

Dear EGEE-III project members,

I hope you have all enjoyed excellent holidays and send you all my best wishes for the coming year.

As we begin 2009 the project turns its focus to a smooth transition from EGEE to the European Grid Initiative. Later this month, an all-activity meeting in Brussels will start developing the detailed plans for each activity to ensure that all is in place when EGEE ends in Spring 2010.

During the 4th User Forum in Catania, Italy, 2-6 March, the implementation plan will be further refined, with several EGEE-hosted workshops dedicated to transitioning. The program is co-organized with Open Grid Forum and OGF-Europe. The work of these standardisation bodies will be crucial to the success of EGI. This event will give grid researchers and end-users the opportunity to follow and contribute to standardisation developments.

Additionally, this annual User Forum is the premier event for showcasing scientific results enabled through the EGEE Grid. This year about 180 abstracts were received in topics ranging from archaeology to on-line video streaming.

If you have not already registered, waste no time. Early bird discounts end 31 January. Registration is open at:

<http://indico.cern.ch/confRegistrationFormDisplay.py?confId=40435>

Reviewers are nominated and the dates are set for the first EGEE-III review, to be held 24-25 June at CERN in the Council Chamber. The first rehearsal is scheduled for 3-4 June, the final dress rehearsal for 17-18 June. Both rehearsals will be held in the IT Auditorium at CERN with video conference facilities.

Again, as a reminder, on 26 September, on the way home from EGEE'08, EGEE-member Fabio Farina suffered a serious accident. A branch fell on him, and his spine was badly injured. A special account (UBS 0279-HU106832.4 Solidarité Farina Fabio) has been set up for those of you who would like to make a donation.

Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely,



Bob Jones
EGEE-III Project Director

The following events are organised by EGEE or will feature important EGEE contributions. For further related events please see www.isgtw.org.

Month	Event	LINK
March	2-6, 4th EGEE User Forum , Catania, Sicily, Italy	http://egee-uf4.eu-egee.org/
	16-30, 2nd International Winter School in Grid Computing (eLearning) , Edinburgh, United Kingdom	http://www.iceage-eu.org/iwsgc09/index.cfm

If you are organising EGEE-related events that you would like to publicise here please email Neasan O'Neill at n.oneill@qmul.ac.uk

