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GridLab – A Grid Application Toolkit and Testbed
D13.4 “Dissemination and Use Plan”
The Update

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Abstract: This document is an extension of the Deliverable D13.4 and it presents the current GridLab web site. The document was prepared for the special review on Project Results Exploitation and Dissemination Activities of the project GridLab to be held on 16th of June, 2004.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Objectives of this document

This document's objective is to describe the current shape and structure of the GridLab web site (set up at www.gridlab.org, designed by PSNC and physically located at Masaryk University in the Czech Republic). Since the deliverables 13.2 and 13.4 are kind of out-of-date with regard to the GridLab web site, we decided to give here a short update of these two documents and we would like to treat this document as an appendix to the original deliverable 13.4.

GridLab's home page was continuously being kept up-to-date. The last year of the project is really crucial as far as the problem of dissemination and exploitation of the project results is concerned. This is why we spent plenty of time on reorganizing our web site.

We treat GridLab's web service as a proven, widely-accessible and potentially powerful dissemination platform for reaching project's target audiences and communicating project achievements. As the project enters its final stage and generates results of interest to a wider audience it is critically important to ensure that the website follows best practices for disseminating information and results over the WWW. The request from Wolfgang Boch, Head of IST-F2 Unit sent to all the relevant projects on 25th March of 2004 was a big help in recent restructuring of the GridLab web site. We took all the requirements and remarks into account to assure:

- Clear visibility for the website visitors of:
 - the project's achievements,
 - its contributions and impact beyond the consortium,
 - the added value at a European level,
 - the fact that the project is co-financed by the Information Society Technologies part of the EU RTD Framework Program.
- Provision and maintenance of a frequently updated section indicating the current status of the project.
- Provision and maintenance of a section with the press releases relating to the major project achievements.
- Presentation on the role and contribution of EACH partner,
- Ability for the public to view / download 'Public' deliverables listed in the 'Description of Work', once completed.
- Presentation of the project timelines,
- Policy of updating the website on the monthly basis when it comes to WP works, and on a weekly basis when it comes to the content of the general project topics, as news, latest achievements, events, future developments etc.

In addition to the above elements we spent great effort on easing the navigation, accessibility and good degree of the cross-browser compatibility of the GridLab web pages.

2. GridLab Web Site: the dissemination portal

This section describes the dissemination to users interested in the advancement of GridLab and Grid in general by the web site. The web visitors are expected to be both, non technical and technical users, students and occasional visitors of the project web site.

The GridLab WWW service is aimed at presenting the widely-accessible dissemination and exploitation of the project results. The aim of the ongoing update of the web site design is to deliver better and better platform for the potential users and visitors.

2.1. The main page

The GridLab main page was designed as a small grid information portal providing basic information about the project, current development status and its external collaboration. The basic aim of its new design, was to deliver an easy to navigate web with all the most important categories at the first view. It is the communication platform for the GridLab members but first of all it should serve the information outside the project. That is why we decided to update the web site with some new sections of interests for the external visitors indicating the most important events, the press releases and the special user focused area. The new sections are co-related to the basic menu which delivers the traditional information about the project indicating its current status, the results and the resources. GridLab Project is the European initiative which is underlined both in the header and in the footer (with a useful link to the Project Fact Sheet at the cordis service).

All the information is being updated all the time. The news section are maintained by the project dissemination team in the cooperation with the workpackage leaders at least once a week. The dissemination team is running day to day monitoring of the grid events and initiatives and it is responsible for the updating process coordination as well. The current status of the updating may be seen at each page footer and the precise time of the last update is delivered automatically.

There are 4 basic sections on the main page in fact:

1. **The main menu** with the basic categories for an easy access to the targeted information divided into categories: the home page, news archive, work packages description, documentation, software, presentations, collaboration, dissemination activities, people working on the project and project meetings. The main menu consists of the intranet as well. It is a very important tool in all the administrative issues.

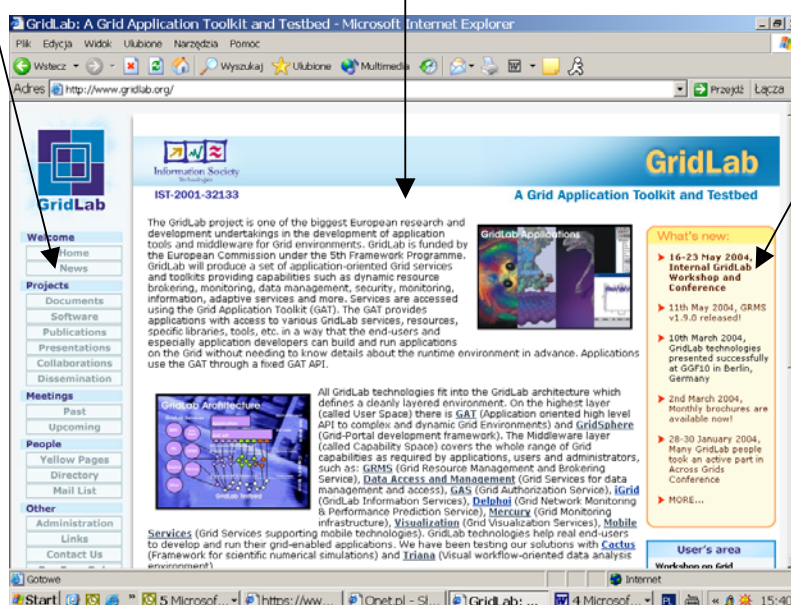
2. **The project brief description** shows GridLab main research areas and the project’s achievements. In spite of being the project abstract the content is updated regularly as well (according to the feedback received from the visitors and the project partners). The description contains number of the supports and the links to the GridLab products description, documentation and the software which seems to be essential for the potential user. The eye-catching pictures help to draws the visitor’s attention to the innovative architecture details, applications and the testbed. This is a small Grid Information Portal to the grid products and services and current status of its development, integration and tests.

The present layout of the core GridLab web site – header

The main menu

The project brief description

The news section

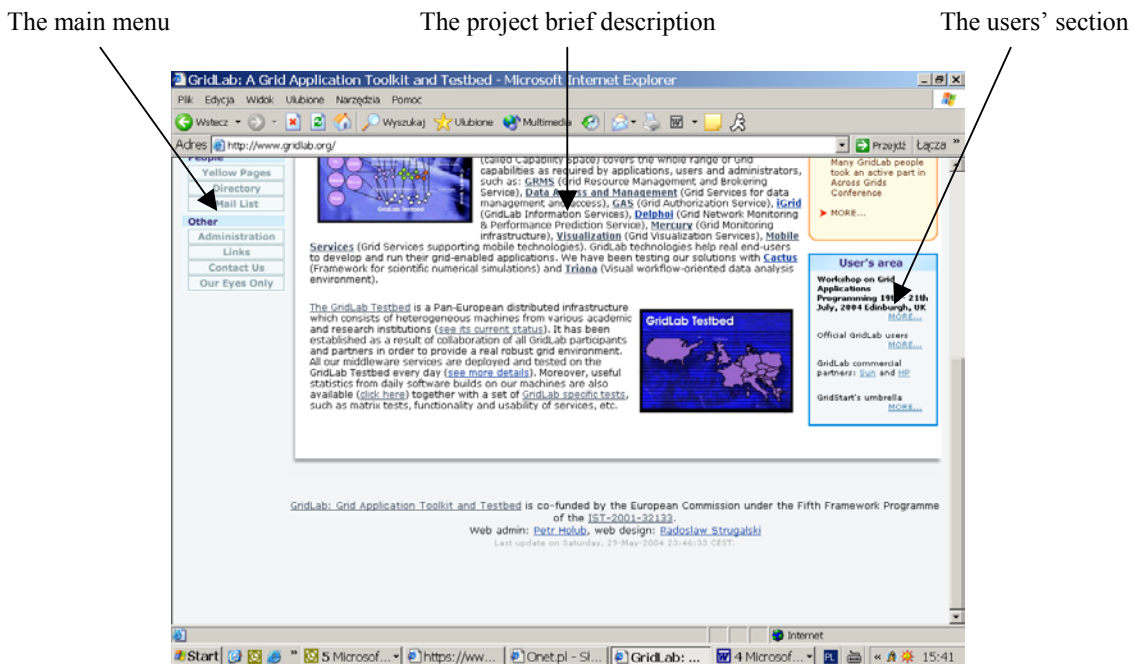


3. **The news section** (“What’s new”) contains links to the latest activities, successes and news releases of the project. Its content at the first view as well allows for the current updating assessment (essential for some visitors). A very important thing is the link to the archive files helping to find an interesting event or information.

GridLab web site is one of the main distribution sites to publish the GridLab press releases. They can be found at the News section as well. We also publish the press releases through the dissemination channels of Sun and HP. The other channels include GridToday and Enter The Grid.

4. **The users' section** ("Users's area") is the project contribution and impact beyond the consortium. It is co-related to the news section but it is focused on the GridLab software users and allows for some interaction with them. There is the current information on the open events and initiatives which are organized by our consortium or the other IST Initiatives (GridStart Project for instance) like the Workshop on Grid Applications Programming organized on 19th - 21th July, 2004 in Edinburgh in the UK.

The present layout of the core GridLab web site - footer

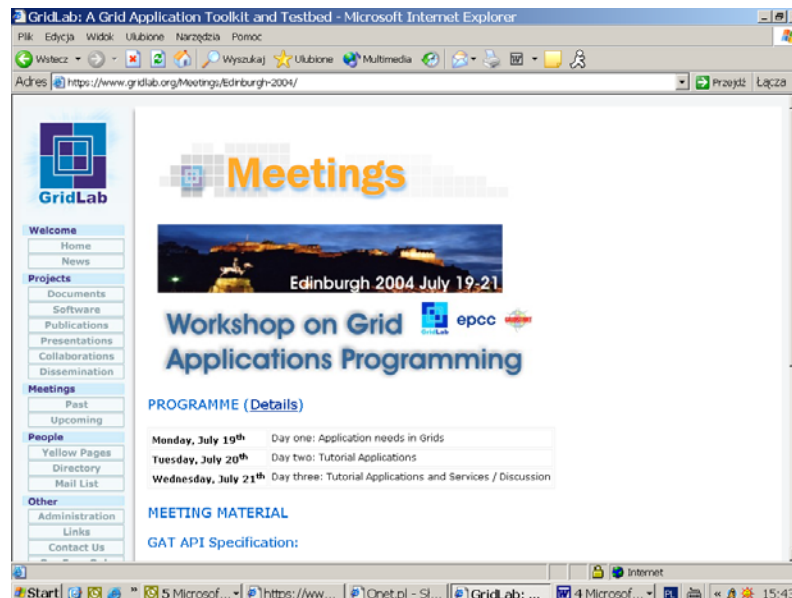


Such open events seems to be crucial for the project dissemination. We realize that the information about such initiatives should be published widely not only within our communities but for the open audience as well. That is why one of the User's area subsections will be dedicated to the GridLab open meetings.

The User's area shows the added value of our project results at a the European and even world level. The "Official GridLab users" page shows how many institutions and initiatives are cooperating with the GridLab community. At the beginning of the third year of the project duration over 20 big initiatives and projects were cooperating with the

GridLab community – they were from Europe, the USA and South Korea like: N*Grid, Cactus, GriPhyN, Condor, The Grid Infrastructure, Geon, EPhysics Portal, CLUSTERIX, CASPer, GridOneD, GEO 600, Einstein@home, VL-E, GriKS, NRL Protean Group, GEMSS, Ibis, and the others. Thanks the cooperation GridLab project is not only better known and recognised initiative but receives a very interesting feedback on the developed grid tools. We believe that such “mouth publicity” is the most effective way of the results dissemination. The user’s area delivers some useful links to the GridLab commercial partners and the GridStart IST initiative, which is a very important forum for the grid project dissemination.

The GridLab Meetings information for the users community

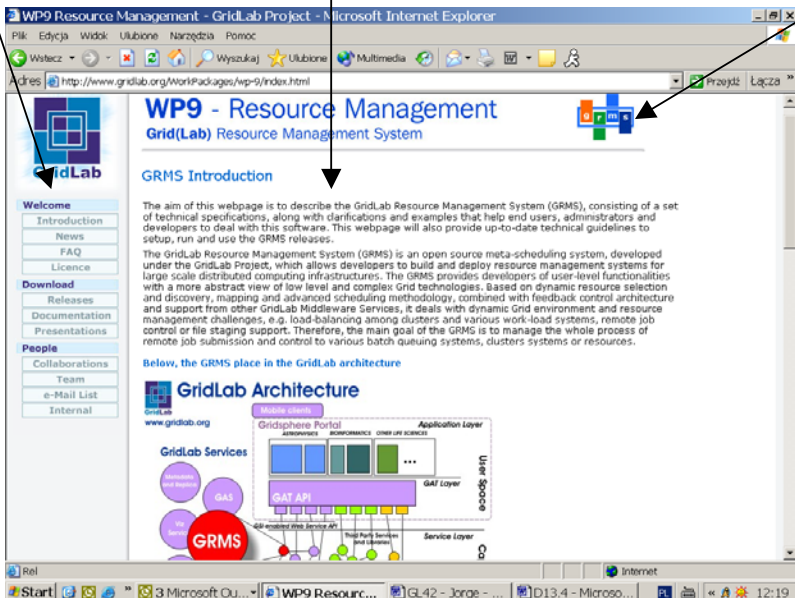


We realize that our grid tools and all interesting results should be presented to the wider audience not only through the www service. That is why we are trying to maintain the close cooperation with media – especially the IST press. We are collecting the most interesting magazine and newspaper articles and they are available at our web site as well. We are delivering some links to the dissemination portals like IST Results for example.

2.2 Workpackage related web pages

According to the last review remarks we decided to promote the GridLab products rather than the technical project organization. All the workpackages description is available through the products-links from the main page. As mentioned before the Workpackage Managers are responsible for the updating of the related web sites at least once a month. A news section is available as well delivering current releases information. Basically each workpackage web site delivers a short description, its current status the documentation and presentations downloads and the contact email addresses. The basic content is agreed but it may slightly differ among the workpackages. Thanks to a very useful menu that helps to get the required information it is very easy to navigate. Some of the services have own logo displayed on the header.

The workpackage menu The workpackage brief description The service's logo



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'WP9 - Resource Management' page. The browser's address bar shows 'http://www.gridlab.org/WorkPackages/wp-9/index.html'. The page features a navigation menu on the left with links for 'Welcome', 'Introduction', 'News', 'FAQ', 'Licence', 'Download', 'Releases', 'Documentation', 'Presentations', 'People', 'Collaborations', 'Team', 'e-Mail List', and 'Internal'. The main content area includes a 'GRMS Introduction' section with a brief description of the system. Below this is a 'GridLab Architecture' diagram showing various layers and services, with 'GRMS' highlighted in a red circle. A navigation menu is visible on the left side of the page.

There is the current information about the internal and external collaboration as well. Usually there is an information about the service place in the architecture and the external areas of the collaboration – we are listing some examples to be more comprehensive for the visitors. To help with the contact all the involved people personal details are listed as well. We believe that the direct communication is the most efficient.

2.3 GridLab software web pages

Our Consortium decided to distribute the software under the GridLab Open Source License. However the Gridsphere portal software may be distributed according to either the GridLab Open Source License or the GridSphere Open Source license. All the software may be downloaded from the GridLab web site. Early software versions have been available since July 2003 but the new releases have appeared since then.

The distributed software has been divided into the three categories:

1. Grid Application Toolkit (GAT, Core Adaptor Suite for the GAT and GridLab Adaptor Suite for the GAT)
2. GridLab Portal Framework and Portlets (GridSphere Portal Development Framework)
3. GridLab Service Suite (Security Service, Adaptive Service, Data Service, Visualization Service, Mobile Service, Resource Management Service, Information Service and Mercury Monitor Service)

Software link is available directly from the main menu.

2.4 GridLab document deliverables

The GridLab public deliverables may be downloaded from the web site. They are listed according to the workpackages this time – this may be important for the person (potential user) interesting the software documentation. The documents may be downloaded from the GridLab web site in the pdf format. There is some useful description which helps the find the right information.

2.5 GridLab publications and presentations

There are two links where some external information may be available. The most interesting GridLab publications and presentations (all in the pdf format) are available to the public the main menu: "Publications" and "Presentations" links. Of course it is impossible to put all the publications and presentations – only the most important issues and interesting results are available to the wider audience.

2.6. GridLab Internal

The GridLab web site is not only the public relations portal but the effective internal communication tool as well. It supports the project management and the Project Technical Board with a minimal set of tools as a document repository and a member address book. Moreover it is being used as a tool for the information exchange among partners.

The web site was designed to:

- simplify the management of the users and their profile: project member, WP administrator, chairmen, portal administrator, mailing list administrator;
- allow the ubiquitous update of the contents with a web browser and CVS by the registered users;
- support the information exchange among partners, thanks to a document repository tool (CVS);
- perform the sophisticated search of information, thanks to the adoption of a structured database;
- put all the web pages on the CVS for the versioning control, controlling the access and sharing the documents.

As mentioned above the CVS tool allows for the current maintenance by many authorized persons. In GridLab such authorization belongs to the each workpackage manager. Each workpackage maintains its own web where each partner contribution may be seen.

3. Advertisement of the GridLab Portal

The GridLab Dissemination Office is responsible for the advertisement of the GridLab web site. The following actions were performed so far:

- registration to the main search engines in the Internet;
- agreements with related projects in Europe and US to have reciprocal links to the GridLab web site,
- distributing GridLab brochures and gadgets (mugs, pens, t-shirts, polo shirts). About 2000 GridLab thematic brochures are distributed each month. Each brochure contains information about the GridLab portal.

4. The Web Statistics

Since the beginning of the 2004 the GridLab web statistics have been collected. It helps us to monitor all the web visits and visitors. The free realtime logfile analyzer for advanced web statistics available at URL (the software is delivering the current information): <https://www.gridlab.org/awstats/awstats.pl> after the first 5 months shows (end of May 2004 data) a big interest of our web services.

GridLab web site statistics since the beginning of 2004

Category	Total number	Average
Unique visitors	33113	-
Visits	53302	1,6 visits/visitor
Pages	415937	7,8 pages per visit
Hits	1333806	25,02 hits per visit
Bytes	12,22 GB	240,35 kB/visit

Source: <https://www.gridlab.org/awstats/awstats.pl> on 31st May 2004

The "Unique visitors" number in the table is the number of the client host (IP address) who visited the site (and who viewed at least one page). This data refers to the number of different physical persons who had reached the site any time. "Visits" row shows the number of new incoming visitors (viewing or browsing a page), who were not connected to the site during the last 60 minutes. "Pages" category shows the number of times a page of the site is viewed (Sum for all visitors for all visits). This piece of data differs from "hits" because it counts only HTML pages as oppose to images and other files. "Hits" category shows full number of times a page, image, file of the site is viewed or downloaded by someone – as such delivers additional data only. The "Bytes" category is the amount of data downloaded within our site.

The visitor domains/countries statistics are very important feedback as well. The commercial visitors (with the code "com" and "net") are on the one of the highest positions which confirms the big commercial's interest in grid technologies and GridLab project results (almost 100 000 pages visited). The visitors' countries of origin analysis shows the highest number of Czech and Polish visitors. It may be self-evident because of the hosting and the coordinating activities but the other origins seems to be interesting. They are respectively from: USA, Germany, Netherlands, Japan, United Kingdom, Italy, Canada, Hungary and Australia. High positions of such countries like Japan, Canada and Australia show a big interests of the external visitors.

Visitors' domains/countries GridLab web statistics in 2004

Domains/Countries	Code	Pages	Hits	Bytes
 Czech Republic	cz	216342	274163	1.25 GB
 Commercial	com	83062	148619	2.28 GB
 Unknown	ip	32554	215253	2.30 GB
 Poland	pl	21708	174484	1.12 GB
 Network	net	13629	101801	1.10 GB
 Germany	de	11438	100216	792.40 MB
 USA Educational	edu	6204	54813	682.59 MB
 United Kingdom	uk	4787	39204	739.68 MB
 Netherlands	nl	4562	52509	303.44 MB
 Japan	jp	3241	14659	193.41 MB
 Italy	it	2509	33372	151.90 MB
 Hungary	hu	2253	17391	121.00 MB
 France	fr	1249	7819	118.38 MB
 Canada	ca	1242	8691	150.03 MB
 Australia	au	1144	6818	85.56 MB
 Greece	gr	1135	7135	74.16 MB
 USA Government	gov	646	3797	57.03 MB
 Switzerland	ch	582	6044	38.25 MB
 Brazil	br	576	6634	53.25 MB
 Non-Profit Organizations	org	551	3061	40.90 MB
 Spain	es	496	5554	79.31 MB
 USA Military	mil	452	2818	21.68 MB
 Austria	at	356	6024	34.43 MB
 South Korea	kr	323	4117	26.47 MB
 Belgium	be	293	2001	36.79 MB
Others		4603	36809	477.74 MB

Source: <https://www.gridlab.org/awstats/awstats.pl> on 31st May 2004