

Access the power of the Grid

First major g-Eclipse release

Karlsruhe, Germany – January 21, 2009 The g-Eclipse Consortium today announced the first major release of the g-Eclipse framework. The g-Eclipse framework provides an easy-to-use workbench to access worldwide Grid and Cloud infrastructures. These new emerging infrastructures are seen as key to the future IT world allowing end-users to utilise available computing and data resources dynamically and on-demand. The g-Eclipse project provides a graphical workbench, which enables seamless access to such worldwide infrastructures with the same simplicity as users accessing the Internet from their web-browsers. The g-Eclipse Consortium was supported by the European Commission in the 6th Framework Programme in the field of research, technological development and demonstration.

The key feature of the g-Eclipse workbench is its proven independence from the underlying Grid and Cloud technology. "We started with the development of the g-Eclipse ecosystem with the goal to access available scientific Grid infrastructures, such as the one built by physicists at CERN to analyse the large amount of data generated by the new LHC accelerator in Geneva. With the help of g-Eclipse, scientists can use this infrastructure more intuitively and improve their productivity and scientific results," says Harald Kornmayer (NEC Laboratories Europe), initiator and lead of the g-Eclipse project. The g-Eclipse framework currently supports two European middlewares – gLite for scientific domains and GRIA used by industry and commerce. Additionally, support for the Cloud offering from Amazon Web Services is available.

"g-Eclipse is a great tool for scientists, who want to work efficiently on the Grid. It can help with many day-to-day tasks, supporting the user by relieving her/him from tedious basic level tasks. It is therefore an important ingredient of any future Grid infrastructure," says Dieter Kranzlmüller, director of the Leibniz-Rechenzentrum of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich and strategic director of the European Grid Initiative (EGI) project.

Since autumn 2006, g-Eclipse is also an Open Source technology project at the Eclipse Foundation. g-Eclipse development will, from now on, continue under the patronage of the Eclipse Foundation. "From the outset, we relied on the Eclipse platform and its development" says Markus Knauer (Innooact Informationssysteme GmbH), co-project lead of g-Eclipse. "We benefit immensely from existing concepts and tools from the Eclipse framework. This allowed us, for instance, to enable the inter-working between different Grid and Cloud middleware storage systems within g-Eclipse. The vision of seamless access to data, independent of their location on the Grid or Cloud, is realized today within the g-Eclipse framework. And we expect more Cloud providers to contribute to the g-Eclipse framework in the future."

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For more information about the g-Eclipse project and other projects mentioned above, please visit the links below:

g-Eclipse	http://www.eclipse.org/geclipse and http://www.geclipse.eu/
CERN	http://www.cern.ch/
gLite	http://glite.web.cern.ch/
GRIA	http://www.gria.org/
AWS	http://aws.amazon.com/

Contact address: contact@geclipse.eu

About the g-Eclipse Consortium

The g-Eclipse Consortium is formed of 8 European partners coming from both Academia and Industry. The project was supported by the European Commission within the 6th Framework Programme from June 2006 until December 2008 under the contract IST-2006-034327. The academic partners Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH, from Karlsruhe, Germany, which coordinated the Consortium, the Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center (PSNC) from Poland, the Johannes-Kepler-University of Linz, Austria, the University of Cyprus, and the University of Reading in the United Kingdom brought to the project their experience in Grid computing. Expertise from business was contributed by the partners Innoopract Informationssysteme GmbH from Karlsruhe, Germany, IT Innovation from Southampton, UK, and the IT Research Division of NEC Laboratories Europe, located in Sankt Augustin, Germany.

About the Eclipse Foundation

Eclipse is an open source community whose projects are focused on providing an extensible development platform and application frameworks for building software. Eclipse provides extensible tools and frameworks that span the software development lifecycle, including support for modelling, language development environments for Java, C/C++ and others, testing and performance, business intelligence, rich client applications and embedded development. A large, vibrant ecosystem of major technology vendors, innovative start-ups, universities and research institutions and individuals extend, complement and support the Eclipse Platform.

The Eclipse Foundation is a not-for-profit, member-supported corporation that hosts the Eclipse projects. Full details of Eclipse and the Eclipse Foundation are available at <http://www.eclipse.org>.