

## **Task Force Storage**

(second term)

### **Terms of Reference**

1. A Task Force is established under the auspices of the TERENA Technical Programme to provide a forum for exchanging and promoting ideas, experience and knowledge, as well as fostering collaborations among National Research and Education Networks and academic and research institutions on the topic of data storage, data management and cloud storage.

The Task Force will be known as TF-Storage

2. The aims of this Task Force are:

- a. to provide a forum for exchanging and promoting ideas, experience and knowledge related to data storage, data management and cloud storage;
- b. to identify, and promote the use of common standards, techniques, (new) technology and procedures in the field of data storage that are relevant to the educational and research community;
- c. to be a focal point for (the gathering of) storage expertise within the European educational and research environment;
- d. to identify, coordinate and - where possible - collaborate on the development of storage services;
- e. to liaise with TF-EMC2 on the topic of using the NREN AAI federations with non-web storage services;
- f. to liaise with SNIA and other communities such as the grid environment, HPC, the cloud environment, Internet2, APAN on storage and cloud activities.

The Task Force will focus its activities on the TERENA constituency and as it recognizes there are many activities already under way in this constituency related to grids which have a storage and/or cloud component will work with these activities to prevent unnecessary duplication of effort.

3. The Task Force will be open to any individual who can offer appropriate expertise, manpower, equipment or services. Participation will be on a voluntary basis.

4. The Chair of the Task Force will be Jan Meijer (UNINETT) who will be responsible for preparing the agenda of each meeting, and for coordinating the work of the Task Force. He will also be responsible for ensuring that the agreed deliverables are produced. Sub groups may be formed as deemed appropriate.

5. The secretary of the Task Force will be appointed by TERENA. He/she will be responsible for taking the minutes at each meeting, and for making logistical arrangements as necessary.

6. The Task Force will operate with a 2-year mandate, starting February 2010. A report on the progress of the Task Force and the results achieved will be made at the TERENA Networking Conference 2011. The mandate of the Task Force may be renewed by the TERENA Technical Committee (TTC). If the mandate is not renewed, the Task Force will be dissolved. The Task Force may also be dissolved if the TTC considers that it is making insufficient progress or that its activities are no longer useful or relevant, or if the Task Force chair resigns and no replacement can be found.

7. The Task Force will meet at approximately four-monthly intervals. Physical meetings will be held at various locations, taking care to reduce overall costs to participants by co-locating with other events. Video conferencing facilities will be available whenever

possible for these meetings. Video or audio conferencing facilities can be used for regular or intermediate meetings.

8. Reports and other results of the Task Force will be placed in the public domain, with the exception of information that is subject to a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

9. The Task Force will have a mailing list (**storage@terena.org**) for communication between the participants. The mailing list archive will be publicly available.

### List of Work Items

Following NRENs and research organisations have expressed their willingness to contribute to the work items and deliverables:

BELNET, CSC, CESNET, GRNET, HEAnet, NIIF, PSNC, RedIRIS, SUNET, SURFnet, SWITCH, UNINETT  
ICS-FORTH, NDGF, NWO-NCF, STFC-Rutherford Laboratory, T-Systems Solutions for Research, Cisco Systems

The following work items are considered relevant to the Task Force:

- a. **Forum for storage and cloud:** organize interesting talks with speakers both from within and outside the TF-Storage participants to disseminate storage and cloud knowledge and expertise.  
*Coordinated by Jan Meijer, UNINETT*
- b. **Overview of (national) activities and deployments:** gather information on relevant projects, activities and deployments and publish on the TF-Storage wiki on an ongoing basis, providing a technology watch function.  
*Led by Brian Boyle, HEAnet*
- c. **File sharing services:** coordinate the development and deployment of the (web based) file sharing software such as FileSender, the Swiss DocExchange and NorduShare.  
*Coordinated by Jan Meijer, UNINETT*
- d. **Measuring storage performance:** maintain the storage performance measurement cookbook and investigate a cookbook for doing solid measurements on storage performance.  
*Led by Maciej Brzezniak, PSNC*
- e. **Storage and AAI:** Liaise with the TF-EMC2 on the ongoing work to use NREN AAI federations with storage services. The TF-Storage will not work on solving the problem but will assist the TF-EMC2 in its efforts.  
*Leif Johansson (SUNET) offered to liaise with various AAI communities*

New work items may be added as the Task Force sees fit.