Meeting:	Technology Coordination Board (TCB)
Date and Time:	Thursday 7 April 2011 - 10:00-16:00
Venue:	Face to Face, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Agenda:	https://www.egi.eu/indico/event/410

Participants

Name and Surname	Abbr.	Representing	Membership
Steve Newhouse	SN	EGI.eu CTO	Member & Chair
Tiziana Ferrari	TF	EGI.eu COO	Member
Peter Solagna	PS	EGI.eu Operations Officer	Member
Stephen Brewer	SB	EGI.eu CCO	Member
Gergely Sipos	GS	EGI.eu User Community Support Officer	Member
Michel Drescher	MD	EGI.eu Technical Manager	Member
Sergio Andreozzi	SA	EGI.eu Policy Development Manager	In attendance (secretary)
Michael Gronager	MG	EGI DMSU Deputy Team Leader	Member
Balazs Konya	BK	EMI	Non-voting Member* (deputy)
Helmut Heller	HH	IGE	Member*
Steve Crouch	SC	IGE	Member* (deputy)
Charles Loomis	CL	StratusLab	Observer*
Andre Merkzy	AY	SAGA	Observer*

* non voting member after signing MoU and voting member after signing MoU and SLA

AGENDA BASHING

No changes requested

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the TCB meeting held on 28 February 2011 were reviewed. As integration to the records:

- HH, Batch schedulers supported by Globus are: LSF is supported by Globus as well as LoadLeveler from IBM
- BK: clarify action 04/06; this is about making sure that all services publish their name and release

After these additions, the minutes were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

ID	Resp.	Description	New Status
01/05	EGI.eu/SB	UMD Roadmap needs to include interactive job management capability *SB finds no open tickets on this topic are present, so this can be closed*	CLOSED
02/07	EGI.eu/SB	To collect requirements from user communities about job scheduling and WMS (focus on both functional and non-functional; ask if they are happy with the functionalities of WMS and need more stability) *On-going investigation; AM would like to understand the trend in using WMS, if CREAM becomes widely deployed and enabling direct submission, user communities may be their own workflow on top; AM commented that you can ask people what they want, but also you can push a model; (action 03/26 to collect information from technology providers – EMI, IGE & beyond – as to the brokering systems and characteristics/features);* *TF: survey based on info service, 135 WMS instances are in production;*	OPEN
03/02	EGI.eu/SB	Communicate to IGE/EMI which OS distributions are required by user communities to be supported for their applications (originated from 01/01) *GS: User Community still want clients on 32bit; BK: EMI will still support 32bit clients and WN following WLCG request*	CLOSED
03/05	IGE/HH EGI.eu/TF	HH to identify the sites that are running Globus; pass the list to TF to check with NGIs if there are communication issues *HH provided the information; TF will have a session at next OMB to*	CLOSED

		discuss offering of sites for staged rollout	
03/07	EGI.eu/SB	Go back to user communities about better error messages request and ask for specific requirements, not just generic *From further investigation, there is no specific area where they are lacking clarity; the action generates three new actions (**05/01, 05/02, 05/03**)*	OPEN
03/08	EGI.eu/SB	Extend the requirements tool to be able to tag and search requirements for TCB; two queues are suggested: TCB-discuss and TCB-agreed	CLOSED
03/09	EGI/MG	Provide an analysis of issues emerging from operations besides bug fixes; *Document available for people to review in D5.3 when it is complete.*	CLOSED
03/10	EMI/AM	To provide a list of components for which EMI needs collaboration from EGI sites for scalability testing. *Document available (see agenda) operations to match up with sites before closing the action.*	OPEN
03/12	EMI/CA EGI.eu/MD	Cristina Aiftimiei and MD to pick up component from EMI and test the workflow from GGUS ticket to complete EGI certification; the goal is to test the process *Report is pending, IGE provided list of a first draft of their distribution delivery to EGI, analysis and processing is pending.*	OPEN
03/15	EGI.eu/MD EGI.eu/TF	Explain how EGI software repository can be used by sites for software installation and clarify the sources of software; collect news stories about deploying UMD 1.0 pre-release from operation team and feed to dissemination team to be disseminated at EGI User Forum (merged from 3/19) *No dedicated document; EMI->UMD; to be discussed in SA2 F2F meeting*	OPEN
03/16	EGI.eu/SB	Investigate training requirements ~~related to new EMI 1.0 release~~ *BK can send a list of components for which training can be useful; they are those who have public interface; IGE to provide the same; to be used by User Community (added actions 05/10 and 05/11)*	OPEN
03/20	TCB	Define migration strategies from EMI 0.X to EMI 1.0 *In order to define this, release notes are needed; they will be available in the associated track item for each component; drafts are available for some of them (https://savannah.cern.ch/task/?group=emi-releases)*	CLOSED

03/22	EGI.eu/MD	EGI-InSPIRE D5.4 to be improved to contain a more clear vision on future evolution of UMD Roadmap; add Collaborative Roadmap vision	OPEN
03/23	EMI/BK	Provide information about what are the supported standards by EMI components	CLOSED
		Document for EMI 1 provided. New document to become available for EMI 2 at end of April. Expect some minor changes.	
03/25	EGI.eu/MD	To add roadmap for standards adoption in UMD roadmap (probably version D5.4)	OPEN
03/26	EGI.eu/MD	Collect information from technology providers – EMI, IGE & beyond – as to the brokering systems and characteristics/features for UCST	OPEN
04/01	EGI.eu/SB	Circulate "requirements gathering" document - electronic version – as presented in 3rd TCB	CLOSED
04/02	EGI.eu/SB	Clarify the meaning of the various tickets states (e.g., resolved) and align meaning in both Requirements Gathering manuals for both User and Operations	CLOSED
04/03	EGI.eu/SB	Gather a list of topics for which there is a need for best practice guide for user communities	CLOSED
04/04	EGI.eu/TF	To run a survey to understand the weighed interest of batch systems by sites	OPEN
		TF mentioned that this cannot be extracted automatically, need more time	
		BK stated that NorduGrid run survey on what batch systems are used and which would be interesting to be used; (PBS, SLURM; nobody using Condor)	
04/05	EGI.eu/MD	To go to NIKHEF and ask Jeff/Oscar/David about support of plug-in and info provider for Torque	CLOSED
		MD talked to NIKHEF, this is now resolved	
04/06	EMI/BK	Verify the issue of info providers not extracting consistent information, (e.g. the installed software version number)	OPEN
04/07	All	Review communication channels within NGIs (especially large) and their capabilities to properly report to EGI.eu	OPEN
		To be raised at council and PMB	
04/08	EGI.eu/MD	To activate mirror of SAGA repository into EGI repo (Andre Merzky is the person to contact); as soon as this is available, to inform EMI	CLOSED
		SAGA is collaborating directly with EMI on this issue	

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Migration strategies

MD presented slides. BK stated that if there is demand to extend support for specific components over the normal support schedule, this can be done; this should not be taken as encouraging people to not migrate, but to handle specific situations. About slide 4, BK mentioned that there are new features in EMI 1 (e.g., new VOMS, new ARC CE), so several components come with new features; there are new features but no declared backward incompatibility; the new features are mentioned into the release notes; SN asked about a 2-pages listing these (*action 05/04*).

For bug fixes, EMI works in responsive mode, for new features, they give yearly deadline to product groups, they deliver within the year when they are ready; SN would like to have a finer grain granularity for the roadmap on what is going to be released; BK clarified that he can provide what will be in the next version of each software; not for the after-next; SN stated that this is useful (*action 05/06*).

GS asked what will happen when EMI 1.0 will be out before UMD 1.0. SN said that the message should be that EMI 1.0 is for staged rollout while they should wait for UMD 1.0 for going into production.

Updates on Requirements from Operations, Users, DMSU

Report from DMSU

MD presented the report on DMSU ticket analysis; regardless the component, 90-95% are related to documentation and configuration; not about real bugs; TF asked why they go to DMSU and not to TPM; SN wondered about efficiency of TPM; TF said that response time is good nevertheless not many tickets are really resolved; TF will take this back to the OMB for discussion; SN/TF agreed that documentation change requests should be tracked via RT requirements request;

GS asked why DSMU tickets are not readable by generic users; DMSU area is reserved; *taken offline for investigation (internal EGI)*;

Report from User Communities

SB presented a document on UCB priority topics; BK wanted to understand if EMI should focus on topics or tickets (from the document provided by SB); SB said there will be a group ticket which then will reference the individual tickets; some discussion around not clear requirements; BK requested an extra column with related technology provider and component; SB said this will be added to the umbrella ticket for the topic (*action 05/09*); about ticket on "fix bugs before adding new features", this is related to lcg-ce; April 2012 should be end of life for lcg-ce, so switching to CREAM-CE may resolve the problem;

Report from Operations

TF presented using slides; BK reminded that requirements for EMI 2.0 should be provided within 18 April 2011;

SC said that Grid-SAFE will be the component for accounting supporting UR 1.0; working on OGF RUS, but the related group is at the moment not active; TF asked about when components will be available for testing staged rollout; HH said that IGE is finalising the release and could meet the deadline for EMI 1.0; MD said that two components to test the process would be good;

The road to federated virtualised resources in EGI

SN presented the vision on federated virtualized resources and the challenges. HH wondered if this is Cloud on top of Grid; SN clarified this goes in the way of Grid on top of Clouds; Grid middleware goes into VM boxes; HH asked if this can be a risk on having obsolete Grid middleware and who maintain it; CL said that StratusLab focus is highly on certification of VMs

4 scenarios for Clouds and Virtualisation

SN showed the various possible integration of Grid/Cloud from slides coming from Alberto Di Meglio (who was unable to make the presentation due to illness); explains the various models:

- Model 1: Grid with private cloud (provides virtualized WN environment; usage pattern remains the Grid one with its interface)
- Model 2: Grid and cloud access
  - o Federation exposed to the user.
- Model 3: Grid and hybrid cloud access
  - o Federation managed by the site administrator.
  Model 4:Virtual Grid Services

CL: main difference between Model 2 and 3 is where federation takes place. CL pointed that the first 3 are deployment models; the 4 is mainly operational model introducing a central management of deploying Grid services on Cloud; StratusLab provides CE/SE/WN/BDII/APEL packaged into VMs

StratusLab Roadmap

CL providing on overview on StratusLab roadmap; AY asked if marketplace will stay at image level granularity; CL said it is actually it is disk image with metadata (it could be a database); PS asked if there is a way by the site admin to validate images; CL said that a site admin can sign metadata and endorse an image; VM management, storage, appliance repo and marketplace are all independent documents; accounting is more rich: wallclock/cputime of VM, storage, network (local, wide); BK asked about the interface of the marketplace, CL said this is documented

Towards a virtualised EGI: Strategies, Standards and technical development

MD presented the view on how to progress; reuse and move by steps; the six scenarios

1. VM on the site, I want to start/stop/access

2. Upload my image
3. Get info from the site so I can select endpoints
4. Account of usage across sites
5. Get info on reliability of sites
6. Notification

They represent a stable base on which to start working across sites; GS observed that it seems problems of resource allocation are delegated to users and asked about which tools EGI plans to work with VMs; SN clarified that there will be experts building the VMs, not the end-users; effort can come from NGIs – reuse of effort currently spent managing sites;

BK wondered if VMs simplify also about configuration; not only installation; CL said that we need to distinguish between external vs. internal config; StratusLab provides tools for internal config; external is contextualization;

SB asked about when/how TCB plan to engage with UCB to present the scenario of cloud evolution. Suggested that interested user communities attend the user virtualization workshop.

Planning towards the EGI User Virtualisation Workshop

MD explains the document:

- Getting user communities with virtualization requirements
- Verification of scenarios
- Functional areas

SN asked CL about direct competitor of StratusLab; CL mentioned OpenStack; Nimbus and Eucalyptus do not yet offer the full range of cloud services

AOB

MD notified that VOMS and ARC-CE are currently under quality control; one of them has documentation problem, but one can easily go to staged rollout

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 16:00.

Date for Next Meeting

To be held 20 May 2011 by Teleconference 9:00 – 12:00

ACTIONS

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04/06	EMI/BK	Verify the issue of info providers not extracting consistent information, (e.g. the installed software version number)	OPEN
04/07	All	Review communication channels within NGIs (especially large) and their capabilities to properly report to EGI.eu *To be raised at council and PMB*	OPEN
05/01	EGI.eu/SB	Track evolution of requirements about error messages and identify potential groupings into categories	NEW
05/02	EMI	Document which components have documentation on error messages	NEW
05/03	IGE	Document which components have documentation on error messages	NEW
05/04	EMI/BK	Provide the consolidated list of new features in EMI 1	NEW
05/05	EMI/BK	To send back to product group a message to reinforce the importance of being	NEW
05/06	EMI/BK	To provide an email before each TCB meeting containing the new features in the next software components release	NEW
05/07	IGE/HH	To send an XML document example of GLUE 2.0 info as published by the Globus computing	NEW
05/08	IGE/SC	To provide a plan for implementation on the information service	NEW
05/09	EGI.eu/SB	Add new column to UCB Priority topics document for technology	NEW

		provider	
05/10	EMI/BK	Send a list of components for which training of user communities can be useful (especially those with a public interface)	NEW
05/11	IGE/SC	Send a list of components for which training of user communities can be useful (especially those with a public interface)	NEW

Minutes prepared by   Sergio Andreozzi, 02.05.2011

Minutes Approved   TCB Chair Steven Newshouse

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