



The EGEE'06 conference, to be held 25-29 September 2006 in Geneva, Switzerland, is the place where more than 500 participants from scientific and business Grid user communities, decision makers, resource providers and developers will discuss how to capitalise on past investments and plan a sustainable future for global Grid computing infrastructures. The EGEE (Enabling Grids for E-science) project invites journalists to meet some of the top speakers and Grid experts gathered in Geneva for this event at a VIP Lunch organised on the first day of the conference. **Don't miss this ideal opportunity to meet some of the world's leading experts in the field of Grid computing for science and business!**

The opening plenary will feature talks by Robert Aymar (CERN Director General), Charles Kleiber (Swiss State Secretary for Science and Research), Pierre-François Unger (President of the State Council of the Canton of Geneva), Viviane Reding (EU Commissioner for information society and media – video message), Jos Engelen (CERN Chief Scientific Officer), Dan Atkins (Head of NSF Office of Cyberinfrastructure in the USA), Ismail Serageldin (Director of the Library of Alexandria), and Bob Jones (EGEE-II project director).

Further keynote presentations at plenary sessions during the week will be given by Dennis Gannon (Indiana University), Carole Goble (University of Manchester), David Snelling (Fujitsu) and Mark Linesch (HP and the Open Grid Forum). These will give insights into standards emerging in the Grid field and ideas on how to make Grids easier to use and encourage adoption by a wide community.

Business representatives will be actively targeted through a dedicated business track that includes sessions on Grid Business models, Grid in SMEs and the Public Administration as well as individual sectors such as Automotive, Finance, Petroleum and Biomedicine. Data Management and Security will also be discussed by speakers from Intel, HP, Oracle, GridAlliance, Atos Origin and other pioneering Grid companies.

A series of related projects are helping to extend Grid technology around the globe, as well as to apply it to an increasingly diverse range of scientific challenges. These related projects will also feature prominently in the programme of the conference. A selected number of Grid users will demonstrate the applications that they are running on the EGEE infrastructure and participants can find out more about various aspects of Grid technology in an industrial and research exhibition.

For more information on the conference and latest updates on the programme, please visit <http://www.eu-egee.org/egee06>.

To join the VIP Lunch, receive press accreditation and obtain the complete press kit, please contact Hannelore Hämmerle, hannelore.hammerle@cern.ch

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Note to editors:

1. Further information on the invited speakers at the conference can be found here: <http://egee-technical.web.cern.ch/egee-technical/conferences/EGEE06/list-of-speakers.html>
2. The Enabling Grids for E-science (EGEE) project is funded by the European Commission and the second two-year phase of the project (EGEE-II) began on 1 April 2006. The project operates the largest multi-science Grid infrastructure in the world with some 200 sites connected around the globe, providing researchers in both academia and industry with access to major computing resources, independent of their geographic location. Currently EGEE supports scientists from nine different application domains in more than 100 virtual organisations. For more information see <http://www.eu-egee.org/> . For more information about EGEE in general, contact Hannelore Hämmerle, EGEE Dissemination, Outreach & Communication activity manager, +41 22 767 4176 or email: hannelore.hammerle@cern.ch.
3. Previous EGEE press releases can be found here: http://www.eu-egee.org/press_releases
4. CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, has its headquarters in Geneva and is the lead partner of the EGEE project. At present, its Member States are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. India, Israel, Japan, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Turkey, the European Commission and UNESCO have Observer status. For more information see <http://www.cern.ch/> .