A Security Solution for GridSpace2 Platform

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Objectives
- advanced security system for GridSpace [1], going beyond Shibboleth, GSI and Linux-PAM protected resources [2,3]
- enables secure access to heterogeneous computing and data storage resources as well as sharing experiments while protecting confidential data [4]

Security modules
EW AuthNZ password-based authentication; secure SSH connection to the EH with PL-Grid account credentials
Local Wallet – a tool allowing storage of confidential data (e.g. credentials) in protected files (UNIX permissions)
Remote Wallet (ReCeW) – a UNIX daemon for secure storage of confidential data accessible to EH users via RESTful remote API from many locations (EH, external machines, e-Infrastructures), employing AES-256 encryption. Features a plugin mechanism enabling easy development of new extensions
ReCeW / Local Wallet Clients – enable management of wallet contents in the EW and permit use of secure data in scripts (for access to external services, data sources etc.)

Example of usage
- access the whole platform by logging into the Experiment Workbench using any Experiment Host account (e.g. PL-Grid account)
- submit jobs to computing clusters from EW without additional security-related effort
- store, manage and access arbitrary confidential data in a secure manner with high-grade encryption algorithms
- use custom credentials to access external services – databases, Grids, Clouds, custom Web/REST services etc.

Future work
- new ReCeW plugins (new modules, streamlined remote API)
- enable ReCeW to be hosted in the Cloud (Security-as-a-Service model)

References