Recommendations for Group Management

Results from an investigation on authorization and group management systems at Swedish institutions.
Agenda

Authorization
The project owner – Sunet Inkubator
Project goals

Findings I – Basic functions in GM systems
Findings II – Group Management software
Findings III – Scenarios (sizes) for GM projects
Findings IV – Recommendations

2014 The project continues
Authorization

Happens after authentication

Ways to handle authorization
- Groups
- Roles
- Attributes
Authorization at a university

✓ Same group of people need several systems

✓ Should be easy for a student/staff to start at the university
Just to be clear...

Group management ≠ HR or leadership

Group Management systems

“An specialized application that keep digital identities sorted into groups in order to make use of them in other systems...”
Many Swedish universities want to improve this process. Can work together.
Sunet Inkubator – the client

Jointly financed

New ideas around e-infrastructure

Investigations, workshops, POCs

National projects
The Group Management project

Investigate how far GM has come

Local implementations & projects

Sum up knowledge & ideas

Focus on groups

Analysis of software

Recommendations
# Findings I – Basic GM system functions

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<th>Create Groups</th>
<th>Export Groups</th>
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<td>Automatically</td>
<td>Feed applications</td>
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<td>Manually</td>
<td>Populate AD/LDAP</td>
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<td>By invitation</td>
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<td>Open groups</td>
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## Handle Groups
- Misc admin
- Create subgroups
- Group of groups
- By attributes
Findings II – Tools

FIM
Grouper
(Custom built systems)
Tools – Microsoft FIM

Identity life cycle management

Coupled to MS infrastructure

Missing some “university” features
Tools - Grouper

For universities by universities

Java/Open source

Rich on modules for integration

Really nicely documented
Findings III – Scenarios

3 levels of investments in GM

Scenario Small, Medium & Large
Findings III – Small

Basic group features

Mailgroups, a few integrations and apps

No potential of group reuse

Stay with GM functions in existing infrastructure!
Findings III – Medium

More than a few group features

Future plans – expansion

Group reuse – Group operations

Need structure when containing groups

Stay with existing ILM system

Grouper or FIM?
Findings III – Large

Same needs & ambition as in Medium

Would like to rebuild or enlarge ILM

FIM!
Findings IV – Recommendations

Use Grouper or FIM

Involve the business

You’ll need a correct organization map

Distribute management of groups

Ensure overview of the groups

The need to include external users will arise

Don’t neglect the costs for integrations and maintenance
2014 = The cookbook

Tips and tools for starting a GM project
Architecture & design
The business role
Project planning and method
Costs