Overview of the Middlware Unit activities

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Upcoming changes

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EU DataGrid and EGEE-*

- initiated by demand of specific user community
 - specific needs driving development priorities
- middleware development inside
 - full control
 - "vendor locking" issues

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EGI era

- broader application portfolio
 - diverse needs
 - more difficult priority balancing
- middleware development outsourced to external entities
 - no "EGI middleware" brand
 - flexible competitive scheme
 - need for very precise specifications



Unified Middleware Distribution

The distribution

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UMD Roadmap

- principal development plan
- evolving in time (EGI-InSPIRE deliverables)
- for users: what to expect
- for providers: what to develop



Involved players

Middleware Coordination Board

- representation of users, operations, and software developers
- collect and prioritise high-level requirements
- strategic decisions body
- endorse or reject UMD Roadmap updates



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- provide repository and support tools
- provide 2nd line support
 - pool of experts
 - issue investigation
 - interim bugfix releases (emergency only)



Software providers

- react to user requirements with proposed developments
- deliver the agreed components
- provide negotiated 3rd line support (SLA)



Software providers

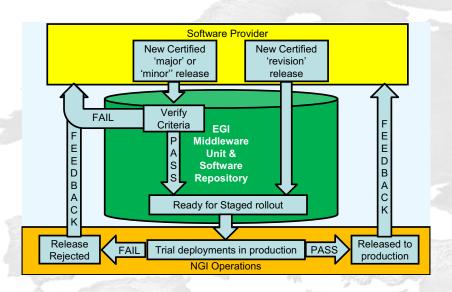
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EGI operations

- participate in extensive beta-testing
- run the software :-)

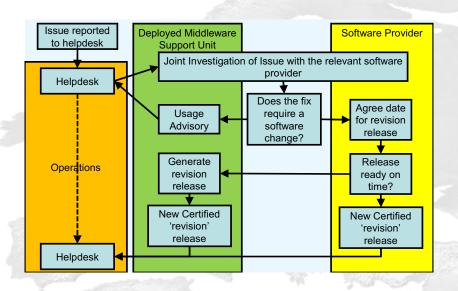


Release process





Software issue resolution



Summary



- achieve and keep long-term balance among
 - user requirements
 - operations needs
 - software providers capabilities
- more emphasis on precise specifications and their verification
- SLAs with providers
- assumed trust in provider's quality assurance
- sane competition and flexible environment