

Presented to APAN31 + GLIF Feb 23, 2011 Hong Kong, CN

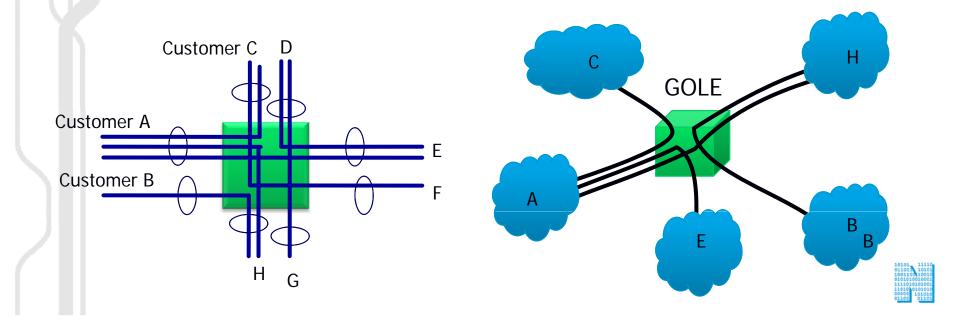


What is an "Automated GOLE"

What is a "GOLE" ?

GLIF Open Lightpath Exchange

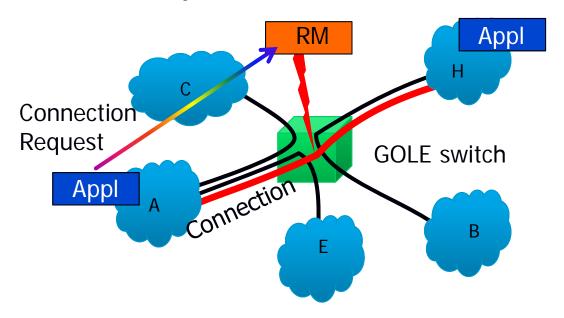
- GOLEs are telecommunications exchange points that offer "policy free" cross-connects among the exchange point customers.
- "Policy free" cross-connects mean that there are no conditions imposed by the Exchange Point governing whom can crossconnect to whom.



What is an "Automated GOLE"

Automated GOLEs:

- Utilize software based Resource Managers (RMs) to provision the cross-connects – rather than human operations and engineering personnel.
- The RMs interact with application software to remove the MITM (man in the middle)
- Dramatically reduces provisioning time
- Increases accuracy







GLIF Automated GOLE Pilot Project

- Motivation: GLIF participants see the writing on the wall:
 - Connection oriented (i.e. "Performance Guaranteed")
 [network] services must become an integral part of our services portfolio.
 - The growing community of GOLE operators have been exploring PG/lightpath services for many years, and now see automating the provisioning process as critical to delivering these services in the future.
- The Pilot Project was conceived to push the required automation technologies forward.



The "Pilot Project"

- Purpose: forward vision...
 - Organize the GLIF community to construct a global fabric of interconnected GOLEs
 - Incrementally deploy and refine real, persistent, multidomain, multi-service, performance guaranteed and dynamically provisioned lightpath services over this fabric...
 - Provide a persistent global fabric of automated PG services for real research applications
 - Develop a set of best practices for the engineering, operation, and policy administration of these services
- The Automated GOLE TF was established by GLIF in 2009
 - Current sunset is end of 2011 perhaps the participants will wish to continue the effort if it shows continued usefulness...



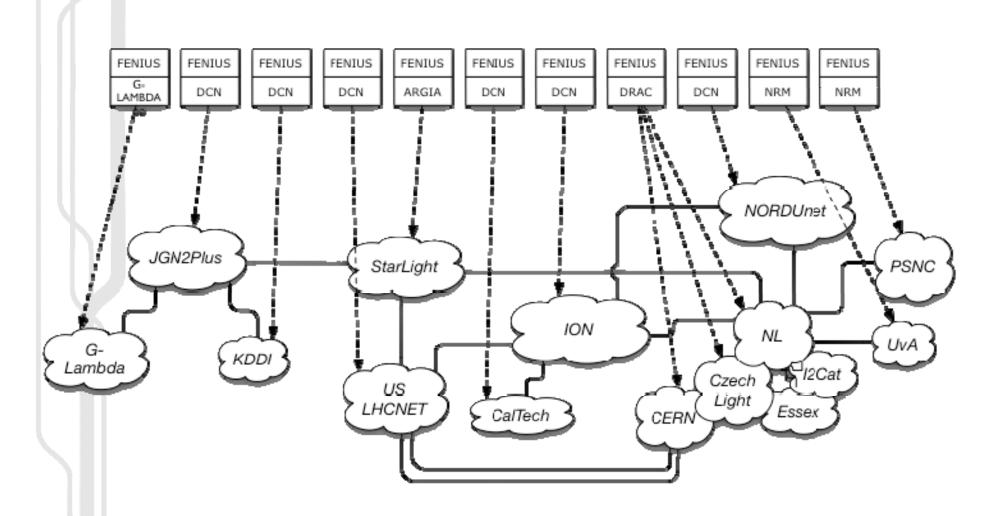
Automated GOLE Participants

- ESnet
- CANARIE
- NORDUnet
- NetherLight
- StarLight
- JGN2plus
- USLHCNET
- CERN
- CalTech

- KDDI
- G-Lambda
- MANLAN
- Internet2/ION
- UvA
- University of Essex
- CzechLight
- I2CAT



GLIF Automated GOLE Logical Topology





Progress to date:

- Due to efforts of former chair John Volbrecht (Internet2):
 - Assembled the first organized Automated-GOLE network.
 - Demonstrated at GLIF Fall2010 Geneva Oct 2010
 - The FENIUS protocol translator was deployed -> enabled the first inter-domain automated global VLAN provisioning as part of the 2010 demos
 - Vangelis Chariotakis (Esnet) lead the FENIUS software development effort
 - Thomas Tham (CANARIE) lead the pS "PINGER" demonstration software development
 - Enhanced the demonstration for Supercomputing2010- New Orleans, Nov 2010
- New chair took over Dec 2010: Jerry Sobieski (NORDUnet)
 - Audit of facilities and YADD at APAN/GLIF 2011 in Hong Kong.

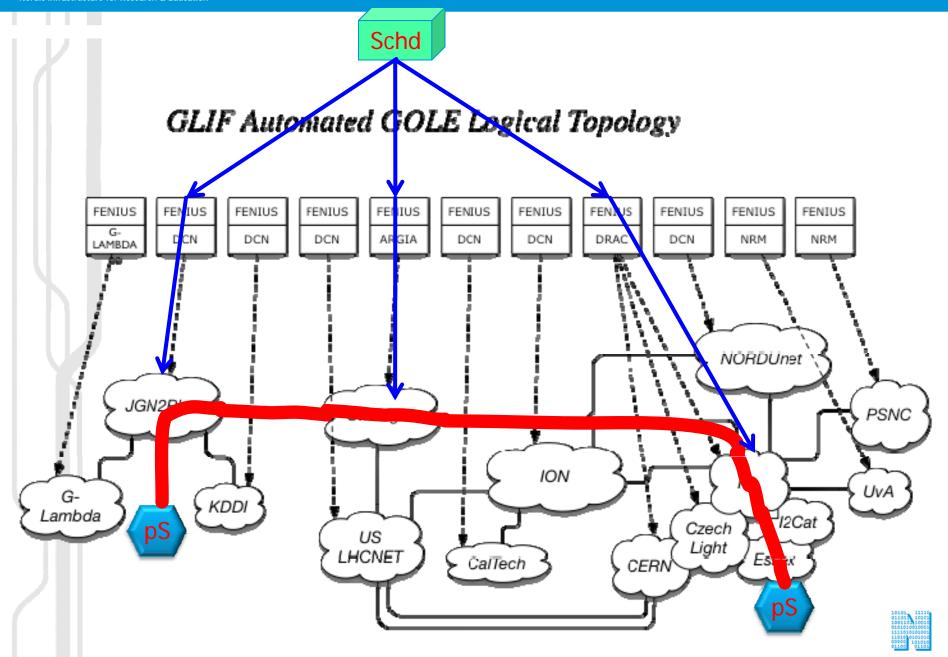


The GLIF Demonstration

- Today's demonstration shows lightpaths being established on a book-ahead (scheduled) basis.
 - The light paths eminate from a perfSonar servers attatched to four of the GOLEs
 - A total of 15 circuits are scheduled. A new circuit will be provisioned every minute and will stay in service for 15 minutes.
 - Each of the four orginating servers has an IP interface configured with the VLANs of each circuit request.
 - The perfSonar "pinger" tool pings the remote hosts that are expected to be attached at the far end of the connection.
 - The pings fail until the connection appears
 - An independent collector script is running that queries the ping results every 10 seconds. The results are displayed in a web page.

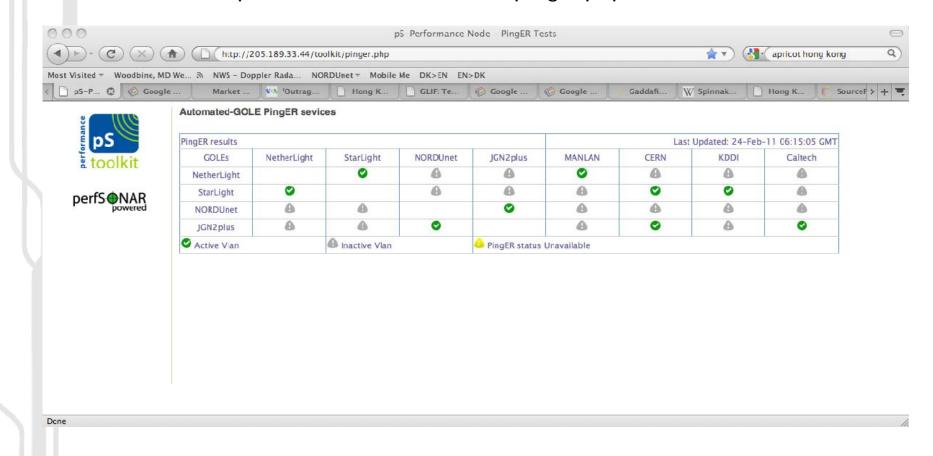


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The GLIF Demonstration

Pinger Display http://205.189.33.44/toolkit/pinger.php





Lessons Learnt (so far)

- Automated provisioning alone does not a "service" make:
 - We urgently need smart path finding...
 - ...Which means we urgently need valid and standardized topology information
 - Automated end point registration processes
 - Just delivering a connection to the end point does not make it useful E2E....
 - Intelligent orchestration of distributed applications is required
 - Agents, protocols, and APIs are needed to dynamicaly interact with the application and configure end systems.
 - Existing service verification and monitoring processes are not automated sufficiently nor appropriately for these emerging PG services.



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Lessons Learnt (so far)

- Application developers cannot [easily] use the existing provisioning tools
 - The APIs are incomplete, complex, and poorly defined
 - Deployment and installation of software is onerous
- GOLEs, like airplanes, deteriorate if you don't use them
 - Certificates expire, software gets updated (in some places, and not in others), assets get used or re-allocated
 - Implication: Do we need an "operational" aspect to the auto-GOLE fabric? (monitoring and exercising, PoC, ...?)
- There is no formal "service architecture" (yet)
 - We must express the service model to the app developers in a way that allows them to extrapolate how it *could* be used..(!!)



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Lessons Learnt (so far)

- Detailed planning and realistic analysis of technology maturity is crucial going in...
 - Adhoc systems design (while sometimes necessary) is not a substitue for detailed advanced engineering.
- We need additional software and systems experts
 - We have a single point of failure in Vangelis (!) as we transition to NSI we need to insure that we have broader support for the operational systems that we deploy.
 - We need code writers.



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Future Plans

- Deployment of NSI CS 1.0 is the foremost objective in 2011
 - The OGF Network Service Interface (NSI) WG has developed a framework for deployment and interoperation of Network Services.
 - The NSI Connection Service draft protocol standard v1.0 is scheduled to be available at end of March 2011.
 - We hope to have three initial implementations. SURFnet, Esnet, and NORDUnet have made noises...hopefully...
 - Target demonstration at Supercomputing 2011 Nov 2011,
 Seattle; dress rehearsal at GLIF Fall 2011 Sep 2011, Rio



Future Plans

Topology Exchange

- Fundumental next step... prerequisite for intelligent path finding.
- We will be working closely with the GLIF DToX WG to
 - Adopt a common [interim] topo description format
 - Develop rules for coherent autonomous topology processing in a distributed environment
 - Develop a communication model for distribution and exchange of topology

End System Orchestration

- End systems in distributed, multi-species applications must coordinate dynamic configuration processes.
- We will be looking at potential models for such services
 - Must include: network layer address negotiation, network service performance verification, long term application management, etc.



Future Plans

Dynamic End System Registration

- Simple, fool-proof/resistent mapping of new end systems to the network edge Service Termination Point (STP) to which it is connected.
 - "Magically", when a system is attached to a GOLE port, an autonegotiation will take place to register the name, port information, and other pertinent toplogy information.
 - This will improve ease of use for users, and address existing scaling issues for network operations teams.
- We want to simplify the management of the end systems this is critical to user adoption. Simple, simple, simple.
 - Ideally, we want a Plug-n-Play analogy for Automated GOLEs.
 - These autoconfiguration capabilities should also apply to GOLEs connecting to other GOLEs.



Obstacles:

- We have a massive and growing commitment of GOLEs that want to participate in this effort! This is GOOD!
 - 14 GOLES and probably 100,000 km of transport links!!!
- We need a coordinated approach to developing the software capabilities of a more mature service environment
- We need software development.
 - We can coordinate and federate these efforts, but to move forward we need to write code. Meetings, conf calls, and powerpoints are not enough.
- There is still a lot of design and architecting needed – this will be challenging and fun, but we need also to balance this with *implementation* of emerging consensus.

Participate

- If you or your organization are interested in participating in the Automated-GOLE Pilot Project, contact:
 - Automatedgole-pilot@internet2.edu
 - Or
 - jerry@nordu.net

