

DAASI International GmbH

Together with Elecnor Deimos for the European Space Agency (ESA)

Industry: Research & Space Observation

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Gluu Server is the core identity federation service for European Space Agency partners.

The project has four main components:

1. The Gluu Server acts as the central federation identity provider
2. didmos (by DAASI International) provides identity management and a web portal for self-service administration, workflow management and delegated administration. The web portal uses SCIM to update identity information in the Gluu Server database. For example, new users register in the didmos web portal, are vetted by an operator, and then are provisioned to the Gluu Server.
3. Jira Service Desk provides a ticket system for communication between users and the operator (i.e. support requests). It is also used to enable certain workflows, such as vetting new accounts or requesting the protection of new websites that need SSO
4. An analytics platform for monitoring and auditing

Objective

The main objective of the project was to provide an IDaaS (Identity as a Service) platform to offer account management and Single Sign-on (SSO) for partners of ESA to access research applications. ESA was looking for an established platform which supported open standards for security like SAML, OpenID Connect, and OAuth. A high availability topology was also required for business continuity.

The main goal was to allow commercial partners access to services offered by ESA and its partners while using SSO technologies. While some of these services had already integrated SSO for researchers (using eduGAIN), commercial partners didn't have access to a federated IDP and were using local accounts at each service. The Gluu platform enabled these partners to use a central ESA identity for all services. The portal also promoted services that are connected to the platform.

Our Solution

The solution offers high-availability for both the Gluu Server (using the Gluu Cluster Manager deployment tool) and didmos.

Generally both user management and authentication have been centralized for some pilot services already. Additional services will leverage the new platform in the coming years. That's a big improvement from local management at each application and also has strong security benefits for users.

Deimos and DAASI International are operating the platform, including vetting new user registrations and assisting application developers in connecting their services to Gluu. So far both feedback from users is very positive.

