

Supply Chain Management



Introduction

The aim of the NextGRID project is to devise the next generation Grid architecture. In order to design and validate the architecture, it is necessary to experiment with new middleware components, and to use them in application level experiments to verify that they can meet the needs of business Grid users.

Supply Chain Management Application Level Experiment

Supply Chain Management and Optimisation is of importance to a wide range of industries such as automotive, retail and manufacturing and comprises a set of compute-intensive parallelisable tasks leading to faster results and greater information for decision-making.

The experiment involves the APO Optimiser which is part of the Advanced Planning and Optimisation (APO) component of the mySAP Supply Chain Management (SCM) solution. It deals with optimisations like planning the production of goods based on request deadlines, machine set-up times, warehouse capacities and other factors.

During the experiment, SAP will focus on the handling of database-intensive workloads in the context of the Grid. This will complement the work done on the APO Optimiser by addressing the backend of the mySAP Supply Chain Management module and other business applications such as ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) or CRM (Customer Relationship Management). In the final year of the project the experiment will focus upon the handling of data intensive workloads.



Current Status of Experiment

Until now the Advanced Planning and Optimization (APO) application from SCM has been used to investigate NextGRID capabilities.

The APO enhances the decision making process in a production or logistical process, for example, to improve the efficiency of machinery and reduce waiting times for customers during manufacturing.

Current effort concentrates on the SAP Web Application Server (WebAS). The WebAS is a core component for SAP Business Solutions including the Supply Chain Management and therefore covers a wider spectrum of applications that are envisaged to run on NextGRID components.

Legal Information:

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