

Enterprise iRODS (E-iRODS) Manual

Author: Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI)

Version: 3.0beta3

Date: 2013-03-15

Table of Contents

1 Release Notes	1
2 License	2
3 Overview	2
4 Download	2
5 Installation	3
6 Quickstart	3
6.1 Changing the administrator account password	4
6.2 Changing the Zone name	4
6.3 Add additional resource(s)	5
6.4 Add additional user(s)	5
7 Upgrading	5
8 Migration from Community iRODS	6
9 Backing Up	6
10 Assumptions	6
11 Architecture	6
12 Pluggable Microservices	7
13 Composable Resources	7
13.1 Tree Metaphor	7
13.2 Virtualization	7
13.3 Coordinating Resources	8
13.4 Storage Resources	8
13.5 Managing Child Resources	8
13.6 Example Usage	9
13.6.1 Example 1	9
14 Configuration	9
15 Glossary	10
16 Known Issues	13
17 History of Releases	13

1 Release Notes

This is the third beta release of the Enterprise integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (E-iRODS).

E-iRODS is developed under the auspices of the E-iRODS Consortium. This release was prepared by the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) and released under the New BSD (BSD-3) License.

2 License

Copyright (c) 2005-2013, Regents of the University of California, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the Data Intensive Cyberinfrastructure Foundation All rights reserved.

Redistribution and use in source and binary forms, with or without modification, are permitted provided that the following conditions are met:

- Redistributions of source code must retain the above copyright notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer.
- Redistributions in binary form must reproduce the above copyright notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer in the documentation and/or other materials provided with the distribution.
- Neither the name of the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill nor the names of its contributors may be used to endorse or promote products derived from this software without specific prior written permission.

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY THE COPYRIGHT HOLDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS "AS IS" AND ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE COPYRIGHT OWNER OR CONTRIBUTORS BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

3 Overview

This manual attempts to provide standalone documentation for E-iRODS as packaged by the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI).

<http://ei rods.org>

<file:///var/lib/ei rods/iRODS/doc/html/index.html>

Additional documentation is available on the iRODS wiki and in the two books published by the iRODS team:

<http://irods.org>

<http://irods.org/doxygen>

(2010) iRODS Primer: integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (Synthesis Lectures on Information Concepts, Retrieval, and Services) <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1608453332>

(2011) The integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (iRODS 3.0) Micro-service Workbook <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1466469129>

4 Download

E-iRODS is currently released in binary form. Full open source repositories and trackers will be available after the first major release.

RPM and DEB formats are available for both iCAT-enabled servers and resource-only servers. There are variations available for combinations of platform and operating system.

More combinations will be made available as our testing matrix continues to mature and increase in scope.

The latest files can be downloaded from <http://eirods.org/download>.

5 Installation

Installation of the Postgres iCAT DEB:

```
$ (sudo) dpkg -i eirods-3.0b3-64bit-icat-postgres.deb
$ (sudo) apt-get -f install
```

Installation of the Resource RPM:

```
- Make sure to read ./packaging/RPM_INSTALLATION_HOWTO.txt before trying to install the RPM package.
$ (sudo) rpm -i eirods-3.0b3-64bit-resource.rpm
```

These packages declare the dependencies necessary to run E-iRODS and if satisfied, they install a service account and group named 'eirods', the E-iRODS binaries, microservice documentation, and this manual.

For the iCAT-enabled server packages, the E-iRODS server and EICAT database are started automatically with default values:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ ienv
NOTICE: Release Version = rods3.0, API Version = d
NOTICE: irodsHost=hostname
NOTICE: irodsPort=1247
NOTICE: irodsDefResource=demoResc
NOTICE: irodsHome=/tempZone/home/rods
NOTICE: irodsCwd=/tempZone/home/rods
NOTICE: irodsUserName=rods
NOTICE: irodsZone=tempZone
```

For the resource-only packages, the server is not started automatically. The administrator will need to run the `./packaging/setup_resource.sh` script and provide the following five pieces of information before E-iRODS can start and connect to its configured iCAT Zone:

1. Hostname or IP
2. iCAT Port
3. iCAT Zone
4. E-iRODS administrator username
5. E-iRODS administrator password

6 Quickstart

Successful installation will complete and leave a running E-iRODS server. If you installed an iCAT-enabled E-iRODS server, a database of your choice will also have been created and running. The iCommand `ils` will list your new iRODS administrator's empty home directory in the iRODS virtual filesystem:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/tempZone/home/rods:
```

When moving into production, you will probably want to cover the next few basic steps:

6.1 Changing the administrator account password

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single account 'rods' that has rodsadmin privileges and password 'rods'. You should change the password before letting anyone else onto the system:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin moduser rods password <newpassword>
```

To make sure everything succeeded, you'll need to reauthenticate and check the new connection:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iinit
Enter your current iRODS password:
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/tempZone/home/rods:
```

6.2 Changing the Zone name

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a Zone named 'tempZone'. You probably want to change the Zone name to something more domain-specific:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin modzone tempZone name <newzonename>
If you modify the local zone name, you and other users will need to
change your .irodsEnv files to use it, you may need to update
irods.config and, if rules use the zone name, you'll need to update
core.re. This command will update various tables with the new name
and rename the top-level collection.
Do you really want to modify the local zone name? (enter y or yes to do so):y
OK, performing the local zone rename
```

The Zone has been renamed, but now you will need to update your .irodsEnv file to match (note the three places where the updated zone name is located):

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ cat .irods/.irodsEnv
# iRODS server host name:
irodsHost '<hostname>'
# iRODS server port number:
irodsPort 1247
# Default storage resource name:
irodsDefResource 'demoResc'
# Home directory in iRODS:
irodsHome '/<newzonename>/home/rods'
# Current directory in iRODS:
irodsCwd '/<newzonename>/home/rods'
# Account name:
irodsUserName 'rods'
# Zone:
irodsZone '<newzonename>'
```

Now, the connection should be reset and you should be able to list your empty iRODS collection again:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iinit
Enter your current iRODS password:
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/<newzonename>/home/rods:
```

6.3 Add additional resource(s)

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single resource named 'demoResc' which stores its files in the `/var/lib/eirods/iRODS/Vault` directory. You will want to create additional resources at disk locations of your choosing. The following command will create a basic 'unix file system' resource at a designated host at the designated fullpath:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc <newrescname> 'unix file system' <fully.qualified.domain.name>:</full/path/to/new/vault>
```

Additional information about creating resources can be found with:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin help mkresc
mkresc Name Type [Host:Path] [ContextString] (make Resource)
Create (register) a new storage or database resource.

Name is the name of the new resource.
Type is the resource type.
Host is the DNS host name.
And Path is the defaultPath for the vault.
ContextString is any contextual information relevant to this resource.
(semi-colon separated key=value pairs e.g. "a=b;c=d")
```

Creating new resources does not make them default for any existing or new users. You will need to make sure that default resources are properly set for newly ingested files.

6.4 Add additional user(s)

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single user 'rods' which is a designated 'rodsadmin' type user account. You will want to create additional 'rodsuser' type user accounts and set their passwords before allowing connections to your new grid:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkuser <newusername> rodsuser

eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin lu
rods#tempZone
<newusername>#tempZone

eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin help mkuser
mkuser Name[#Zone] Type (make user)
Create a new iRODS user in the ICAT database

Name is the user name to create
Type is the user type (see 'lt user_type' for a list)
Zone is the user's zone (for remote-zone users)

Tip: Use moduser to set a password or other attributes,
use 'aua' to add a user auth name (GSI DN or Kerberos Principal name)
```

Best practice suggests changing your Zone name before adding new users as any existing users would need to be informed of the new connection information and changes that would need to be made to their local `.irodsEnv` files.

7 Upgrading

The beta releases of E-iRODS do not yet support upgrading. Every install will be a clean install.

This section will be updated when support is included.

8 Migration from Community iRODS

Support for migrating from Community iRODS is planned, but automated scripts and documentation have not yet been completed.

This section will be updated with support is included and tested.

9 Backing Up

Backing up E-iRODS consists of three major parts: The data, the iRODS system and configuration files, and the iCAT database itself.

1. The data itself can be handled by the iRODS system through replication and should not require any specific backup efforts worth noting here.
2. The iRODS system and configuration files can be copied into iRODS as a set of Data Objects by using the [msiServerBackup](#) microservice. When run on a regular schedule, the *msiServerBackup* microservice will gather and store all the necessary configuration information to help you reconstruct your iRODS setup during disaster recovery.
3. The iCAT database itself can be backed up in a variety of ways. A PostgreSQL database is contained on the local filesystem as a data/ directory and can be copied like any other set of files. This is the most basic means to have backup copies. However, this will have stale information almost immediately. To cut into this problem of staleness, PostgreSQL 8.4+ includes a feature called ["Record-based Log Shipping"](#). This consists of sending a full transaction log to another copy of PostgreSQL where it could be "re-played" and bring the copy up to date with the originating server. Log shipping would generally be handled with a cronjob. A faster, seamless version of log shipping called ["Streaming Replication"](#) was included in PostgreSQL 9.0+ and can keep two PostgreSQL servers in sync with sub-second delay.

Configuration and maintenance of this type of backup system is out of scope for this document, but is included here as an indication of best practice.

10 Assumptions

E-iRODS enforces that the database in use (PostgreSQL) is configured for UTF-8 encoding. This is enforced at the database level and then the tables inherit this setting.

The iRODS setting 'StrictACL' is configured on by default in E-iRODS. This is different from the community version of iRODS and behaves more like standard Unix permissions. This setting can be found in the *server/config/reConfigs/core.re* file under `acAclPolicy{}`.

11 Architecture

E-iRODS represents a major effort to analyze, harden, and package iRODS for sustainability, modularization, security, and testability. This has led to a fairly significant refactorization of much of the underlying codebase. The following descriptions are included to help explain the architecture of E-iRODS.

The core is designed to be as immutable as possible and serve as a bus for handling the internal logic of the business of iRODS (data storage, policy enforcement, etc.). Exposed by the core will be six or seven major interfaces which will allow extensibility and separation of functionality into plugins. A few plugins will be included by default in E-iRODS to provide a set of base functionality.

The planned plugin interfaces and their status are listed here:

Plugin Interface	Status	Since
Pluggable Microservices	Complete	3.0b2
Composable Resources	Complete	3.0b3

Pluggable Authentication	Planned	
Pluggable Database	Planned	
Pluggable Messaging	Planned	
Pluggable RPC API	Planned	
Pluggable Rule Engine	Requested	

12 Pluggable Microservices

E-iRODS is in the process of being modularized whereby existing community iRODS functionality will be replaced and provided by small, interoperable plugins. The first plugin functionality to be completed was pluggable microservices. Pluggable microservices allow users to add new microservices to an existing E-iRODS server without recompiling the server or even restarting any running processes. A microservice plugin contains a single compiled microservice shared object file to be found by the server. A separate development package, including an example, is available at <http://ei rods.org/download>, and explains how this works in more detail.

13 Composable Resources

The second area of modularity to be added to E-iRODS consists of composable resources. Composable resources replace the concept of resource groups from community iRODS. There are no resource groups in E-iRODS.

13.1 Tree Metaphor

Composable resources are best modeled with a tree metaphor (and in computer science parlance, they are tree data structures). An E-iRODS composable resource is a tree with one 'root' node. Nodes that are at the bottom of the tree are 'leaf' nodes. Nodes that are not leaf nodes are 'branch' nodes and have one or more 'child' nodes. A child node can have one and only one 'parent' node.

The terms root, leaf, branch, child, and parent represent locations and relationships within the structure of a particular tree. The terms 'coordinating' and 'storage' represent the functionality of particular resources within a particular tree. A resource node can be a coordinating resource and/or a storage resource. For clarity and reuse, it is generally best practice to separate the two so that a particular resource node is either a coordinating resource or a storage resource.

In computer science, a tree is a data structure with a hierarchical representation of linked nodes. These nodes can be named based on where they are in the hierarchy. The node at the top of a tree is the root node. Parent nodes and child nodes are on opposite ends of a connecting link, or edge. Leaf nodes are at the bottom of the tree, and any node that is not a leaf node is a branch node. These positional descriptors are helpful when describing the structure of a tree. Composable resources are best represented using this tree metaphor.

13.2 Virtualization

In iRODS, files are stored as Data Objects on disk and have an associated physical path as well as a virtual path within the iRODS file system. iRODS collections only exist in the iCAT database and do not have an associated physical path (allowing them to exist across all resources, virtually).

Composable resources introduce the same dichotomy between the virtual and physical. E-iRODS resources are defined to be either coordinating resources or storage resources. These two different classes of resource map directly to the branch nodes and leaf nodes of a generic tree data structure. A coordinating resource has built-in logic that defines how it determines, or coordinates, the flow of data to and from its children. Coordinating resources exist solely in the iCAT and virtually exist across all E-iRODS servers in a particular Zone. A storage resource has a Vault (physical) path and knows how to speak to a specific type of storage medium (disk, tape, etc.). The encapsulation of resources into a plugin

architecture allows E-iRODS to have a consistent interface to all resources, whether they represent coordination or storage.

This virtualization of the coordinating resources allows the logic of how to manage both the placement and the retrieval of Data Objects to exist independent of the types of resources that are connected as children resources. When E-iRODS tries to retrieve data, each child resource will “vote” by offering whether it can provide the requested data, and coordinating resources will decide which particular storage resource (e.g. physical location) the read should come from. The specific manner of this vote is specific to the logic of the coordinating resource. For instance, a coordinating resource could optimize for reducing the number of requests made against each storage resource within some time frame or it could optimize for reducing latency in expected data retrieval times. We expect a wide variety of useful optimizations to be developed by the community.

An intended side effect of the tree metaphor and the virtualization of coordinating resources is the deprecation of the concept of a resource group. Resource groups in community iRODS could not be put into other resource groups. A specific limiting example was that of the compound resource where, by definition, it was a group and could not be placed into another group significantly limiting its functionality as a management tool. Groups in E-iRODS now only refer to user groups.

Read more at <http://ei rods.org/release/e-irods-composable-resources/>:

- [Paper \(279kB, PDF\)](#)
- [Slides \(321kB, PDF\)](#)
- [Poster \(6.4MB, PDF\)](#)

13.3 Coordinating Resources

Coordinating resources contain the flow control logic which determines both how its child resources will be allocated copies of data as well as which copy is returned when a data object is requested. These include:

- random
- round robin
- pass through (for testing)
- replication (expected)
- load balanced (expected)
- storage balanced (%-full) (expected)
- storage balanced (bytes) (expected)
- tiered (expected)

13.4 Storage Resources

Storage resources represent storage interfaces and include the file driver information to talk with different types of storage. These include:

- unix file system
- structured file type (tar, zip, gzip, bzip)
- Universal Mass Storage (expected)
- HPSS (expected)
- S3 (expected)
- WOS (expected)
- non-blocking (expected)

13.5 Managing Child Resources

There are two new `iadmin` subcommands introduced with this feature.

`addchildtoresc:`


```
eirods@hostname:~$ iadmin h addchildtoresc
  addchildtoresc Parent Child [ContextString] (add child to resource)
Add a child resource to a parent resource.  This creates an 'edge'
between two nodes in a resource tree.

Parent is the name of the parent resource.
Child is the name of the child resource.
ContextString is any relevant information that the parent may need in order
to manage the child.
```

rmchildfromresc:

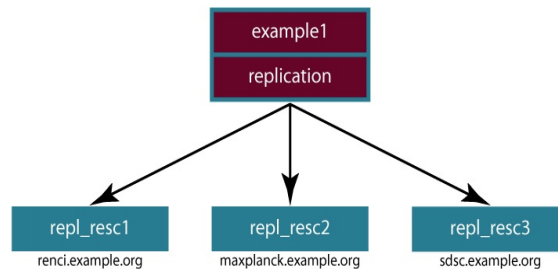
```
eirods@hostname:~$ iadmin h rmchildfromresc
  rmchildfromresc Parent Child (remove child from resource)
Remove a child resource from a parent resource.  This removes an 'edge'
between two nodes in a resource tree.

Parent is the name of the parent resource.
Child is the name of the child resource.
```

13.6 Example Usage

Creating a composite resource consists of creating the individual nodes of the desired tree structure and then connecting the parent and children nodes.

13.6.1 Example 1



Example 1: Replicates Data Objects to three locations

A replicating coordinating resource with three unix file system storage resources as children would be composed with seven (7) iadmin commands:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc example1 replication
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc1 "unix file system" renci.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc2 "unix file system" maxplanck.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc3 "unix file system" sdsc.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc1
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc2
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc3
```

14 Configuration

There are a number of configuration files that control how an iRODS server behaves. The following is a listing of the configuration files in an E-iRODS installation.

This document is intended to explain how the various configuration files are connected, what their parameters are, and when to use them.

~/odbc.ini

This file, in the irods user's home directory, defines the unixODBC connection details needed for the iCommands to communicate with the iCAT database. This file was created by the installer package and probably should not be changed by the sysadmin unless they know what they are doing.

iRODS/config/irods.config

This file defines the main settings for the iRODS installation. It is created by the installer package and comes preconfigured with approved and tested settings. Changing this file will take effect after a restart of the iRODS server. It is recommended not to change this file.

iRODS/server/config/server.config

This file defines the behavior of the server Agent that answers individual requests coming into iRODS. It is recommended not to change this file.

~/irods/irodsA

This is the scrambled password file that is saved after an `init` is run. If this file does not exist, then each iCommand will prompt for a password before authenticating with the iRODS server. If this file does exist, then each iCommand will read this file and use the contents as a cached password token and skip the password prompt. This file can be deleted manually or can be removed by running `iexit full`.

~/irods/irodsEnv

This is the main iRODS configuration file defining the iRODS environment. Any changes are effective immediately since iCommands reload their environment on every execution.

15 Glossary

This glossary attempts to cover most of the terms you may encounter when first interacting with iRODS. More information can be found on the iRODS wiki at <http://irods.org>.

Action

An external (logical) name given to an iRODS Rule(s) that defines a set of macro-level tasks. These tasks are performed by a chain of microservices in accordance with external input parameters. This is analogous to head atom in a Prolog rule or trigger-name in a relational database.

Agent

A type of iRODS server process. Each time a client connects to a server, an agent is created and a network connection established between it and the client.

API

An Application Programming Interface (API) is a piece of software's set of defined programmatic interfaces to enable other software to communicate with it. iRODS defines a client API and expects that clients connect and communicate with iRODS servers in this controlled manner. iRODS has an API written in C, and another written in Java (Jargon).

Authentication Mechanisms

iRODS can employ various mechanisms to verify user identity and control access to Data Objects (iRODS files), Collections, etc. These currently include the default iRODS secure password mechanism (challenge-response), Grid Security Infrastructure (GSI), and Operating System authentication (OSAuth).

Audit Trail

List of all operations performed upon a Data Object, a Collection, a Resource, a User, or other iRODS entities. When Auditing is enabled, significant events in the iRODS system (affecting the iCAT) are recorded. Full activity reports can be compiled to verify important preservation and/or security policies have been enforced.

Client

A Client in the iRODS client-server architecture gives users an interface to manipulate Data Objects and other iRODS entities that may be stored on remote iRODS servers. iRODS clients include: iCommands (unix-like command line interface), iDrop (ftp-like client java application), iDropWeb (web interface), etc.

Collection

All Data Objects stored in an iRODS system are stored in some Collection, which is a logical name for that set of Data Objects. A Collection can have sub-collections, and hence provides a hierarchical

structure. An iRODS Collection is like a directory in a Unix file system (or Folder in Windows), but is not limited to a single device or partition. A Collection is logical so that the Data Objects can span separate and heterogeneous storage devices (i.e. is infrastructure and administrative domain independent). Each Data Object in a Collection must have a unique name in that Collection.

Data Grid

A grid computing system (a set of distributed, cooperating computers) that deals with the controlled sharing and management of large amounts of distributed data.

Data Object

A Data Object is a single "stream-of-bytes" entity that can be uniquely identified; a file stored in iRODS. It is given a Unique Internal Identifier in iRODS (allowing a global name space), and is associated with (situated in) a Collection.

Driver

A piece of software that interfaces to a particular type of resource as part of the iRODS server/agent process. The driver provides a common set of functions (open, read, write, close, etc.) which allow iRODS clients (iCommands and other programs using the client API) to access different devices via the common iRODS protocol.

Federation

Zone Federation occurs when two or more independent iRODS Zones are registered with one another. Users from one Zone can authenticate through their home iRODS server and have access rights on a remote Zone and its Data Objects, Collections, and Metadata.

Jargon

The Java API for iRODS. Read more at <https://www.irods.org/index.php/Jargon>.

iCAT

The iCAT, or iRODS Metadata Catalog, stores descriptive state metadata about the Data Objects in iRODS Collections in a DBMS database (e.g. PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle). The iCAT can keep track of both system-level metadata and user-defined metadata. There is one iCAT database per iRODS Zone.

IES (iCAT-Enabled Server)

A machine that runs both an iRODS server and the iCAT database for a particular Zone.

iCommands

iCommands are Unix utilities that give users a command-line interface to operate on data in the iRODS system. There are commands related to the logical hierarchical filesystem, metadata, data object information, administration, rules, and the rule engine. iCommands provide the most comprehensive set of client-side standard iRODS manipulation functions.

Inheritance

Collections in the iRODS logical name space have an attribute named Inheritance. When Collections have this attribute set to Enabled, new Data Objects and Collections added to the Collection inherit the access permissions (ACLs) of the Collection. Data Objects created within Collections with Inheritance set to Disabled do not inherit the parent Collection's ACL settings. `ichmod` can be used to manipulate this attribute on a per-Collection level. `ils -A` displays ACLs and the inheritance status of the current working iRODS directory.

Logical Name

The identifier used by iRODS to uniquely name a Data Object, Collection, Resource, or User. These identifiers enable global namespaces that are capable of spanning distributed storage and multiple administrative domains for shared Collections or a unified virtual Collection.

Management Policies

The specification of the controls on procedures applied to Data Objects in a Collection. Management policies may define that certain Metadata be required to be stored. Those policies could be implemented via a set of iRODS Rules that generate and verify the required Metadata. Audit Trails could be used to generate reports that show that Management Policies have been followed.

Metadata

Metadata is data about data. In iRODS, metadata can include system or user-defined attributes associated with a Data-Object, Collection, Resource, etc., stored in the iCAT database. The metadata

stored in the iCAT database are in the form of AVUs (attribute-value-unit tuples).

Metadata Harvesting

The process of extraction of existing Metadata from a remote information resource and subsequent addition to the iRODS iCAT. The harvested Metadata could be related to certain Data Objects, Collections, or any other iRODS entity.

Micro-service

A set of operations performed on a Collection at a remote storage location.

Micro-services are small, well-defined procedures/functions that perform a certain server-side task and are compiled into the iRODS server code. Rules invoke Micro-services to implement Management Policies. Micro-services can be chained to implement larger macro-level functionality, called an Action. By having more than one chain of Micro-services for an Action, a system can have multiple ways of performing the Action. At runtime, using priorities and validation conditions, the system chooses the "best" micro-service chain to be executed.

Migration

The process of moving digital Collections to new hardware and/or software as technology evolves. Separately, Transformative Migration may be used to mean the process of manipulating a Data Object into a new format (e.g. gif to png) for preservation purposes.

Physical Resource

A storage system onto which Data Objects may be deposited. iRODS supports a wide range of disk, tape, and remote storage resources.

Resource

A resource, or storage resource, is a software/hardware system that stores digital data. iRODS clients can operate on local or remote data stored on different types of resources through a common interface.

Rules

Rules are a major innovation in iRODS that let users automate data management tasks, essential as data collections scale to petabytes across hundreds of millions of files. Rules allow users to automate enforcement of complex Management Policies (workflows), controlling the server-side execution (via Micro-services) of all data access and manipulation operations, with the capability of verifying these operations.

Rule Engine

The Rule Engine interprets Rules following the iRODS rule syntax. The Rule Engine, which runs on all iRODS servers, is invoked by server-side procedure calls and selects, prioritizes, and applies Rules and their corresponding Micro-services. The Rule Engine can apply recovery procedures if a Micro-service or Action fails.

Scalability

Scalability means that a computer system performs well, even when scaled up to very large sizes. In iRODS, this refers to its ability to manage Collections ranging from the data on a single disk to petabytes (millions of gigabytes) of data in hundreds of millions of files distributed across multiple locations and administrative domains.

Server

An iRODS server is software that interacts with the access protocol of a specific storage system. It enables storing and sharing data distributed geographically and across administrative domains.

Transformative Migration

The process of manipulating a Data Object from one encoding format to another. Usually the target format will be newer and more compatible with other systems. Sometimes this process is "lossy" and does not capture all of the information in the original format.

Trust Virtualization

The management of Authentication and authorization independently of the storage location.

Unique Internal Identifier

See Logical Name.

User Name

Unique identifier for each person or entity using iRODS; sometimes combined with the name of the home iRODS Zone (as username#Zonename) to provide a globally unique name when using Zone

Federation.

Vault

An iRODS Vault is a data repository system that iRODS can maintain on any storage system which can be accessed by an iRODS server. For example, there can be an iRODS Vault on a Unix file system, an HPSS (High Performance Storage System), or an IBM DB2 database. A Data Object in an iRODS Vault is stored as an iRODS-written object, with access controlled through the iCAT catalog. This is distinct from legacy data objects that can be accessed by iRODS but are still owned by previous owners of the data. For file systems such as Unix and HPSS, a separate directory is used; for databases such as Oracle or DB2 a system-defined table with LOB-space (Large Object space) is used.

Zone

An iRODS Zone is an independent iRODS system consisting of an iCAT-Enabled Server (IES), optional additional distributed iRODS Servers (which can reach hundreds, worldwide) and clients. Each Zone has a unique name. When two iRODS Zones are configured to interoperate with each other securely, it is called (Zone) Federation.

16 Known Issues

```
Ticket Item:  [#1212] iadmin modrescdatapaths failing - psql 8.1 on cen58
-----

iadmin modrescdatapath does not work on RHEL/CentOS 5.x since the yum-packaged PostgreSQL version is 8.1.

PostgreSQL 8.1 does not allow the 'update' command to include a table alias (as used by modrescdatapath).
This feature was not included in PostgreSQL until version 8.2.

The modrescdatapath subcommand works as expected on RHEL/CentOS 6.x.

Ticket Item:  [#1260] unixODBC on OpenSuSE 12.x fails when iRODS resource name contains a hyphen (aka "hpss-sdsc")
-----

unixODBC on OpenSuSE 12.x fails when iRODS resource name contains a hyphen (aka "hpss-sdsc").

Also, 'moon landing' in rules3.0/rulewriteKeyValPairs.r.

Other Operating Systems and versions do not exhibit this behavior.

Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsAuthCheck user rods#tempZone
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsAuthResponse set proxy authFlag to 5, client authFlag to 5, user:rods#tempZone
proxy:rods client:rods
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[1]=RajaBase
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[2]=acRegisterData
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[3]=acRegisterData()
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[4]=($objPath like "/home/raja#sdsc/myImportantFiles/*" && $dataSize > 10000000)
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[5]={
msiRegisterData()::recover_msiRegisterData();
msiQueue("msiReplicateData(\"hpss-sdsc\") :: recover_msiReplicateData;");
}
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[6]=@REL
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: cllExecSqlWithResult: SQLExecDirect error: -1, sql:select rule_id from R_RULE_MAIN
where rule_base_name = ? and rule_name = ? and rule_event = ? and rule_condition = ? and rule_body = ? and
rule_recovery = ?
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQLSTATE: 01000
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQLCODE: 4294967295
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQL Error message: [unixODBC]Error while executing the query (non-fatal);
ERROR:  syntax error at or near "hpss" at character 344
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: chlInsRuleTable cmlGetIntegerValueFromSqlV3 find rule if any failure -806000
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsGeneralRowInsert: rcGeneralRowInsert failed
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 ERROR: executeRuleAction Failed for msiAdmInsertRulesFromStructIntoDB status = -806000
CAT_SQL_ERR
```

17 History of Releases

Date	Version	Description
2013-03-15	3.0b3	Third Beta Release. This is the third release from RENC1. It includes a new package for CentOS 6+, support for composable resources, and additional documentation.

2012-06-25	3.0b2	Second Beta Release. This is the second release from RENCI. It includes packages for iCAT, Resource, iCommands, and development, in both DEB and RPM formats. Also includes more documentation.
2012-03-01	3.0b1	Initial Beta Release. This is the first release from RENCI, based on the iRODS 3.0 community codebase.