

Dear EGEE-III project members,

Most of us are probably in the final work rush before the holiday break. 2009 has been a very busy year for the project with many developments to address the key objectives of expanding the infrastructure and preparing for the transition to a sustainable model.

November 24 was the deadline for submitting new project proposals to the European Commission's next funding cycle in FP7. The proposal for the European Grid Initiative, called EGI-InSPIRE, ran to 176 pages and represented many hours of hard work from the proposal team. As you are probably aware, EGI-InSPIRE will rely on a number of collaborating projects to ensure support for user communities, middleware development etc. Proposals to fulfil these tasks were also submitted at the same time and include:

-ROSCOE & SAFE, to establish Virtual Research Communities for life sciences, high energy physics, fusion, earth sciences, astronomy & astrophysics, computation chemistry & materials science technology, humanities, computer science & engineering, complexity science and photon science;

- The CUE and TAPAS proposals intend to provide training, application porting services and dissemination to the business community;

- The EMI proposal focusses on middleware and the harmonization of the gLite, ARC and UNICORE distributions. EGEE has provided letters of support to these and a number of other proposals as well which are relevant to the work of the European grid infrastructure.

The submission of these proposals allows the next step of EGEE's transition to the work plans and structures proposed in EGI-InSPIRE, EMI, ROSCOE, SAFE, TAPAS and CUE.

To smoothly achieve this transition in the remaining months of EGEE-III will present many challenges. The EGEE to EGI transition plans will be the subject of an all-activity meeting at the start of February in Amsterdam where we will define the final concrete changes needed to achieve transition. And after February we will refine these plans to take into account the EC's response to the EGI-InSPIRE and other proposals.

The final large EGEE event – the 5th User Forum – is something to begin looking forward to and planning for already. As announced, the Call for Abstracts deadline has been extended. The new deadline is Monday, December 14. If you have not yet registered for the User Forum then do so now without delay: after January 1st registrants will no longer be able to benefit from the discounted registration fee.

Please note also that the EGEE Project Office will be closed from the evening of 18 December until the morning of 4 January.

With those reminders out of the way, nothing remains but perhaps the most important: please accept my wishes for a joyous holiday season, surrounded by your loved ones.

Until next year!

Yours sincerely,



Bob Jones
EGEE-III Project Director

The following events are organised by EGEE or will feature important EGEE contributions. For further related events please see www.isgtw.org.

Month	Event	LINK
January	No posted events	
February	22-27, 13th International ACAT Workshop, Jaipur, India	http://acat2010.cern.ch/

If you are organising EGEE-related events that you would like to publicise here please email Neasan O'Neill at n.oneill@qmul.ac.uk

