G E N I

Global Environment for Network Innovations

GENI Recommended Use Policy

Document ID: GENI-INF-RUP-01.1

March 10, 2009

DRAFT

Table of Contents

1   Document Scope

All individuals contributing to the suite of GENI infrastructures should read this policy and ensure that their actions comply with it.

The GENI Project Office (GPO) expects usage guidelines for GENI infrastructure, experiments, and projects to evolve in parallel during GENI development and prototyping. Although these guidelines need to be consistent and may overlap somewhat, they have different authors. Principal Investigators are responsible for their project's guidelines. The Network Science Council is responsible for experiments (Experiment guidelines and project guidelines may include both researcher guidelines and user guidelines for those that have external users.) The GPO is responsible for infrastructure guidelines. The GPO works with GENI working groups to draft and revise infrastructure guidelines.

The GPO is the author of this policy. The policy is subject to change in response to developments in the GENI program and the GENI working groups.

1.1   Purpose of this Document

The purpose of this policy is to communicate common guidelines for using the suite of GENI infrastructures to the GENI community. GENI participants should be willing to follow the guidelines, and to support GENI community efforts to implement this policy.

Because many GENI facilities are shared with non-GENI projects, there may be additional guidelines or policies that apply to those facilities. GENI participants are expected to understand and follow those policies/guidelines as well.

1.2   Context for this Document

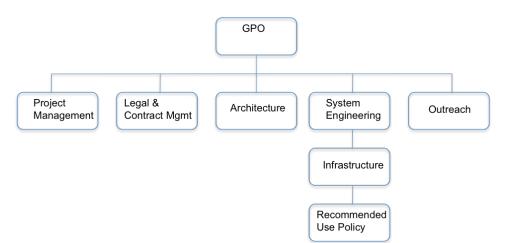Figure 1. below shows the context for this document within GENI's overall document tree.

Figure 1. This Document within the GENI Document Tree.

1.3   Document Revision History

The following table provides the revision history for this document, summarizing the date at which it was revised, who revised it, and a brief summary of the changes. This list is maintained in reverse chronological order so the newest revision comes first in the list.

Revision	Date	Revised By	Summary of Changes
1.0	03/10/09	H. P. Dempsey	Revise and release for comment
0.1	N/A	K. Jean-Pierre	New Document

2   GENI Use Overview

The suite of GENI facilities coordinated by the GENI Project Office (GPO) is meant to support network science and engineering experiments, and to provide a collaborative environment in which participants can evaluate prototypes and gain a better understanding of the behavior and utility of various design alternatives. In addition to sponsored development projects, the GENI facilities suite may include resources contributed by research and commercial organizations and individuals. These resources are governed by their local policies, as well as by GENI guidelines. GENI facilities should be used only for research and education purposes.   GENI does not allow illegal activities

3   Guidelines

All GENI use should be consistent with the goals expressed in the use overview.

All individuals contributing to the suite of GENI infrastructures should follow these guidelines. Individual sites that contribute GENI infrastructure may also have separate guidelines and Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs). GENI participants should not knowingly violate local AUPs.

Many GENI resources are hosted and donated by organizations interested in the GENI project, and GENI work should not adversely affect those organizations. GENI participants should adhere to widely-accepted standards of network etiquette. Software and hardware should be debugged in a controlled environment prior to moving to GENI infrastructures, so that system behaviors are well understood before they become part of shared infrastructures. Participants should ensure their work does not disrupt other infrastructure, (for example by using more than their share of bandwidth or performing systematic port scans on local machines). If such an event is reported, the participant will be expected to investigate and address the issue if it appears to be related to their work. The GPO will provide guidance if requested for participants who are unsure whether their work might adversely affect local infrastructures.

GENI participants are responsible for ensuring that their experiments, prototypes, or contributed infrastructure cannot be hijacked and used to attack or spam other infrastructure or users. If such an event occurs despite the participants' best efforts, they are expected to investigate and remediate resultant problems. Although the GPO-sponsored GENI operations mailing list may receive initial complaints about misbehaving services or systems, staff from the operations list will put complainants in direct contact with the researcher or development project lead responsible for reported problems, and follow the response emails.

GENI resources are accessible to various opt-in users, who may not be officially registered with GENI clearinghouses. Researchers who sponsor services that include these users are responsible for ensuring that their users do not violate the GENI infrastructure recommended use policy.

GENI offers no privacy guarantees on data sent to and from the GPO-coordinated GENI suite of infrastructure. GENI participants should assume data will be monitored and logged, for example to investigate abuse. GENI also offers no reliability guarantees. Systems and services may be rebooted, briefly taken off-line, and reinstalled without prior warning

4   Consequences

This is a collaborative infrastructure, and the nature of some violations may require immediate action to protect the rest of the community (for example responding to a denial-of-service attack). Staff on the GPO-sponsored GENI operations mailing list will strive to contact all parties involved in a suspected or reported violation, and to discuss options with those parties before taking action to address the violation. Staff will take action before reaching all parties if necessary. Local providers or project participants may act independently if they perceive an immediate threat, although GENI encourages coordination with the GENI operations mailing list.

Violation of this Recommended Use Policy may result in any of the following:

* disabling experiments, systems, or users access to GPO-coordinated GENI infrastructure

* removing sites or resources from the GPO-coordinated GENI infrastructure

* Informing the participant's administrative organization of the violation

* Informing the GENI community, including the National Science Foundation, of the violation

To report a suspected violation of this policy, contact the GENI operations mailing list (geni-ops@geni.net).