

The Grid: Blueprint for a New Computing Infrastructure (The Elsevier Series in Grid Computing)

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The grid promises to fundamentally change the way we think about and use computing. This infrastructure will connect multiple regional and national computational grids, creating a universal source of pervasive and dependable computing power that supports dramatically new classes of applications. The Grid provides a clear vision of what computational grids are, why we need them, who will use them, and how they will be programmed.

Inside The Grid
* Written by over 30 distinguished experts in high-performance computing and networking, including Francine Berman, Tom DeFanti, Jack Dongarra, Dennis Gannon, Roch Guerin, Ken Kennedy, Miron Livny, Paul Messina, Reagan Moore, Clifford Neuman, Larry Peterson, Jon Postel, and Daniel Reed.

* Edited by the winners of the prestigious 1998 Global Information Infrastructure Next Generation Award-an awards program characterized by U.S. Vice President Al Gore as "confirm[ing] our brightest hopes: that the positive uses of high technology will truly open up new opportunities for all Americans and improve our quality of life."

* Introduced by Larry Smarr, director of National Center for Supercomputing Applications and director of the National Computational Science Alliance, with a chapter that puts grids in context.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
Beyond the Net, say Foster, Kesselman, and a host of impressive contributors, lies the Grid. While the Net allows users everywhere to share information, the Grid will allow users to share raw computing power. The goal is to put full supercomputing capabilities into the hands of anyone who needs it while providing for more efficient use of the supercomputers of tomorrow. The potential benefits to science, government, and business may well be beyond imagination.

Foster and Kesselman have gathered together essays, proposals, and ruminations of more than 30 distinguished stars of the high-speed computing and networking world in order to do four things: make the case for developing computational grids, provide ideas on how such grids may be designed, demonstrate how the grids might be used, and point out the research still needed to make it happen. While the book was written to serve as a possible textbook in advanced networking, it makes fascinating reading for anyone interested in the future of network computing.

The text covers Grid applications, the programming tools required, the services that will be provided, and an examination of Grid infrastructure. Despite being the work of so many authors, the chapters are logically arranged so that the knowledge needed to understand one chapter is provided by those that precede it. -- *Elizabeth Lewis*

Review
"This is a source book for the history of the future."
—Vint Cerf, Senior Vice President, Internet Architecture and Engineering, MCI Communications

From the Back Cover
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Joseph Wilds:

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