

National e-Science Centre

www.nesc.ac.uk

About NeSC

The National e-Science Centre (NeSC) delivers national services for the UK e-Science programme. The most visible of these is the e-Science Institute, which runs events and provides a meeting place for the e-Science community, and also runs a visitor programme for hosting researchers from overseas. Other services include a report series, software repositories, special interest groups, and the web site, which stores e-Science resources and provides a first point of contact for newcomers to the e-Science programme.

NeSC also administers the GridNet programme, which funds UK researchers to attend international standardisation meetings.

Special Interest Groups

NeSC provides support for UK e-Science Special Interest Groups. NeSC can host mailing lists which can be remotely managed, forbid messages from non-members, and are automatically archived. NeSC can also host Wiki sites, which support collaborative work on documents, and sharing of information.

Anyone in the UK e-Science Program is welcome to set up a SIG. The current SIGs include e-Science Project Management, e-Science Data Mining and e-Science Visualisation

For more information, see

<http://www.nesc.ac.uk/resources/sigs/index.html>

Grid Technology Repository

The Grid Technology Repository (GTR) is an international repository for Grid-related software and documentation. The GTR is a community-driven effort, with contributions welcome from academia, industry and individuals without institutional affiliation. Contributions are provided without warranty, but are screened for relevance to the Grid community before being placed into the repository.

NeSC is represented on the GTR advisory committee, and is hosting a mirror of the repository. See

<http://gtr.nesc.ac.uk/index.php>

Founding bodies

NeSC is founded and supported by the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow. The two universities contribute accommodation and administrative support, in addition to appointing staff in the area of e-Science.

EPCC

EPCC is a company that specializes in High-Performance and Grid computing. It was founded in 1990 and now has over 70 staff. EPCC is one of the foundation departments of NeSC, and provides NeSC with the capacity to produce quality software via an established development process.

Academic departments

Four academic departments, together with EPCC, form the five foundation departments of NeSC. These are: The School of Informatics and the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Edinburgh, and the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Glasgow.

NeSCForge

NeSCForge provides a source repository, similar to SourceForge, for e-Science projects. For each project, NeSCForge provides a CVS store, bug tracking, and a discussion forum. See

<http://forge.nesc.ac.uk/>

GridNet

The GridNet programme provides funds for UK researchers to participate in standardisation efforts such as GGF and W3C. The rapid development of e-Science and grid technologies involves a substantial effort in these activities, which in turn requires sustained allocation of leading researchers' and developers' time. The purpose of the GridNet programme is to support those undertaking this work and to coordinate their efforts.

NeSC administers this programme on behalf of the UK e-Science Programme. Anyone working for a UK e-Science project is welcome to apply for funding. See

<http://www.nesc.ac.uk/esi/gridnet.html>

Technical papers

NeSC publishes technical papers for the UK e-Science community. These include reports from UK e-Science Task Forces, reports of e-Science Institute workshops, and other sources. See

http://www.nesc.ac.uk/technical_papers/

Web site

The NeSC web site provides information about the UK e-Science programme. Besides the services listed above, it includes a description of every project funded by the programme (and related projects funded by other bodies), a list of upcoming events, both at the e-Science Institute and elsewhere, an e-Science bibliography, descriptions and membership of the UK e-Science Task Forces, a secure area for the e-Science directorate and links to e-Science and Grid resources, both UK and global.