



« *networking the networkers* »

# TERENA TASK FORCES

## TF-Storage: Task Force on Storage Issues

**As Grid and cloud computing paradigms become more widely considered and as more national research and education networking organisations provide richer services and support to their users, questions about storage services, such as disaster recovery or backup archiving, and related issues have been demanding more attention.**

**In February 2008, the TERENA Technical Committee approved a new technical task force on Storage (TF-Storage) to address these issues. This coordinates the development of open and interoperable data storage and management infrastructures and services among national research and education networks and academic and research institutions.**

TF-Storage continues discussions about opportunities and areas for collaboration on data storage services that began with two meetings in 2007. It focuses its activities on the TERENA constituency. Since there are many activities already underway related to Grids, which have a storage component, the task force coordinates with these activities to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

### **Focus**

To date, the topics that have drawn the greatest interest are the taxonomy of storage technology and middleware, backup and/or disaster recovery services, and a 'Poste Restante' or large file transfer service that would provide more advanced functions including content security, federated access and user-friendly web interfaces.

To keep the task force participants informed about current (commercial) storage trends, a number of vendor and storage service providers are invited to the meeting to present their storage products and solutions.

### **Objectives**

- Provide a forum for exchanging and promoting ideas, experience and knowledge.
- Identify and promote the use of common standards, techniques, technologies and procedures in the field of data storage that are relevant to the education and research community.
- Be a focal point for (the gathering of) storage expertise within the European educational and research environment.
- Identify, coordinate and, where possible, collaborate on the development of storage services.

- Work with the NREN AAI federations (e.g. TF-EMC2) to find possible solutions for authorisation and authentication.
- Liaise with other communities such as the Grid environment, HPC, Internet2, and APAN on storage activities.

### **WHAT IS TERENA?**

**TERENA is the association in which Europe's research networking organisations, research institutes, equipment vendors and telecommunications operators can meet, exchange information and experience, and collaborate on a range of activities.**

**TERENA activities include projects, task forces and events. They are open to any organisation or individual who can offer appropriate expertise, manpower or other resources.**

**For further information, or to join our mailing list, please visit:**  
[www.terena.org/tf-storage](http://www.terena.org/tf-storage)

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