

# Supporting Group-to-Group Interaction across the Grid



Large-scale scientific and technical collaborations often involve multiple teams working together. Group-to-group interactions are different from and more complex than individual-to-individual interactions. The Access Grid concept complements and extends the concept of the Computational Grid by exploring and supporting this more complex set of requirements and functions.

With 3-20 people per site, Access Grid nodes are "designed spaces" that support the high-end audio/video technology needed to provide a compelling and productive user experience.

Current Capabilities include:

- high-quality multichannel digital video and audio
- large-format multimedia display
- integrated presentation and interaction technologies
- interfaces to remote visualization environments
- recording capabilities



With these resources, the Access Grid supports large-scale distributed meetings, collaborative teamwork sessions, site visits, training sessions and educational events.

The Access Grid now supports a community of greater than 100 Access Grid Nodes, across 6 different continents. This type of innovative collaborative telepresence would not be possible without the reliability and high bandwidth provided by ESnet in its role as backbone provider and its peering with commodity networks.

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**Access Grid  
supports  
telepresence  
for large-scale  
collaborations  
involving  
multiple teams**

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