The SWITCHaai Federation in Switzerland

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SWITCHaai – Current Status

- Fully operational since autumn 2005
- 13 Identity Providers – Shibboleth 1.3
- 80+ Service Providers – Shibboleth 1.2 & 1.3
- 16’000 frequent users, primarily using e-learning apps
- 7 Federation Partners
  - Elsevier & Partners of EuQoS in AU, DE, FR, IT, PL
- Two recently added Service Providers
  - SWITCHeconf portal  http://econf.switch.ch/
  - ScienceDirect
Coverage:
140’000 users (> 70% of all) in Swiss higher education
The SWITCHaai Resource Registry

**Goal**  
Scalable metadata management  
Support for administrative processes

**Input**  
SP details (incl. attribute requirements and intended audience)  
IdP details (incl. attribute availability)

**Output**  
Federation metadata  
Attribute Release Policy templates for updateARP script

- **Resource Registration Authority (RRA)**  
In analogy to RA for a CA. Resources need RRA approval to be included.

- **Implementation specifically for SWITCHaai**  
uses PHP/MySQL, has a BSD license

Outlook

• Focus for 2006
  • adding more IdPs – *mainly smaller sites*
  • Library-oriented use cases

• SWITCH participates in EGEE2 (April 2006 - March 2008)
  Leverage existing identities from a Shibboleth Federation for
  access to gLite based resources

• Pilot Study on how AAI could be extended with Accounting
  • [http://www.switch.ch/aai/docs/AAI_Accounting_Pilot_Study.pdf](http://www.switch.ch/aai/docs/AAI_Accounting_Pilot_Study.pdf)
  • Next step: pilot projects until autumn 2006
European Inter-Federation Cooperation

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Shibboleth Federations in Europe

- Established national Federations
  Finland (HAKA) and Switzerland (SWITCHaai)

- National Federations getting ready
  UK: setting up in progress
  Denmark, Germany, Sweden (SWIF): preparation underway

- Coordination around regional activities
  Belgium, France (CRU)

- Growing interest in further countries, but no decisions taken yet.

- Established non-Shib Federations
  - Norway (FEIDE using Moria)
  - Spain (RedIRIS using PAPI)
  - The Netherlands (SURFnet using A-Select)
Federation coordination in Europe

- **REFEDS** – Research and Education Federations
  Looking into ways to federate federations
  - [http://www.terena.nl/activities/refeds/](http://www.terena.nl/activities/refeds/)

- **SCHAC** – Schema Harmonization Committee
  - [http://www.terena.nl/activities/tf-emc2/schac.html](http://www.terena.nl/activities/tf-emc2/schac.html)

- **eduGAIN** – GÉANT2 Authorization and Authentication Infrastructure
  A research activity of GÉANT2, working on federating federations
  - [http://www.geant2.net/](http://www.geant2.net/)  *search there for eduGAIN*

- **shib-enable** – an Internet2 mailing list
  Discussion between vendor and federation reps on topics which service providers face when having to deal with multiple federations.
Who is involved in shib-enable?

• Federations
  • From Federations all over Europe, AU and US
    • Federation level Shibboleth techies
    • Policy makers
    • National licensing participants
    • People able to speak “on behalf of their national federation”

• Commercial Information Vendors
  • Who are actively working with these Federations
  • The vendor names:
    • EBSCO
    • Elsevier Science Direct
    • CSA
    • MetaPress/Springer Online
    • JSTOR
    • ArtSTOR
    • OVID
    • Thomson Science
    • Ex Libris (sfx, Metalib, etc)
Going forward - Elsevier Status

- Increasingly supporting US institutes via InQueue/InCommon

- UK (SDSS): in production with LSE, preparing to roll out to all federation members

- Various stages of pilot testing with five European federations
  - The Netherlands (SURFnet): completed pilot with one university, move to production under discussion
  - Switzerland (SWITCHaai): currently conducting pilot with one university
  - Finland (HAKA): about to enter into pilot
  - France (CRU): about to enter into pilot
  - Greece (HEAL-Link): about to enter into pilot

- Interest shown from: Denmark, Germany, Sweden, etc.
What drives the work?

- Develop common approaches
  - E.g. attribute definitions

- Prioritize the vendors
- Gain leverage with the vendors
- Bring brainpower to bear on difficult problems
- Provide vendors with a sounding board, and the confidence to proceed
- Facilitate vendors working together
- Facilitate Federations working together
- Discuss Federation level strategies

- Create momentum
What has been accomplished so far?

- The participation of the Federations
- Common attribute definitions
  - eduPerson entitlement values for:
    - “this person is a faculty, student, staff, or library walkin, and eligible under our contract”
    - “here is a vendor supplied userid, and this person is authorized to use it”
- Prioritized vendor list
- Progress with many of the vendors in the “top 15”
  - Elsevier Science Direct
  - EBSCO
  - JSTOR
  - OVID (OvidWeb and WebSPIRS)
  - Thomson Science
  - Springer (Metapress)
  - Ex Libris (Metalib, sfx)
  - EZProxy
  - Wiley
  - Taylor and Francis
  - Thomson Gale
  - Blackwell
  - Institute of Physics Publishing
  - Proquest
  - Muse (Johns Hopkins)
  - Nature (Highwire)
  - OUP (Oxford University Press)
  - American Chemical Society
Future topics for discussion

• Home site discovery
  • In a multi-federation world

• Inter-Federation, beyond commercial providers
  • Use cases
  • Technical approaches
  • Policy and attribute mapping

• Validate Approaches
  • eduroam with attributes
  • Delegation profile