

# **Status and Plans for Grid and Web Services Working Group**

Guy Rixon  
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## ***Progress at the Boston interoperability meeting***

The set of work packages was reviewed and confirmed; see the sections below for the surviving work-packages and the group Wiki-web page (<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaGridAndWebServices>) for more details.

The proposed work-package on workflow systems is considered out of scope for the group at present. It can either be reintroduced later, or can be the subject of a separate working-group. The GWS-WG meetings felt that workflow is too little understood at present to be the subject of standardization.

The group opted to retain the VOspace work-package. This work could easily have been delegated to a new group, since it is self-contained. However, it was noted that the people expected to work on VOspace are all participants in GWS-WG, so there is no real benefit in forming an extra group. Besides, VOspace will act as a test of the group's single-sign-on profile; it helps to co-develop these two specifications.

See

<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpMay2004GridAndWebServices>  
for the original report on the Boston meeting.

## ***Work package: VO Support Interface***

Status:

- Consensus on the set of port types.
- Progressing to concrete design.

Current documents:

- V0.1 of specification (WG internal draft)  
(<http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaGridAndWebServices/StandardInterfaces-0.1.pdf>)

Documents due:

- Specification (IVOA recommendation)

Timetable:

- Specification as formal working draft by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2004.
- Specification as proposed recommendation by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004.
- Specification as recommendation shortly after the Pune meeting.

## ***Work package: conformance to WS-I basic profile***

Current documents:

- Initial presentation at May interoperability workshop  
(<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpMay2004GridAndWebServices>)

Documents due:

- Statement of goals of conformance (IVOA note)
- Reports on conformance of SOAP toolkits (IVOA note)
- Reports on conformance of implementations of IVOA standard services (IVOA note)

Timetable:

- Goals document complete by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2004.
- Toolkits report complete by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004.
- Implementations report issued by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004 (this document will have little content in the first issue since we will have few implementation by that date).
- Toolkits report to be reissued every six months (until all the toolkits are compliant).
- Implementation tests to be repeated and report reissued every six months.

## ***Work package: asynchronous activities profile***

Status:

- Consensus on the basic form of the profile.
- At Boston, consensus that WS-RF would be a suitable infrastructure for this profile.
- Post-Boston, some concerns as to whether WS-CAF is better than WS-RF.
- Currently waiting for trade-off studies of WS-RF against WS-CAF

Current documents:

- Initial proposal  
(<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/AsynchronousActivityProposal>)

Documents due:

- Non-normative introduction, discussing the problem and the available technology (IVOA note)
- Normative profile, selecting allowed technology (IVOA recommendation)

Timetable:

- Rework initial proposal into introduction (with more trade studies) by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004.
- Profile as formal working draft by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2004.
- Revised working draft of profile, introduction following Pune meeting.
- Profile as proposed recommendation by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004.

## ***Work package: single sign-on***

Status:

- Consensus at Boston on the use of digital signatures as the means of authentication.
- Fragile consensus at Boston on using community services inside the IVO as the basis for the PKI. Some concerns over the details have emerged.
- Uncertainties as to how the proposed system should be made interoperable with other systems, notably GSI and Shibboleth. The use of SAML in Shibboleth may be something our profile should adopt.
- Currently blocked, waiting for better understanding of interoperability issues.

Current documents:

- Initial proposal (<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/SingleSignOnProposal>)

Documents due:

- Non-normative introduction (IVOA note)
- Specification of messages ('wire protocol') (IVOA recommendation)
- Specification of public-key infrastructure (PKI) (IVOA recommendation)

Timetable:

- WG internal drafts of all three documents by 7<sup>th</sup> July 2004.
- Formal working drafts of all documents by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004.
- Revised working drafts following Pune meeting.
- Proposed recommendation of wire protocol by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004.

## ***Work package: VOSpace***

Status:

- New work package, adopted at the Boston meeting.

Current documents:

- none so far.

Documents due:

- Description of scope (IVOA note)
- Interface specification (IVOA recommendation)

Timetable:

- Scope document issued by 1st August 2004.
- Formal working draft of specification by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004.