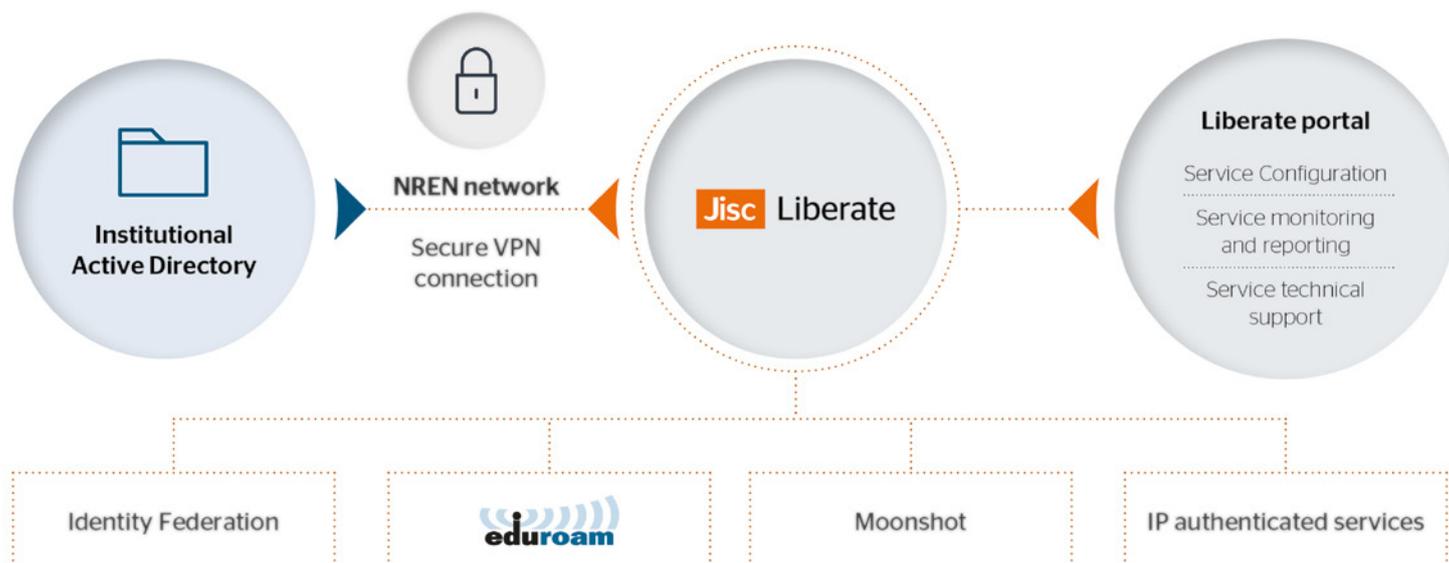


LIBERATE: AN ACCESS MANAGEMENT SOLUTION THAT FREES UP TIME AND SAVES MONEY

Secure access management underpins research and education. A robust approach to it is vital and, in the UK, institutions are starting to use Liberate, Jisc's new access management solution. We developed it for users of our community and it is a technologically advanced, comprehensive service that provides a range of benefits that aren't available from commercial providers of outsourced solutions.

Liberate provides a gateway between the institution's active directory and NRENs access management services



At TNC18 in June we reached an agreement with GÉANT that paved the way for Liberate to be included in the GÉANT partner services portfolio. Now, we want to partner with operators of other NRENs to offer Liberate to their communities.

Shared services

We are developing a portfolio of shared services to give research and education proven, reliable and value-for-money solutions that can be deployed quickly. Liberate is one of these.

We have worked closely with universities and research organisations to design and build this fully managed access management solution, making sure it meets their needs. For users, it eliminates the hassle of having to deploy, configure and manage IdP and SP solutions such as Shibboleth, RADIUS and Moonshot for themselves.

The University of Glasgow's John Watt, IT manager for identity management, has found that Liberate offers significant cost and efficiency savings both during set-up and afterwards:

"Deploying Shibboleth from scratch can take weeks or even months but with Liberate someone with experience could get it all up and running in an hour."

Once it's set up, he says, "the time needed for ongoing management is negligible. The only time interaction might be necessary would be when you are changing your federation-wide configuration. You only need to alter the portal parameters to do this, which would take a matter of seconds."

Liberate

Liberate provides a gateway between an organisation's active directory and their NREN's access management services. It's fully interoperable with all the access management solutions that NRENs promote, including Identity Federation, eduroam and Moonshot and it also offers an authenticated web proxy to support services that use IP address authentication. It is the only access management solution that supports all four.

We deliver Liberate from public cloud provider Amazon Web Services (AWS) using our own platform. It will:

- **Authenticate** an individual's credentials against their institution's Microsoft Active Directory or other lightweight directory access protocol (LDAP) directory

- **Authorise** individuals via membership of groups that are defined in the institution's directory
- **Provide** user attributes to services based on policies that have been determined by group membership
- **Support** reporting of user authentications and use of services

As a partnering NREN, you'll offer the service to your own users, maintaining control of your customer relationship and all customer-facing activities including first-line technical support. We will deliver the service and provide you with second and third level support - and also keep Liberate patched and updated to ensure that security is maintained at all times.

Words
Justin Knight,
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Like to find out more?

Read more about Liberate on our website: jisc.ac.uk/liberate

Contact the project team:
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