

MAGIC Meeting
December 13, 2006, 2:00-4:00
NSF, Room 1150

Attendance:

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Ken Klingenstein	Internet2	kjk@internet2.edu
Mark Luker	Educause	mluker@educause.edu
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Mike Nelson	IBM	mrn@us.ibm.com
Jennifer Schopf	ANL	jms@mcs.anl.gov
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Kevin Thompson	NSF	kthomps@nsf.gov
Paul Trevinick	Parity Inc.	paul@parityinc.net

I. Action Items

II. Proceedings

This meeting of MAGIC was chaired by Kevin Thompson of the NSF and the Vice-chairs, Mike Nelson from IBM and Ken Klingenstein from Internet2.

Internet2 Meeting BOF

A BOF on Grids was held at the Internet2 meeting. Discussion at the BOF led to plans for holding a demonstration in January 2007 on Grid technology that is most easily scaled and easiest to use. The demonstration will allow campus users to use local authentication to reach TeraGrid resources. Under Phase 2 of the demonstrations users will be able to access their local authorization to provide access to resources. The intention is to use consistent approaches to authentication and authorization to enable widespread use and interoperability.

International Grid providers are participating in the Grid Alliance, which uses a different basis for authentication and authorization. Federations are developing in the U.S. Texas has established a basis of 13 systems that are federating. Multiple Grid providers are federating in California.

The Internet2 meeting provided presentations on virtual organizations and how to support them.

FastLane demonstrated use of campus credentials to access and use off-campus Federal resources. This approach provides improved security and improved access to FastLane resources.

NIH indicated their interest in supporting several applications using In-Common capabilities.

Building international agreements for sharing resources is a difficult issue. The issue of levels of assurance is being addressed by multiple international governments. Britain is beginning to adopt some guidelines compatible with U.S. federation regimes.

In the international networking area a symposium was held with 39 Chinese officials. Shibboleth was a topic of discussion and several Chinese universities are interested in cooperating on Shibboleth compatibility.

Japan is deploying a PKI infrastructure and they are deploying Shibboleth attributes.

Higgins

The Higgins application is described at:

<http://wiki.eclipse.org/index.php/Architecture>

Higgins is designed to provide a consistent user interface for users regardless of their location or application through which they are accessing Higgins. The user interface requests identity information. It overlays a card-based user interface with any identity system on the Internet. Cards represent different silos worldwide. Identity is federated across all the different silos to provide virtual integration across the silos. Individuals can be characterized from several frameworks to the silos. Higgins provides a consistent API and IdAS provides consistent user information. . Higgins models relationships across domains so you are recognized in different contexts and all your information can be attributed to you. The API provides a standard data model to map the user into the system.

Higgins is coordinating with the open ID community and the Shibboleth community. They are working on a Liberty SAML plug-in.

Higgins provides:

- A user interface independent of protocol and platform
- Integration of user identities: It identifies preferences, relationships (friends/family), and attributes. Relationships are the first-class attribute. Social context is a cross-cutting concern. Relationships can be asymmetrical.
- Multiple identities (several but not hundreds): Who you are depends on the context in which you are functioning
- Transparent policies where people can see what you will and will not share

Higgins cooperates with IBM and Novell. There are also representatives from Oracle, Sun and other companies. Higgins 1.0 is scheduled for release this coming summer. They are discussing IP issues with Microsoft. Higgins wants to support Open ID and the IFStar stack.

Higgins has the commitment of Internet2 users now. It is hosted under the Eclipse organization, which provides access to lawyers, space, and resources. Novell has taken ownership of the identity attribute layer. Higgins has demonstrated ID capabilities and interoperability. A large remaining issue is the ID selector due to IP issues. A February 2007 version 1.0 release will have all system architecture components up and running.

Higgins technology components are already in use by elements of DOD.

Shibboleth 2.0 is scheduled for fielding in March/April 2007. Internet2 users have committed to Shibboleth already.

LSN Workshop

LSN is planning a workshop in August of 2007. It will be held in the Oak Ridge area. A primary topic for the workshop will be security and Federation of identity, and authorization across policy domains. MAGIC members recommended that the workshop offer demonstrations of Higgins, Shibboleth and other identify and authorization capabilities.

Future MAGIC Meetings

January 10, 2007, 2:00-3:30 NSF Room 1150: Many MAGIC members can not make a meeting on January 3 so the meeting will be held January 10. Jay Unger of IBM will provide a presentation then.

February 2, 2:00-3:30 NSF Room 1150: Jennifer Schopf will provide a briefing on Globus