Business Associates Programme

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE (EGEE) is firmly committed to building strong relations with industry and offering a variety of channels for involvement, from information sharing and business requirements analysis to full technical collaboration.

EGEE Business Associates

The EGEE Business Associate (EBA) programme offers collaborative opportunities for companies to engage in technical work with mutual benefits for industry and the project, such as coordinated technological development, market surveys and exploitation strategies, as well as more general exchange of knowledge and services. As EBAs, companies work closely with the project for high level interaction, receive early access to documentation, have the opportunity to publish articles in project newsletters, sponsor EGEE events, help shape EGEE's programme for industrial involvement and work towards a sustainable infrastructure.

Current Business Associates include: Avanade, Excelian, Constellation Technologies, GridwiseTech, Hitachi, Linalis, NICE and Platform Computing.

Avanade is a global IT consultancy dedicated to using the Microsoft platform to help enterprises grow profitably. Through proven solutions that extend Microsoft products, Avanade helps enterprises increase revenue, reduce costs and reinvest in innovation to gain competitive advantage.

Thanks to this collaboration, EGEE will benefit from Avanade's expertise on .Net technologies to fully support gLite on Windows platform, a critical factor for any enterprise-ready software. They see gLite standards as the solution to interoperability challenges, and expect gLite APIs to be used by any Avanade customer that adopts Avanade Grid Architecture as their production level and mission critical infrastructure. Learn more at **www.avanade.com**.

Constellation Technologies, Ltd. is a UK-based company pioneering the global grid infrastructure software as a result from collaborative efforts with Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, UK and CERN, Switzerland supported by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) in the UK.

gLite middleware has a high level of technology readiness that can be demonstrated by its worldwide production deployment within the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid and other scientific and academic projects. Constellation Technologies, Ltd. provides a wide set of services related to industrialisation of this grid technology such as industry level middleware distribution, commercial operational support, commercial training and consultancy and development services. Learn more at **http://constellationtechnologies.com**.

Excelian was established in 2001 to deliver flexible and scalable Murex solutions across a variety of versions, modules, instruments and business areas. Since then their proven track record of delivering successful tailored projects has led to them becoming widely recognised as a leading provider of Cross-Asset, STP Murex integration services for clients across Europe, North America and Asia Pacific.

Excelian is working with EGEE to help shape the infrastructure by bringing the problems facing businesses today to EGEE, and in turn making the product and the community more relevant to current business needs. They are able to capitalise on the research and experience of the EGEE community while helping the project look for new opportunities to grow and develop valuable tools and skills. Learn more at **www.excelian.com**.

GridwiseTech is the vendor-independent expert on scalable solutions helping customers in speeding up data processing, removing application bottlenecks and building complete scalable systems. The company introduces modern concepts of grid, virtualization, service-oriented architecture and application-driven portals. GridwiseTech offers management consulting as well as comprehensive technical assistance in integration of multi-vendor components.

One of GridwiseTech's successes is integrating the internal job management environment of Philips Research with external, on-demand resources managed by the EGEE grid. Their user-friendly solution, combined with gLite can easily serve other industrial customers, increasing their current compute capabilities by an order of magnitude, without any extra hardware expenses and with no grid knowledge required from end-users. Learn more at **www.gridwisetech.com**.

Hitachi's goal is an enriched society with easy access to information. They contribute to the development of information lifelines by offering reliable, high-performance advanced platform technologies and solutions.
By integrating its data grid solution with the EGEE framework Hitachi is able to contribute to the scientific community and bring in a much-needed mechanism for handling huge quantities of data. In return, Hitachi is able to talk directly with people and organisations dealing every day with large quantities of data, and learn from their experience. Learn more at **www.hitachi.com**.

Linalis is a Swiss, Geneva-based company offering training services on Linux and related subjects. In order to answer a market opening for standards-compliant, open source middleware with commercial support and training. EGEE has entered into this partnership that will offer mutual benefits with the common aim of increasing training to both science and industry. Learn more at **www.linalis.com**.

NICE works with companies in the mechanical, energy, biotech, aerospace, electronics and telecom fields, as well as with research and education organisations to solve problems related to computing resource optimization and rationalization.
NICE Italy is developing its GENIUS Grid Portal and EnginFrame Framework to make these compatible with the EGEE middleware gLite. As part of this collaboration and cooperation effort, NICE is proud to be one of the first participants in the Business Associate programme, which provides a valuable channel to make significant technical contributions and benefit from the considerable expertise built up in Grid computing within the EGEE project. Learn more at **www.nice-italy.com**.

Platform Computing is the leading systems infrastructure software company that accelerates applications and delivers IT agility for increased business performance and reduced cost. Founded in 1992, Platform has been a pioneer in HPC, cluster and grid computing technologies. Platform has over 2000 global customers and strategic relationships with Dell, HP, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Novell, Red Hat and SAS, along with the industry's broadest support for third-party applications.

Platform computing is working with EGEE to improve the interoperability of the gLite middleware with LSF, so that resources connected through the LSF local resources management system can be better exploited on the grid. The combination of Platform's production-proven grid products with the innovative grid infrastructure and applications developed by EGEE will lead to a world-leading production grid across Europe and the world, establishing a standard for the broad adoption of grid by industry. Learn more at **www.platform.com**.