Content:

The European Middleware Initiative (EMI) is the collaboration of the three middleware providers, ARC, gLite and UNICORE, and other software providers. It aims deliver a consolidated set of middleware components for deployment in EGI and PRACE, extend the interoperability and integration between grids and other computing infrastructures, strengthen the reliability and manageability of the services and establish a sustainable model to support, harmonise and evolve the middleware, ensuring it responds to the requirements of the scientific communities relying on it.

EMI will carry out the collective task of supporting and maintaining the middleware for their user communities. In order to enable the infrastructures to achieve this task, the middleware services must play an important role and mark a clear transition to more sustainable models by adopting best-practice service provision methods as the ITIL processes or the ISO guidelines for software quality and validation. Repositories of packages, status reports, quality metrics and test and compliance programs are created and maintained in support of the project software engineering activities and to other providers of applications and services based on the EMI middleware.

This article reports on the initial of work of the EMI project and the solutions adopted for the software releases, development processes, quality compliance metrics and distribution repositories.

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