

The SIENA initiative takes European Cloud infrastructure forward with Cloudscape III

Cloudscape III brings together e-Science users, e-Government specialists, public infrastructure providers, commercial offerings and standards organisations for two productive days in Brussels, forming a comprehensive look on how Europe can propel its cloud infrastructure.



"The potential benefits of cloud computing in business, public services and scientific research are widely recognised. Efforts like the SIENA standardisation roadmap will be very useful in making these benefits materialise."

Robert Madelin Director General DG-INF SO

Brussels, 17 March 2011 - The SIENA Initiative partners hosted in Brussels this week *Cloudscape III: Taking European Cloud Infrastructure Forward*, a collection of dynamic plenary and roundtable sessions geared to stimulate the potential of cloud computing outside of its common industry-only context. Building on the momentum of Cloudscape I and II, the annual workshop delved deeply into a variety of topics centred on the continued evolution of Europe's e-Infrastructures and the public application of cloud computing.

SIENA (Standards and Interoperability for e-Infrastructures Implementation Initiative), funded by the European Commission (INF SO/F3), brought a packed agenda featuring over 30 diverse speakers and panellists, the event tackled cloud computing in several domains, including e-Science, e-Government, public infrastructure, commercial offerings and standards organisations. Connecting these providers and user communities are common issues that affect all involved: performance, security, legal issues, data privacy and - most prominent at Cloudscape - standards and interoperability.

Standardisation and interoperability are linking enablers that will help drive both e-Infrastructures and cloud computing to their full potential. To arrive closer to this potential, Cloudscape is proud to introduce a first version of an evolving *SIENA European Roadmap on Grid and Cloud Standards for e-Science and Beyond*, produced by a committed team of international experts which make up the Roadmap Editorial Board (REB).

This roadmap document has also been propelled by the use cases that are featured at Cloudscape III, helping to gauge where we are in terms of the goals and direction it puts forth. Over 20 use cases and position papers collected for the event are available in full at the SIENA Channel (www.sienainitiative.eu), along with speaker bios and additional material. Further content, including presentations and executive summary, will be uploaded promptly after the event's completion.



To launch these fruitful sessions over the next few days, Cloudscape opened with an introduction by Robert Madelin, DG Information Society and Media Director of the European Commission. As the agenda's themes transcend Europe, SIENA also welcomed NIST's Senior Executive for Cloud Computing, Dawn Leaf, to show a comparative perspective from the U.S. Federal Government.

The SIENA partners are confident that Cloudscape III continue the annual tradition of bringing together the full spectrum of cloud computing's industrial, scientific and standards communities for dynamic and productive discussion, as well as forming new and lasting collaborations.

About the SIENA Project

The SIENA project is a six-member, pan-European consortium representing enterprise, standards organisations, and academic institutions:

- Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC), Spain
- European Chapter of the Open Grid Forum EEIG (OGF.eeig), UK
- The Chancellor, Masters & Scholars of the University of Oxford - Oxford e-Research Centre, UK
- ATOS Origin, Spain
- National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN), Italy
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany

The main strategic objective of SIENA is to accelerate and co-ordinate the adoption and evolution of interoperable Distributed Computing Infrastructures through engagement with industry, standards development organisations and major stakeholders to forge community agreements on best practices and standards for distributed computing.

Specifically, SIENA seeks to:

- I. Drive forward the development and adoption of interoperability and standards for e-Infrastructure implementation in relation to the European DCI community.
- II. Develop the future research infrastructure scenario through road-mapping exercises in line with requirements from both enterprise and research, connecting into relevant SDOs to drive forward the production of relevant standards and best practices.
- III. Support, plan and organise a series of outreach events comprising two roadmap workshops in Europe and two Cloudscape events.

The main output of the project will be the *“European Roadmap on Grid and Cloud Standards for e-Science and beyond”* through close liaison with the European Commission.

More information can be found on the SIENA Channel (www.sienainitiative.eu), also a dynamic repository for distributed computing infrastructure content.