EDUTEAMS - "MANAGING VIRTUAL TEAMS MADE EASY"

eduTEAMS enables researchers, students and other members of the research and education community to create and manage virtual teams, and securely access and share common resources and services - using federated identities from eduGAIN and other trusted Identity Providers

Introduction

International collaboration has always been at the heart of academic research. During the last decade, eduGAIN has enabled millions of researchers to access participating services with the same accounts that they use at their home organisations. The success of eduGAIN has led many groups to investigate how researchers can use their federated identities and eduGAIN as a foundation to enhance their digital collaborative environments across organisational and national boundaries.

AARC produced a Blueprint Architecture (BPA), to enable federated access in distributed research collaborations. The BPA captures and streamlines a design pattern that has emerged as the best practice for implementing interoperable authentication and authorisation solutions for accessing and sharing resources in international research collaborations and infrastructures. GÉANT, being one of the core contributors in the design of the AARC BPA, has fully embraced it and has developed the eduTEAMS service for the benefits of its community.

eduTEAMS

eduTEAMS enables research communities to securely access and share common resources and services. Leveraging the ubiquitous presence of eduGAIN federated identities, eduTEAMS enables communities to securely authenticate and identify their users, organise them in groups, assign them roles and centrally manage access rights for their resources.

As research is not confined only to the research institutes and universities, eduTEAMS caters also for users coming from industry as well as for citizen scientists who may not have access to eduGAIN. It does so by supporting a wide range of non-eduGAIN identity providers, such as social networks, community identity providers, corporate federated identity management systems and other platforms that can provide federated user identities.

eduTEAMS is comprised of four components:

1. **eduTEAMS Proxy & Identity Hub**

   The Proxy is an SP-IdP Proxy with first-class support for the OIDC and SAML protocols. It can connect SAML Identity Providers, OIDC Providers, SAML Service Providers, OIDC Resource Providers thus enabling teams to use their preferred identity sources and services regardless of the authentication protocol. The Proxy is responsible for aggregating the user attributes from various identity sources, enforcing community and platform wide policies and providing one persistent user identifier and a harmonised set of attributes to the connected services.

2. **eduTEAMS Discovery Service (DS)**

   The Discovery service provides a web interface for users to search and select their preferred identity provider. The Discovery Service is integrated with the eduTEAMS Proxy and Identity Hub which enables it to operate with all identity providers supported by eduTEAMS in the same way.

3. **eduTEAMS Metadata Service (MDS)**

   The Metadata Service aggregates the metadata of all the SAML Identity and Service Providers that are connected to the platform. It does so by aggregating the metadata feed of eduGAIN, while allowing the platform administrators to configure also other local or remote metadata sources. The MDS is an essential component of the platform directly connected to the eduTEAMS Proxy.

4. **eduTEAMS Membership Management Services (MMS)**

   The MMS allows users to create virtual organisations (VOs), manage these VOs, invite users to collaborate, manage registration flows, organise users into groups, and assign them roles and resource entitlements as needed within the collaborations. Currently, users can choose between three options for their VO: COmanage, HEXAA and Perun. Communities can pick the one which fits best to the organisational and operational models. All three are fully integrated and available on the eduTEAMS platform.

The eduTEAMS Offerings

There are three eduTEAMS offerings:

1. **eduTEAMS Service**

   The eduTEAMS Service is provided by GÉANT to small and medium sized communities. The eduTEAMS Service supports multiple communities on the same platform and is ideal for communities that want to get started with their collaborations, taking full advantage of the federated access without having to deal with the complexity of operating and supporting their own AAI. The eduTEAMS Service provides everything required in order to securely collaborate and use services such as those available to the GÉANT community and the European Open Science Cloud.

2. **eduTEAMS Dedicated**

   For communities requiring full control of their AAI, GÉANT can host and operate their own, dedicated AAI service powered by the eduTEAMS technology. Communities using eduTEAMS Dedicated can rely on the operational capabilities and expertise of GÉANT, while they are in full control of the policies, configuration and branding of their AAI.

3. **eduTEAMS Bespoke**

   There are communities that have requirements that do not align with, or, go beyond what the eduTEAMS service and eduTEAMS Dedicated packaged offerings can provide. For those communities that require tailor-made functionality, such as integration with custom back-office and front-office systems, new capabilities or complementing their existing AAIs with new functionality available in eduTEAMS, GÉANT can provide bespoke solutions based on the eduTEAMS technology, which can include a combination of consultancy, development and hosting of the service.

Are you interested to find out more about eduTEAMS? Visit the eduTEAMS website at **https://www.eduteams.org** or contact us at **support@eduteams.org**