

The SWITCHaai Federation

A success story by the community, made in Switzerland



SWITCH

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SWITCHaai Introduction Course
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From the federation's early roots...

e-Academia / AAI Concept

SWITCH

The Swiss Education & Research Network

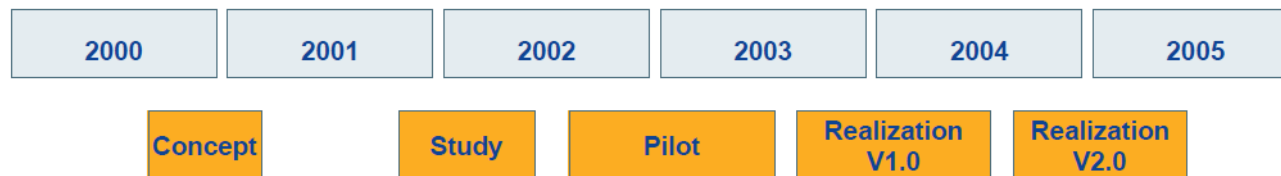
Vision of e-Academia

"We want a virtual community across our institutions in which all persons associated with the Swiss Higher Education System are able to gain access to its electronic resources, independent of the accrediting organization and independent of the place where they happen to be working."

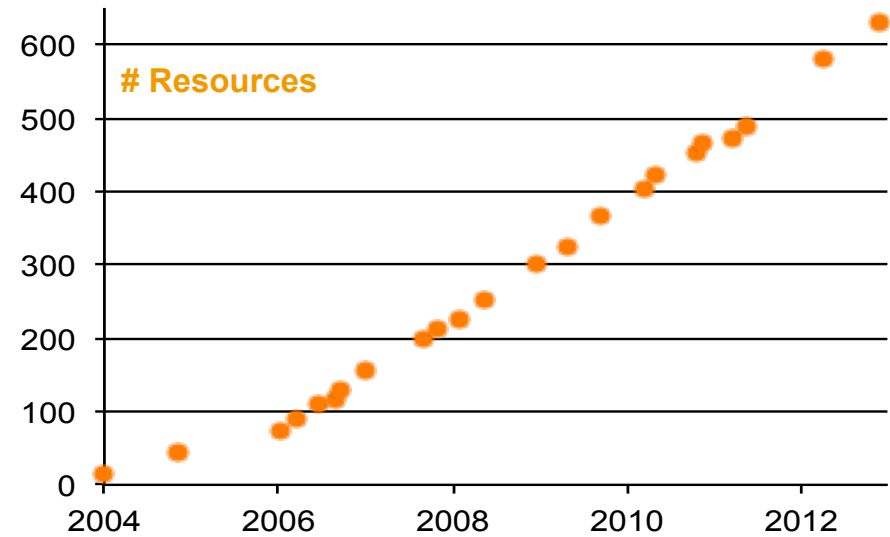
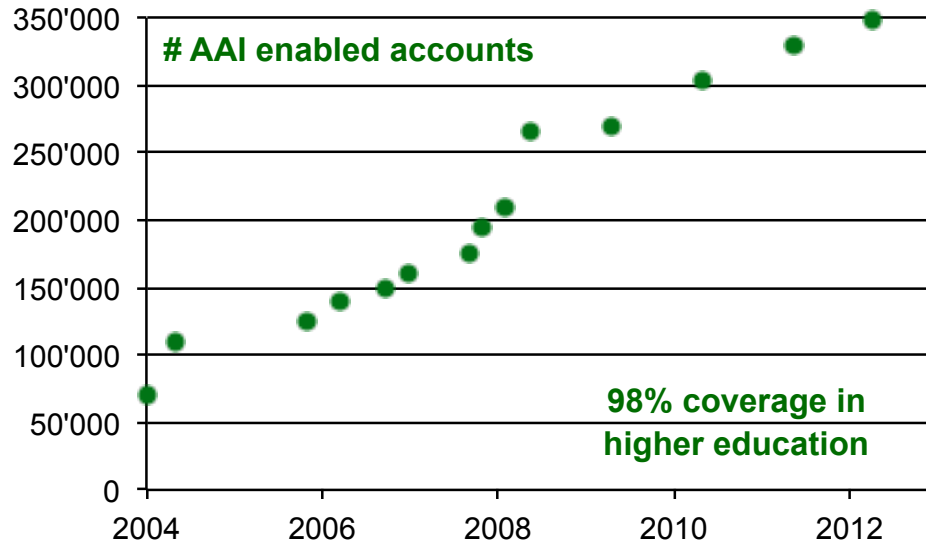
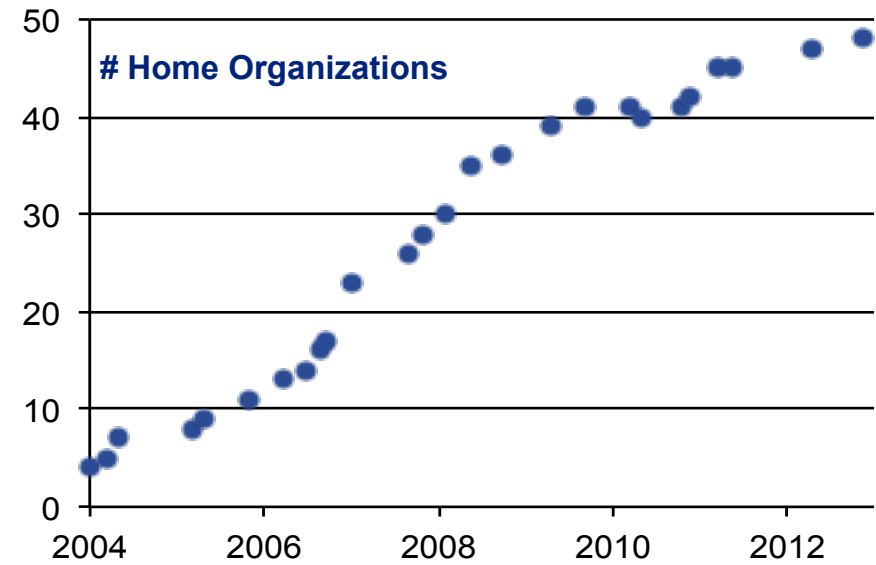
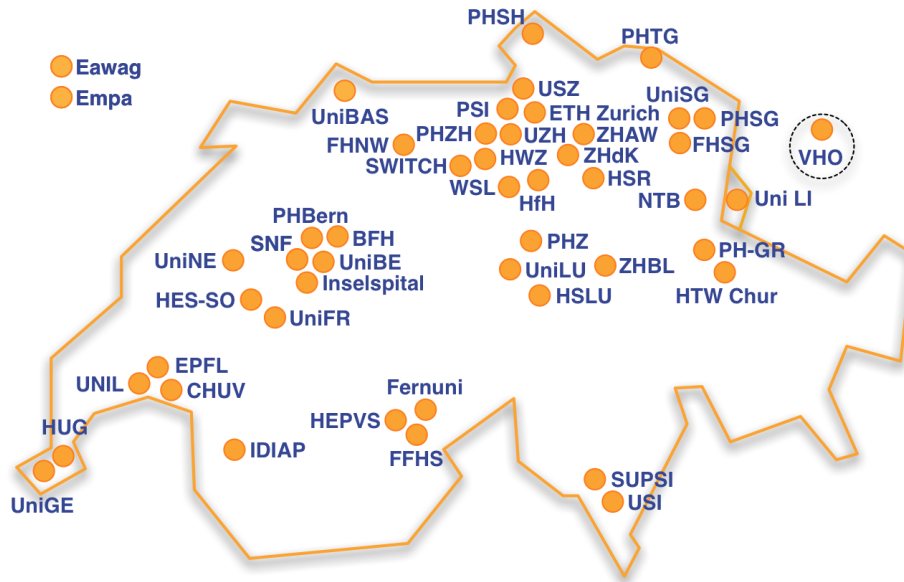
AAI as the foundation of e-Academia

"... let's develop e-Academia, let us build the foundations in the form of a uniform authentication and authorization infrastructure (AAI) for the higher education system in Switzerland..."

Roadmap



... to the current SWITCHHaai federation in 2013

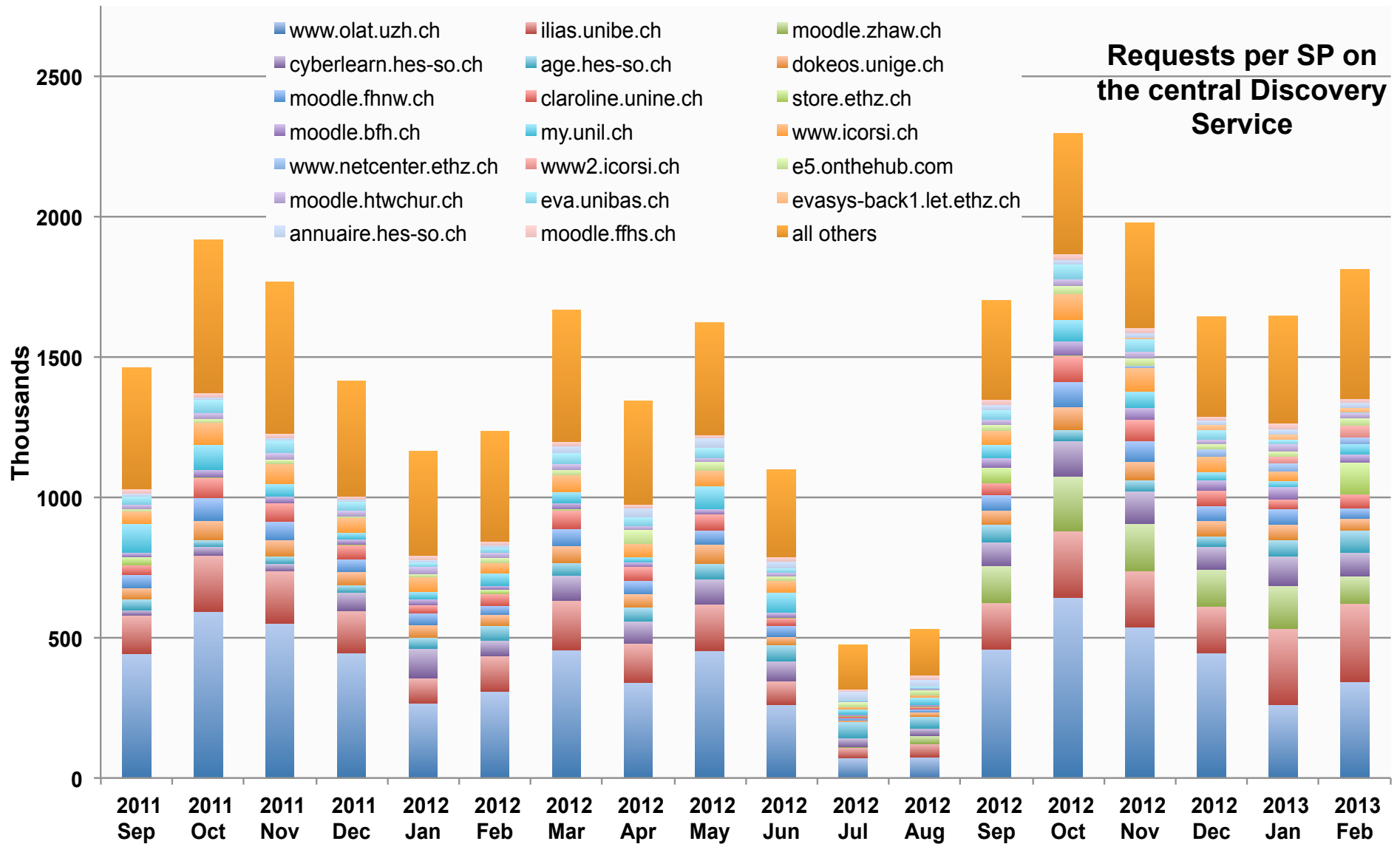


SWITCHaai Federation Quick Facts

- as of 2013: about 50 participating home organizations with approx. 350'000 users
- coverage in the SWITCH community (higher education) is close to 100%:
 - all cantonal universities
 - all federal institutes/facilities of the “ETH-Bereich”: ETHZ, EPFL, PSI, WSL, Empa, Eawag
 - most universities of applied sciences (“FH”/“HES”)
 - most teacher training colleges (“PH”/“HEP”)
- about 600 resources (“service providers”) currently registered in the federation
 - e-learning systems still the most popular application
 - number of federation partners steadily increasing (digital content providers as well as online shops, alumni organizations etc.)

AAI User Authentication Requests

Sept 11 – Feb 13



Federation Infrastructure operated by SWITCH

- AAI Resource Registry
rr.aai.switch.ch
- Metadata distribution
metadata.aai.switch.ch
- Discovery Service / “Where Are You From”
wayf.switch.ch
- Virtual Home Organization / VHO
aai-logon.vho-switchaai.ch
- AAI Test Federation
- AAI Demo Site
<https://www.switch.ch/aai/demo/>
- AAI Attribute Viewer
<https://attribute-viewer.aai.switch.ch>

Conclusion

- the success of the SWITCHaai federation is based on the cooperation of all participating members:
 - SWITCH is coordinating the federation and its infrastructure, but credits are due to the participating organizations, in the first place
 - identity management stays at the place where it belongs – i.e., the user’s home organization –, with mutual acceptance of authentication
 - ensuring and maintaining high-quality user data at the identity provider is essential for the federation’s continued success
- the outreach of the SWITCHaai federation is likely to grow in the future, e.g.:
 - home organizations from the “Extended SWITCH Community”
 - interfederation-enabled resources in other countries