

Ticketing system integration

5th TF-NOC meeting

Dubrovnik 15/2-12

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- Background
- Current problems and solutions
- Our idea and implementation
- Conclusions

- Before and now
 - Early 1970's we started sending e-mails over the network
 - 2012 The most preferred way to communicate with external parties is still e-mail (see NOC survey).
- Two main ways to send out ticket info
 - Disseminate to only selected parties
 - Very restrictive and can be hard to manage
 - Disseminate everything to everyone
 - Can become very "spammy"

- Problems (primarily multi-domain)
 - Large customers (projects that buy services from several NRENs) have a hard time to get a complete overview of their service.
 - Coordinating troubleshooting on the same service in several domains is very challenging
 - Information sent between different organisations have to be manually added to ticket systems

- Current solutions (workarounds)
 - Implement a separate ticket system (LHCOPN)
 - Implement a separate organisation to collect and disseminate information (E2ECU)
- Both solutions have overhead
 - I.e. NOC have to use two ticket systems for same information or someone have to “manually” collect information from several sources and redistribute it

- Correlation of information in e-mails in the EGEE project
- Proved very hard
 - Due to loose constraints on e-mails almost every organisation use different structures, information and language in their e-mails
- However part of that work resulted in RFC6137 (NTTDM)
 - Some bias towards grid community but for most parts very generic and useful

- Forensic dropbox is a social tool for collaborative computer forensic analysis (fordrop.org)
- Targeted towards CERT community
- Distributed (bootstrap as centralized)
- Subscribe and publish using XMPP federations
- Messages are structured as Activity streams (JSON)
- Presentation at Terena 2012 conf.

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But it can do much more...
It's up to you to discover what and how.

Some of the results that Cuckoo generates are



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Discussion

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- Building on Fordrop to automate trouble ticket dissemination
- Done so far
 - RSS to Activity stream translator
 - Correlation of two different activity streams
- Next step
 - Create a module to automatically create/update/close tickets in RT

- Based on open standards
 - Activity streams is widely adopted (e.g. by Facebook and Google)
 - Several ticket systems already support RSS feeds
 - Many organisations already have their own XMPP servers
- More and more organisations are restructuring their ticket systems and introducing more structured data

- Think this is a good idea and want to help this initiative?
 - Let us know what kind of fields you have in your ticket system
 - Turn on a RSS feed from your system that we can experiment with

- We are still using the same method to disseminate information as the 1970's
- Current solutions makes coordination very challenging
- We now have the standards and technology to make something better
- You can with make a difference!

Questions?

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