

Calendar/Meetings

January

22-26, [21st APAN Meeting](#), Tokyo, Japan

23-26, [Open Science Grid Consortium Meeting](#), Gainesville, Florida

23-25, [ACST 2006: The IASTED International Conference on Advances in Computer Science and Technology](#), Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

26-27, [Designing for e-Science: Interrogating new scientific practice for usability, in the lab and beyond](#), e-Science Institute, Edinburgh, UK

[Full Calendar](#)

Feature Story

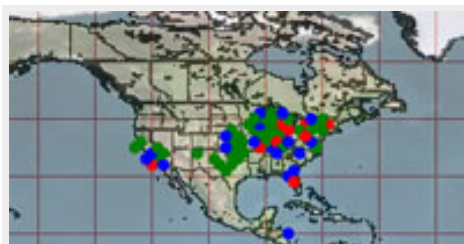
OSG Ramps Up and Reaches Out



Open Science Grid Consortium Meeting attendees.

More than 120 grid computing researchers and scientists traveled to the University of Florida this week for the third Open Science Grid Consortium meeting. This meeting, the first since the Open Science Grid's official launch in July, focused on establishing new partnerships with other grids and institutions, connecting the needs of grid applications with the realities of the grid facility, and transitioning to a new management structure.

"We tend to focus on the grid technology, but it's the people that make it happen and the people that make it work," says Ruth Pordes, OSG Executive Director. "This meeting was to bring everyone together; the people providing the technology and operating the grid, the people using the resources, and those interested in joining and partnering with the OSG."



Open Science Grid sites.

Since its launch July 20, the OSG has added five new virtual organizations and continually increased the number of jobs running on the grid. The infrastructure kicked off the New Year by recording a record-high 2,700

Profile

Markus Lorch: Role Playing

Markus Lorch discovered grids as a doctoral student at Virginia Tech. Trained in Germany as an information systems specialist, Lorch came to the U.S. in 2000 as a Fulbright scholar to finish his Masters degree. He stayed on to pursue his Ph.D. in computer science, attending the second Global Grid Forum as a student volunteer.



Markus Lorch

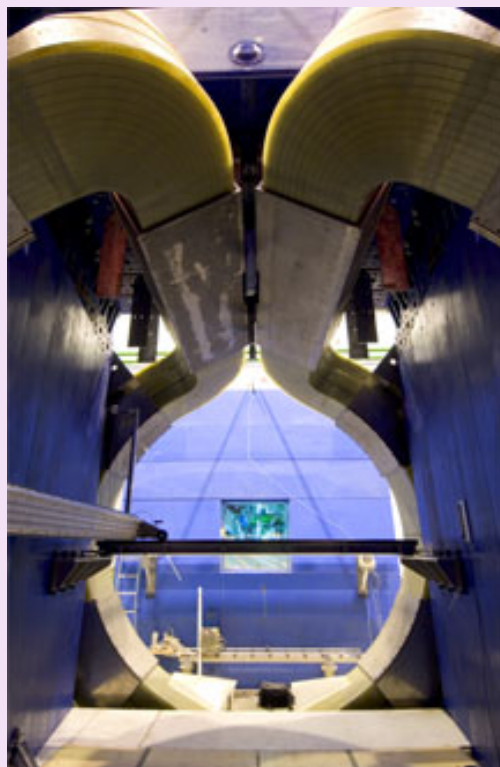
"My Masters research was on grid workflows, and we discovered security issues in that area," said Lorch. "GGF funded me to attend their second meeting as a student scholar, and I eventually chaired the authorization frameworks and mechanisms working group."

Lorch's interest in grid security led him to develop the PRIMA security model and software and implement it on the Virginia Tech campus grid. In 2003, close to finishing his degree, Lorch started searching for an application area—and funding—for his security software.

[Full article](#)

Grids in the News

Image of the Week



View inside the ALICE magnets. (Click on image for larger)

version.)

Image © CERN

ALICE, which stands for A Large Ion Collider Experiment, is a nuclear physics experiment to study the nature of the quark-gluon plasma at CERN's Large Hadron Collider. Scientists consider the quark-gluon plasma to be a fundamental key to understanding both the basic structure of ordinary matter and the birth of matter in the early universe. The ALICE collaboration involves more than 1,000 physicists, engineers and technicians from 30 countries.

Link of the Week

EUChinaGrid

EUChinaGRID is a new initiative to extend the European grid and e-science infrastructure to China. The initiative will begin with three pilot applications that already have strong intercontinental collaborations: The ARGO Cosmic Ray Experiment in Yangbajing, Tibet; the ATLAS and CMS particle physics experiments at CERN; and new kinds of proteins in biology.

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 Office of Science/
U.S. DOE

simultaneous jobs from more than seven virtual organizations on January 7, with applications from particle physics, astrophysics and bioinformatics contributing. The number of applications is poised to increase, with several grids and computing centers, including TeraGrid, the Texas Advanced Computing Center and the Southern Universities Research Association, traveling to Florida to discuss possible partnerships.

"We're pleased at the turnout and the number of projects represented," says Paul Avery from the University of Florida, the meeting organizer. "We wanted to bring people here to discuss new ways of cooperating and collaborating with OSG and with each other. It's especially important for us to hear from the scientific applications, so that we can find out their requirements and build our grid to help them."

In addition to hearing reports from the physics, astronomy, bioinformatics and computer science communities, attendees found out about plans for the future of OSG. The newest version of the OSG software stack, OSG 0.4.0, was released this week, and preparations are already underway for the next two releases. Developers collected requirements from users, and informed them about operations, monitoring, and software deployment.

Learn more at the [OSG](#) Web site.

—Katie Yurkewicz

The EUChinaGRID Project Kicks Off

EGEE News Release, January 24, 2006

Today, the EUChinaGRID (Interconnection & Interoperability of Grids between Europe & China) Project officially kicks-off in Athens.

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TeraShake 2: Simulating Earthquakes for Science and Society

San Diego Supercomputer Center Press Release, January 23, 2006

SDSC Helps SCEC Simulate Magnitude 7.7 Earthquake on San Andreas Fault.

[Read More...](#)

Networking computers to help combat disease

IST Results, January 23, 2006

Subtropical diseases lay waste to millions of people each year. In the quest to find a cure scientists are using Grid computing, the major driving force for new approaches towards collaborative large-scale science, to discover new drugs and better understand the diseases.

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ETICS to improve Grid quality

CERN Press Release, January 20, 2006

The kick-off meeting for a new project called ETICS (eInfrastructure for Testing, Integration and Configuration of Software) is being held at CERN1 today.

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