The (inter)Federation Business

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R&E community engaged in identity federations for years:
- Remote eLearning
- Access to publishers
- Sharing of resources

Growth brings also issues:
- As you will see....
FEDERATIONS… WEREN’T THEY TALKING ABOUT THIS ALREADY IN STAR TREK * ?

NAH HERE THEY MEAN A FORM OF GOVERNANCE

MAYBE WE SHOULD REVIEW SOME TERMS FIRST
ONE SET OF CREDENTIALS TO ACCESS MULTIPLE SERVICES!

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Identity Federations

Adobe connect
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Other services

SAML
Legal agreements

Federation
Enable users from federation A to access services offered by federation B;

Requires integration of technology and policies;

Requires agreements among the participating federations;
Inter-federation for Network Access

- (inter)federation technical infrastructure based on hierarchy of RADIUS Servers and 802.1X;
- Trust between members established via the eduroam policy;
- Global eduroam Governance Committee to ensure coordination among different continents
  - Led by TERENA
Where is eduroam
eduGAIN entities are a subset of national federations (via opt in)

- Entities have to ask to be included in eduGAIN
- Profiles and policies to harmonize environment
Who is in eduGAIN
WHAT'S REFEDS THEN?
Some Dates

2004

2010

Cheers For Your Baby Girl

TERENA

InCommon

Internet Society

SURFnet

Australian Access Federation

CSUNet

IRIS

CESNET

SWITCH

RedIRIS

JISC

GARR

NORDUnet
Why, What, Who

Why:
- To give a ‘voice’ to the R&E community
- Millions of users across thousands of institutions in 30 countries!

What:
- To harmonise best practices, policies & technologies
- To make federations more user-friendly
- To ease inter-federation
- To influence directions in the global identity space

Who:
- Experts in the identity technologies
- Identity Federations around the globe
- User-groups
- Service providers
Governance

REFEDs Participants

REFEDs SC

WHO
- https://refeds.org/about_work.html

WHAT
- Approves yearly plan
- Monitors execution
- Advice REFEDS

REFEDs Workplan

Volunteer work

Funded work

REFEDs Sponsors
Funding used to finance the workplan

Workplan 2011-2012:
https://refeds.org/docs/refedsworkplan11-12FINAL.pdf
SO FEDERATIONS REALLY WORK!

EHM....YES....BUT.....LIFE IS STILL DIFFICULT FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS
The Issues

✧ Harmonisation of attributes
✧ Different data protection laws:
   ➢ Not easy within Europe
   ➢ And then US, Australia, Asia
✧ Different business models:
   ➢ To charge or not to charge that’s the problem
✧ Liability insurances for some federations
✧ Different legal contracts

Just to give some examples
Now think about all this when inter-federating!
HOW DO REFEDS HELP?

THEY TRY TO STANDARDISE FEDERATIONS PROCEDURES AND POLICIES TO INCREASE USABILITY OF FEDERATIONS
Some Work Items

Barriers for Service Providers
(Nicole Harris, JISC Advance)

https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/Barriers_for_Service_Providers

Attribute Release WG
(Steven Carmody, Internet 2)

https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/REFEDS_Attribute_release_wg

PEER (Public EndPoint Entities Registry)
(Leif Johansson, NORDUNET)

https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/PEER
Barriers for Service Providers

- **Multiple legal documents**
  Common clauses but presented in different ways

- **Charging Fees**
  Different federations = different business model

- **Data Protection**
  Different legal requirements in different countries.

- And there is more!

https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/Barriers_for_Service_Providers
Attribute Release WG – Goals

✧ Find an approach to the data protection/privacy liability risks and exposures faced by IDPs and SPs in the worldwide Higher R&E environment

✧ Find a scalable way to managing attribute release policies

✧ Provide recommendations for GUIs and business practices to meet legal and regulatory requirements
The IdP is responsible for releasing users’ information

Most of the attributes are about user personal information:

- Services should only require necessary attributes;
- Users should be informed on what attributes are released;

eduGAIN approach: ask SP to make a declaration to indicate compliance with privacy laws:

INFORM CONSENT!
Almost finalised recommendations online on the REFEDS wiki:

- https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/Technical_specifications_on_metadata_elements_and_IdP_attribute_release_GUI
Conclusions

✧ REFEDS work is relevant not only to R&E community:
   ➢ But to all working in the identity space;

✧ REFEDS monitor EU directives on data protection and all standard technologies:
   ➢ And tries to provide recommendations;

✧ REFEDS results can benefit you:
   ➢ Watch the www.refeds.org space

✧ Let us know your use-cases and how you solve them!
TERENA Networking Conference 2012

Networking to Services

Keynote speakers:
Hilmar Veigar Pétursson, CCP
Geoff Huston, APNIC
Nicole Harris, JISC Advance
Jan-Martin Lowendahl, Gartner Research
Jacob Appelbaum, University of Washington
Leslie Daigle, Internet Society (ISOC)

21 to 24 May 2012
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