), Denis Caromel (I3S)

Connect Grids

- Use the HPCX connection through DEISA to put Grid 5000 on the UK-Hetero Grid
- Need to investigate what is already happening (and make something of it)
- Look into more possibilities.

Named persons: Mark Parsons, Victor Alessandrini

Data and Resource Management

- Metadata management, Replication, Transaction
- Look at query services

Named People: Dave Pearson and Norman Paton, Christine Collet

Very Large and P2P Grids

- XtremeWeb deployed on UK-Hetro Grid
- Juxmem (P2P-based global address space)

Named people: John Crowcroft (Cambridge) Franck Cappello (INRIA), Gabriel Antoniu (IRISA)

Unification of Ontology support/tools (feasibility study)

- Manchester (JISC) Tools.
- INRIA

Named people: Rose Dieng (INRIA), Carole Goble

Virtual Organization Modeling and Deployment

- Joint UK/French workshop (at NESC) on VOs.
- RAL

- Get every one a Mac.

