

Access Grid Documentation Project Manifesto, First Draft For distribution at Access Grid Retreat, January, 2001

Below is a first draft of the manifesto for the proposed Access Grid Documentation Project (AGDP). It is perhaps best understood after viewing <http://www.linuxdoc.org/>, which serves as the model for the AGDP. It is also recommended to view Jennifer Teig von Hoffman's slides from the AG Technical Retreat, Corraling the Kitty Herd (available at <http://scv.bu.edu/~jtvh/talks/agdp.ppt>).

1. Overview

The Access Grid Documentation Project (AGDP) is working on developing free, high-quality documentation for the Access Grid (AG). We hope to establish a set of documentation that will be easy to use and search. This includes HOWTO documents, as well as longer manuals.

The AGDP owes a great debt of gratitude to the Linux Documentation Project (LDP), on whose model the AGDP has been created, and on whose manifesto our own manifesto is based. [Editor's note: We may want to put a copyright/license on this document, in which case we'd credit the LDP in a more formal way as well.]

The AGDP's goal is to create the canonical set of AG documentation. This documentation can be viewed online, downloaded, included on CD distributions, and printed in books. If you are interested in publishing any of the AGDP works, see the section "Publishing AGDP Documents" below.

The AGDP is essentially a loose team of volunteers with minimal central organization. Anyone who would like to help is welcome to join in this effort. We feel that working together informally and discussing projects on our mailing lists is the best way to go. When we disagree on things, we try to reason with each other until we reach an informed consensus.

2. Current projects and getting involved

If you would like to write a manual or HOWTO document, please see our list of available and in-development documents to see if one already exists on that topic. If so, you may contact the developer or maintainer and offer to help. If there is no such document listed, you may want to write one; please see the AGDP Author's Guide for more details.

[Editor's note: A list of existing AG documentation of which we're currently aware is included in the "Welcome to the Community" document on the AG alpha release CD-ROM; we invite the authors of these documents to submit them to the AGDP. A similar list will be made available on the AG and AGDP web sites.]

Other tasks include checking the documents for clarity and errors, improving our website, and assisting in the day-to-day management of the AGDP. If you are interested in any project other than developing documentation, please contact the current AGDP coordinator, [Person X]. [Editor's Note: Until we've sorted out how to handle day-to-day management, you can contact Jennifer Teig von Hoffman, jtvh@bu.edu.]

3. Documentation conventions

[Information goes here about file format(s) required for initial submissions, as well as revisions.]

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6. Publishing AGDP Projects

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