

Support for researchers and infrastructure operators available through IDGF

Thursday, 11 April 2013 11:30 (30 minutes)

Impact

Based on the support services of the IDGF-SP project, e-scientists can access to and utilize much more (volunteer and private local) computational capacities than before. This extra capacity may lead to a better quality of the scientific research performed by the scientists belonging to the EGI scientific communities. Moreover, it may improve sustainability, reduce operational costs, increase public awareness from the infrastructure operators or scientists' point of view.

URL

<http://idgf-sp.eu>

Summary

Desktop Grids (DGs), aggregating the otherwise unused computing power of large numbers of computers from volunteers and campus-wide, form a fast growing segment of the European Distributed Computing Infrastructure (DCI) for science in Europe.

The number of donated computers by volunteers was above 700.000 in the FP7 DEGISCO supported infrastructure, and gLite-based Grid centers of Desktop Grid VO donated already more than 1 Million CPU hours per month for the scientific user communities of supported DGs. The FP7 EDGI project successfully developed further the necessary bridging technologies, and interoperation with clouds as well; this combined DCI and its technology have been demonstrated and available for the EGI community. In both projects the number of trained developers as well as ported applications increased significantly.

The presentation will summarize the latest progress, plans, and achievements of the recently launched IDGF-SP project; focusing on the support activities.

Description

The main aims of the FP7 IDGF-SP project launched in Nov 2012 with 2 year duration:

- Involve and engage in long-term significantly more citizens and new communities in the volunteer and private (campus-wide or enterprise) Distributed Computing Infrastructures by supporting the rapid creation, efficient operation, and dynamic expansion of this type of DCIs for e-Science.
- Coordinate and synchronise the dissemination and support activities of major European stakeholders of volunteer and Desktop Grids with focus on the International Desktop Grid Federation. Since mid 2010, the International Desktop Grid Federation (IDGF) is a focal point for discussions about and experience exchange of Desktop Grid computing and related technologies. Today IDGF has about 50 organisational members and about 200 persons as members. The Federation offers several services for its members including (among others):

- Meetings, workshops and conferences
- Training sessions and tutorials
- Technical expert support in operation Desktop Grids and programming for Desktop Grids
- Technical expert support in connecting Desktop Grids with other Grids, Clouds and other distributed computing infrastructures
- Web portal and information centre
- Certification services

The presentation shows the latest success stories from the IDGF members –e.g. from Russian Federation–, the operated user-oriented services (science gateways, application repositories, operated bridges, desktop grid virtual organization), the source of knowledge for infrastructure operators, application developers, and end-users, etc.

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