



Security Task Force TOR

Introduction

The emerging Grid infrastructure brings with it many security issues. These issues cover a wide range including identification and authentication, access control, database security, confidentiality, integrity, availability, dependability and usability

In the last six or so months academics and industry have put forward an Open Grid Services Architecture (OGSA) that essentially provides a merging of the two strands of standards created by the scientific Grid community and the World Wide Web Consortium and other bodies active in the web services area. This integration of technologies raises questions in itself, are the existing security mechanisms in web services sufficient for grid applications and needs? . Given the nature of the Grid – provision of services and applications across diverse virtual organisations - there are key issues of interoperability and security mechanisms across those virtual organisations, where different policies may be in place. Indeed there may be issues across the layers of Grid services within a single domain.

Task

The task of the Security Task Force is to consider the security issues surrounding the Grid and to provide the Director with advice and recommendations. That advice should contain a prioritised list of the security issues to be addressed as well as those areas of security that are believed to have suitable existing solutions. The recommendations should include suggested directions for addressing the key issues. These may include setting up projects with particular remits, commissioning studies within particular security areas, funding of UK groups to be involved in the GGF security working group and so on.

It is anticipated that the group will have an initial meeting to lay the foundations of the discussion, with a follow up meeting a month later to come up with the draft of the recommendations. At this point we will consider whether or not further meetings are required.