Federated Identity in Finland

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Outline

➢ **Finnish higher education overview**

➢ **Organisation and status of Haka federation**

➢ **Home organisations**

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➢ **Institutional federations**

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# Finnish higher education overview

- ➢ **20 universities, 29 polytechnics (universities of applied sciences)**
  - Small units spread all over the country
- ➢ **300 000 degree students, 50 000 employees**

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- ➢ **Non-profit company owned by the ministry of education**
- ➢ **to provide centralised IT services to higher education and research**
  - Scentific computing, supercomputing
  - Funet – the Finnish national research network (NREN)
  - Haka identity federation (part of Funet services)

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Organisation of Haka similar to SWITCHaai
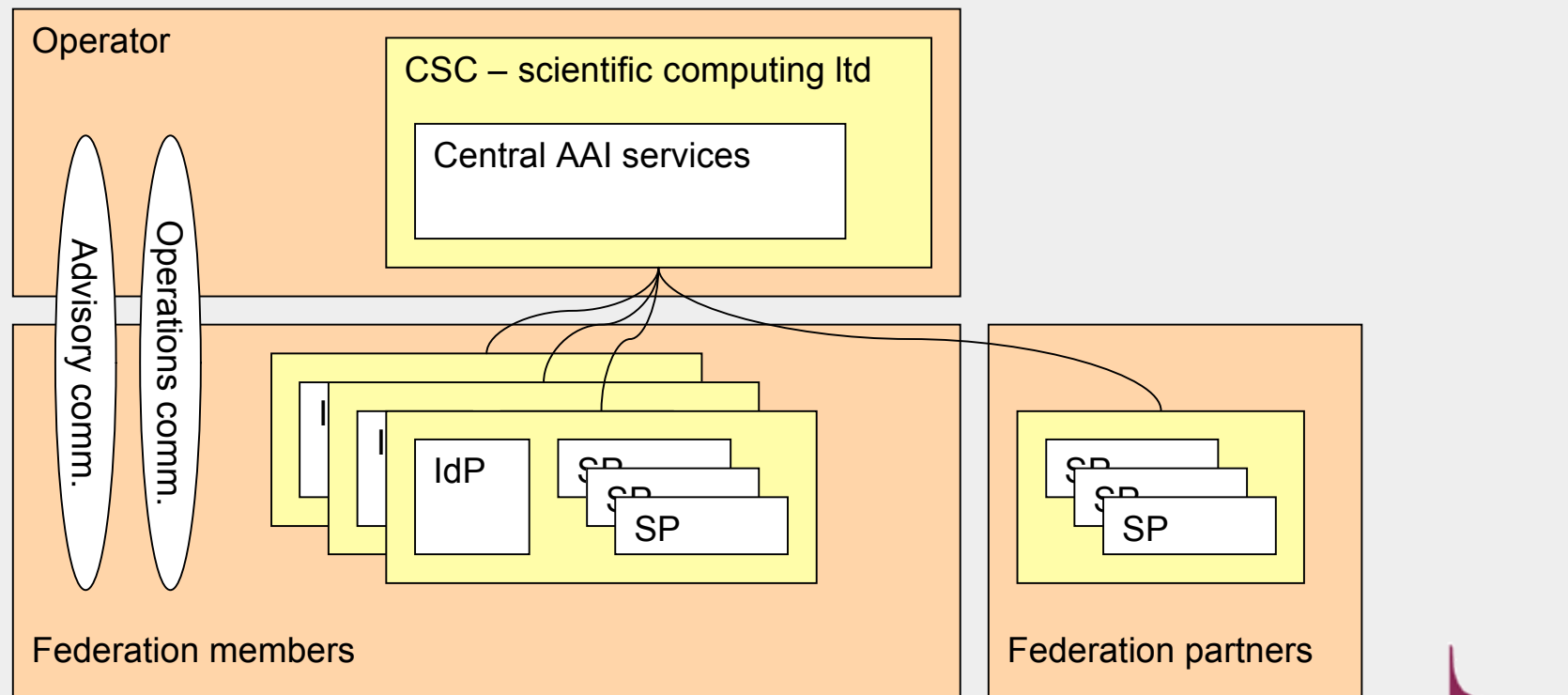
Status of Haka federation

- **Pilot federation operational 12/2003**
- **First members signed Haka service agreement 5/2005**
- **Federation operational 8/2005**
- **Current members: 7/20 universities, 1/29 polytechnic**
  - Big universities; coverage of 68% of university people
  - Goal: 12/2006 14/20 universities, 15/29 polytechs
- **Currently no partners**
- **~58 000 logins to services in October 2005**

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Home organisations (IdP)
Resources (SP)

Federation member	# of students	IdP	SP
Univ of Helsinki	38 400	X	2
Univ of Oulu	15 800	X	
Univ of Turku	15 600		
Univ of Tampere	15 200		
Helsinki Univ of Technology	15 100	X	
Tampere Univ of Technology	12 000	X	2
Åbo Akademi	6 900	X	
Tampere polytechnic	4 900		
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Resource categories

- **Library services**
- **eLearning services**
- **Nationally provided services**
- **ASP services**

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1. Library services

➢ **Finnish libraries have had co-operation for years**
➢ **The library consortiums have 3 IT systems provided nationally ("The triangle")**

1. Library Management System (Endeavor Voyage)
- Reservations, renewals of loans self-service
- Shibbolised 10/2005, 600 logins 10/2005
2. Portal to article databases (Ex Libris Metalib)
- Personalisation of the portal: setting email alerts etc
- Shibbolised 1/2005, 3 700 logins 10/2005
3. Digital object management system (Endeavor ENCompass)
- Shibbolised by London School of Economics, introduction to Haka planned early 2006

➢ **Library content providers**
- Just first discussions

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2. eLearning

- ➤ **Learning management systems (LMS)**
  - Moodle (moodle.tut.fi), 45 000 logins 10/2005
  - A&O (homegrown, ao4.ee.tut.fi), 9 000 logins 10/2005
  - WebCT (Univ of Helsinki, not registered to Haka)
  - Optima (Univ of Oulu, not registered to Haka)
- ➤ **LMS typically used locally, not cross-institutional!**
- ➤ **A pilot with course roles (Internet2 CourseID)**
  - "student@tut.fi:physics-101:fall-2005"
- ➤ **Applying as a visiting student in another university**
  - Paper-based process turned into an electronic one
  - Electronic circulation of applications student ->student administration of the home university -> student administration of the visited university
  - Shibboleth: authentication + a large number of attributes (filled-in electronic form) of the applying student

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3. Nationally provided services

- ➢ **Organisations providing services to end users of several institutions**
- ➢ **Academy of Finland: electronic application form for research funding (work in progress)**
  - Users: researchers in universities
- ➢ **Student health care foundation: electronic reservation for appointments (work in progress)**
  - Users: 130 000 degree students in universities
- ➢ **CSC's own services for universities**
  - Funet extranet services for CSC's Funet customers (institution network admins)
  - CSC's services for researchers

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4. Application Service Provisioning (ASP)

- **To enhance efficiency of administration, universities have outsourced some administrational applications**
  - SW for electronic circulation of purchase invoices
  - SW for electronic claiming/circulation of travel expenses
  - Used with a web browser
- **The application services are provided by large Finnish IT companies**
  - SW runs in their machine rooms
- **Currently accounts typically maintained manually**
  - Nightmare for administrators in a large university
  - Plenitude of uid/pwd pairs pain for the end users
- **Goal: to make the IT companies Shibbolise their applications**

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Institutional federations

➢ **Haka is mostly for applications used cross-institutionally**

➢ **Institutional light-weight federations being formed for intra-institutional services**

- Learning management systems
- Other tools supporting learning
- Etc

➢ **Institutions' IT services prefer Shibboleth's controlled release of attributes to opening the LDAP directory for everyone in the campus**

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"School in user administration": supporting institutions to improve IdM

➢ **CSC's workshop of 3 days for staff in IT departments in HEIs**

1st day 1/2005

- Theory, best practices, commercial/open source products…
- First homework: evaluate your current institutional IdM

2nd day 5/2005

- homeworks gone through
- The concept of an identity federation introduced
- Second homework: set target for your institutional IdM

3rd day 11/2005

- Again, homeworks gone through
- More best practices and products…

High-quality institutional identity management is a necessity for an organisation joining Haka

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More Information

- **http://www.csc.fi/suomi/funet/middleware/english/**

- **TNC'05 conference paper "Organising Federated Identity in Finnish Higher Education", available: http://www.terena.nl/conferences/tnc2005/programme/presentations/show.php?pres_id=77**

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