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# WLCG Http Proxy Discovery Task Force

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## Mandate

- Define the WLCG-wide standards for grid jobs to find out what HTTP proxy or proxies to use

## Rationale

- This problem has already been attempted to be solved in many different ways, none of them very completely, for example by CernVM, GlideinWMS, ATLAS site configurator, generator files for ATLAS & CMS, and now the Shoal [tool](#) for cloud proxies
- Having a standard would make it much easier for new applications to use local http proxy caches

## Members

- Doug Benjamin [tool](#) (ATLAS, added March 2015)
- Barry Blumenfeld [tool](#) (CMS)
- Jakob Blomer [tool](#) (CERN-PH-SFT)
- Brian Bockelman [tool](#) (CMS, OSG)
- Dan Bradley [tool](#) (CMS)
- John DeStefano [tool](#) (ATLAS, OSG)
- Alastair Dewhurst [tool](#) (ATLAS)
- Dave Dykstra [tool](#) (CMS, OSG), Chair
- Ian Gable [tool](#) (ATLAS)
- Costin Grigoras [tool](#) (ALICE, added July 2014)
- John Hover [tool](#) (ATLAS, OSG)
- Stefan Roiser [tool](#) (LHCb)

All members can be contacted at [wlcg-ops-coord-tf-httpproxydiscovery@cernNOSPAMPLEASE.ch](mailto:wlcg-ops-coord-tf-httpproxydiscovery@cern.ch)

## Task Overview

Task	Deadline	Progress	Affected VO	Affected Sites	Comment
Implement squid monitoring based on GOCDB/OIM	November 2014	100%	All	All	Done by Alastair Dewhurst
Get critical mass of sites registered in GOCDB/OIM	February 2015	100%	All	All	Done
Implement WPAD service <a href="http://wlcg-wpad.cern.ch/wpad.dat">wlcg-wpad.cern.ch/wpad.dat</a>	September 2016	100%	All	All	Done by Dave Dykstra.
Update CVMFS client to robustly support round-robin proxies	December 2014	100%	All	All	Tracked in JIRA ticket <a href="#">tool</a> Implemented for cvmfs 2.1.20

## Meetings

- Notes from 24 April 2013 meeting

## Presentations

- CHEP 2016 presentation describing the live WLCG WPAD service [↗](#) and published paper [↗](#)
- CHEP 2019 presentation describing shoal integration into WLCG WPAD [↗](#) and paper draft [↗](#)

## References

- This topic was discussed some in the SquidMonitoringTaskForce before it was determined to make a separate task force, particularly in this configuration information system proposal and this WLCG operations coordination meeting presentation [↗](#).
- Web Proxy Auto Discovery protocol [↗](#)
- Proxy Auto-Config file format [↗](#)
- pacparser library [↗](#)
- pacwget tool [↗](#)
- Frontier client retry strategy

## Proposal

- Proposed standards for http proxy discovery

## Agreement

The task force agreed to the standards in HttpProxyDiscoveryProposal, and the <http://wlcg-wpad.cern.ch/wpad.dat> [↗](#) service is now in operation. Strong negative feedback was received from the first site that attempted to implement <http://wpad/wpad.dat> [↗](#) (that is, CERN) so the task force agreed that clients would first try an additional URL <http://grid-wpad/wpad.dat> [↗](#). In addition, a <http://wlcg-wpad.fnal.gov/wpad.dat> [↗](#) service has been made available as an identical partner to the one in cern.ch.

In summary, WLCG clients SHOULD attempt to read Proxy Auto Config files from the following URLs:

`http://grid-wpad/wpad.dat; http://wpad/wpad.dat; http://wlcg-wpad.cern.ch/wpad.dat; http://wlcg-w`

In general they SHOULD be tried in that order, although clients MAY choose to reverse the order of the last two.

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This topic: LCG > HttpProxyDiscoveryTaskForce

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