



BEINGRID

BUSINESS EXPERIMENT FACT SHEET

BUSINESS EXPERIMENTS IN GRID

BE15 - Data Recovery Service

Even small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) today are very dependent on computer systems, either for their primary business or for their administration. At the same time, they often lack the time and expertise to properly protect their vital data from loss through calamities or other mishaps. Business Experiment BE15 realises a Data Recovery Service (DRS) aimed at Small to Medium Enterprises (SME's). The participating SME's form a Data Grid and the files to be backed up of one participant are sliced and distributed among the other participants. Each SME thus at the same time uses and participates in the Grid, making this application a unique community experiment.

Objectives

The objectives of this experiment are twofold.

1. Develop a working Data Recovery System that is fulfilling the backup requirements of the majority of SME's.
2. Develop a business model for a grid-based DRS-service.

The latter will entail the analysis of implementation issues in the deployment of such a grid based business model, resulting in a grid adoption and implementation model.

Activities

The activities of this experiment are separated into six tasks.

The first task is the overall management of the experiment. All general project activities of all partners are placed in this task.

The second task is requirements and design. This task starts with research into existing solutions, their technical architecture and business model. Together with a research into existing Grid middleware this will result in a survey of existing solutions and a definition of the business and functional requirements.

The third task is the implementation and integration. In this phase the software components required are obtained, the third party software is integrated, as well as the grid infrastructure. After the implementation/integration phase an integration test will be performed to verify that the system is installed and configured correctly.

The fourth task is the testing and validation. The goal of this task is to set-up the service and perform the actual experiments, collect data for analysis and decide on possible exploitation.

The fifth task is the business model and exploitation. Based on a comparison of a number of business cases (based on desk research and interviews) the critical issues for success will be determined for the DRS business model. This will lead to a recommended business model for a grid based DRS service. The recommended business model for a grid based DRS service will be designed and validated in the business experiment. Based on the validation and evaluation of the business experiment an exploitation plan will be written as part of this task.

Finally there is the task of dissemination; making the results known.





Industrial sectors

The current target group for the DRS are SME's in different markets; from food retail to music studio's. There is close co-operation with the Rabobank.

Added-value for industry

The current methods of data recovery used (or not used) by SME's have several drawbacks. The BE15 solution however, provides the following advantages:

- Distributed storage, increasing the reliability level.
- Co-operation model with low fee's for the participants.
- Fully automatic operation without disturbing the normal working of the computers.
- Confidence added by the Rabobank who acts as a trusted third party.
- Operating on an existing grid (AlmereGrid) using its expertise and experience.

Partners

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