



## Helix Nebula: Securing tomorrow's innovation with today's cloud

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CTO CloudSigma

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# CloudSigma: Mission Statement

We deliver ubiquitous cost effective access to flexible computing resources as a utility service.

# CloudSigma: Our Approach

- Complete Data Portability
- Run any OS with full root control (BSD, Linux, Windows etc.)
- No fixed server instance sizes
- Open networking

# Helix Nebula Strategic Plan

for a scientific Cloud Computing Infrastructure in Europe

- Establish a sustainable multi-tenant cloud computing infrastructure in Europe
- Initially based on the needs for the European Research Area & space agencies
- Integrate commercial services from multiple IT industry providers

# A Collaboration Initiative

**European Commission  
& relevant projects**

**User organisations**  
*Demand-side*

**European  
Cloud Computing  
Strategy**

**Commercial Service  
Providers**  
*Supply-side*

Bringing together all the stakeholders to establish a **public-private partnership**

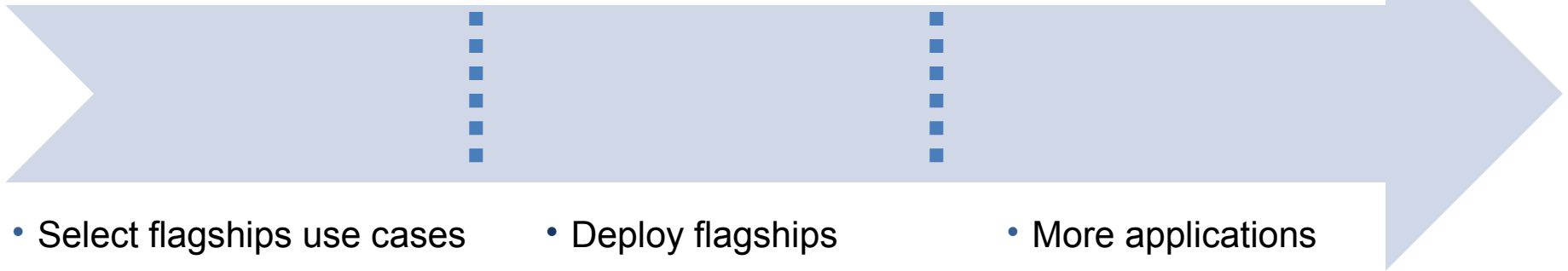


# Timeline

Set-up  
(2011)

Pilot phase  
(2012-2014)

Full-scale  
cloud service  
market  
(2014 ... )



- Select flagships use cases
- Identify service providers
- Define governance model

- Deploy flagships
- Analysis of functionality, performance & financial model
- Success Stories

- More applications
- More services
- More users
- More service providers

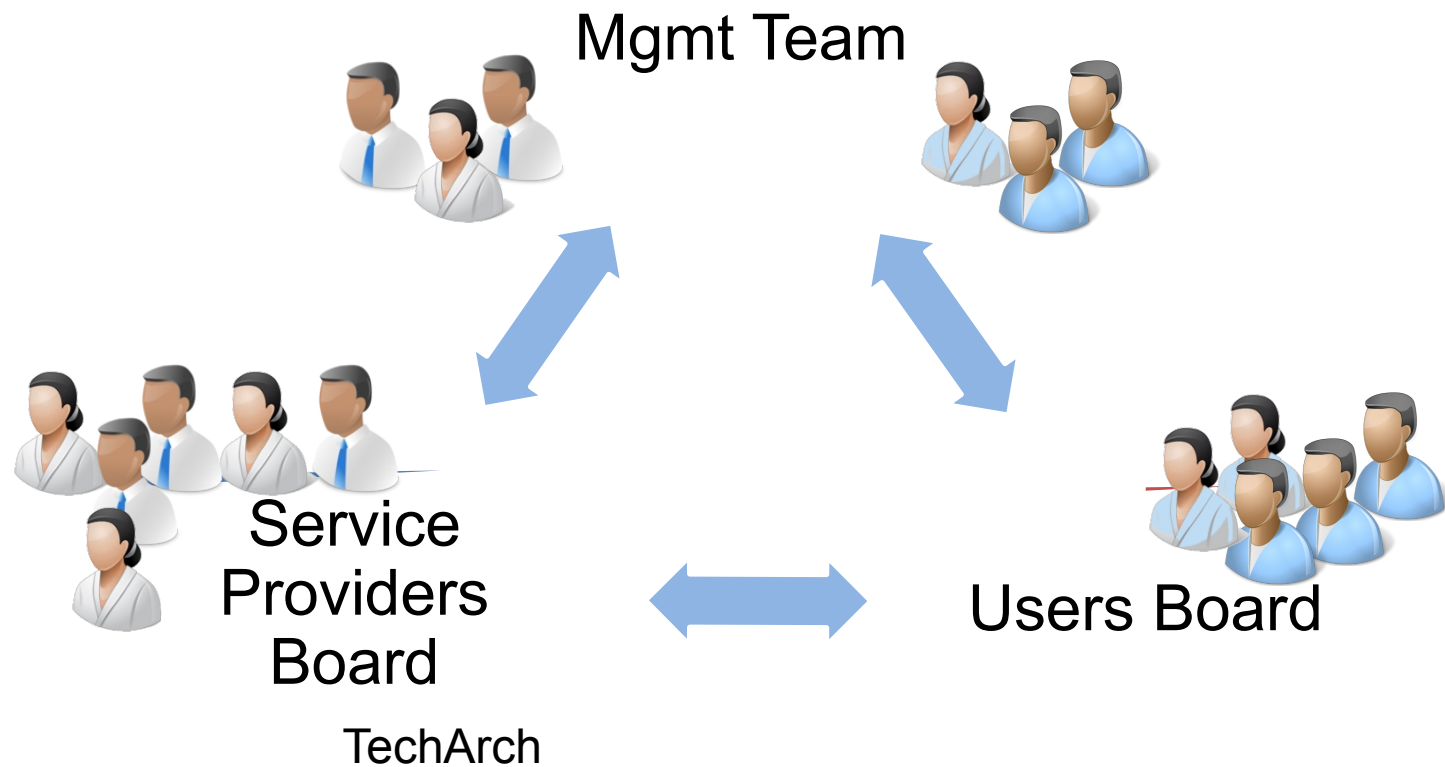
# Pilot Phase

Explore / push a series of perceived barriers to Cloud adoption:

- **Security:** Unknown or low compliance and security standards
- **Reliability:** Availability of service for business critical tasks
- **Data privacy:** Moving sensitive data to the Cloud
- **Scalability / Elasticity:** Will the Cloud scale-up to our needs
- **Network performance:** Data transfer bottleneck; QoS
- **Integration:** Hybrid systems with in-house / legacy systems
- **Vendor lock-in:** Vendor dependency once data & applications are transferred to the Cloud
- **Legal concerns:** liability, jurisdiction, intellectual property
- **Transparency:** Clarity of conditions, terms and pricing

# Governance Model

Proof of Concept stage

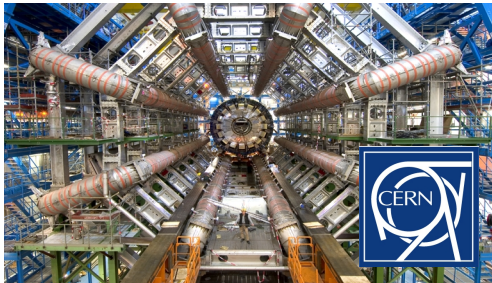


**Activities covered by NDA**



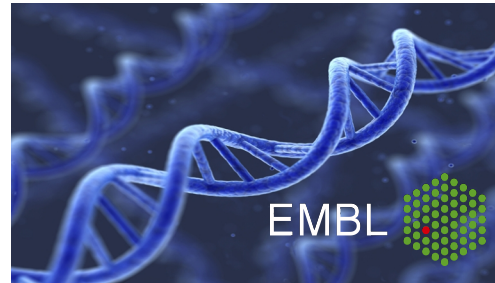
# Initial flagships use cases

## ATLAS High Energy Physics Cloud Use



To support the computing capacity needs for the ATLAS experiment

## Genomic Assembly in the Cloud



A new service to simplify large scale genome analysis; for a deeper insight into evolution and biodiversity

## SuperSites Exploitation Platform

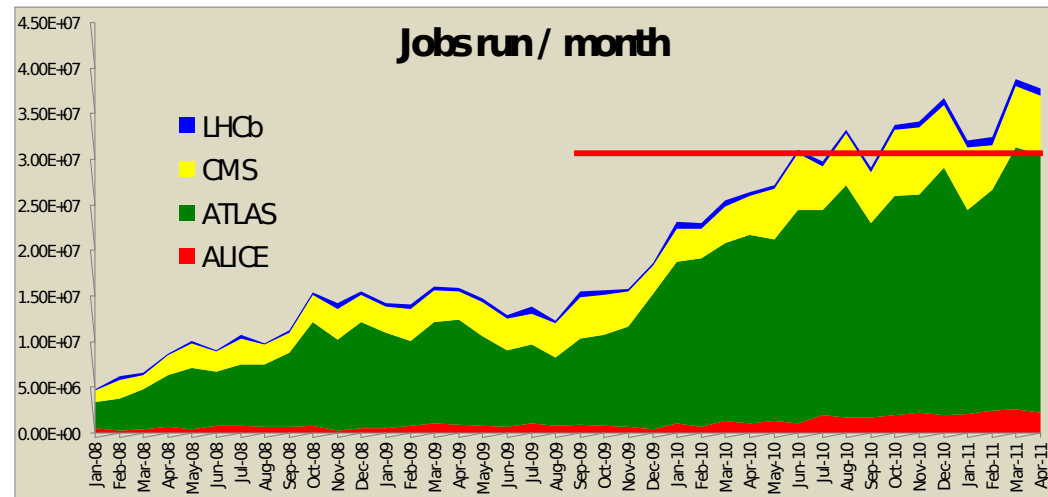
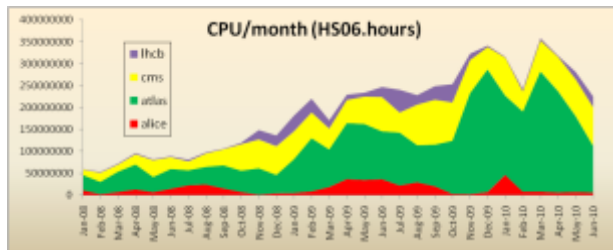


To create an Earth Observation platform, focusing on earthquake and volcano research

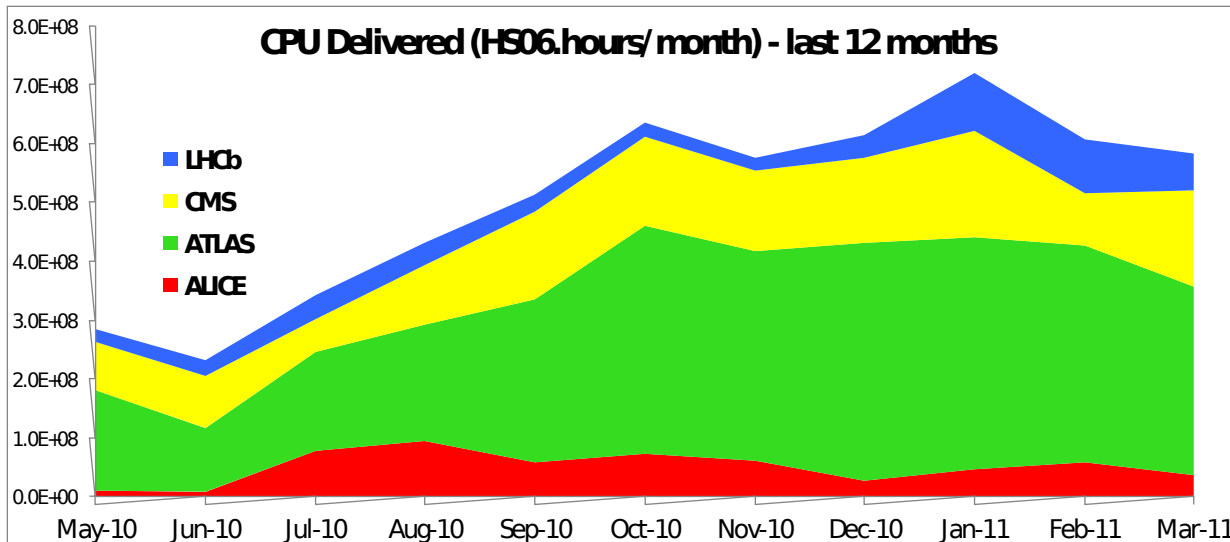
- **Scientific challenges with societal impact**
- **Sponsored by user organisations**
- ***Stretch* what is possible with the cloud today**

# CERN Grid Usage

CPU used at Tier 1s + Tier 2s (HS06.hrs/month) - last 12 months



CPU Delivered (HS06.hours/ month) - last 12 months



At the end of 2010 we saw all Tier 1 and Tier 2 job slots being filled

CPU usage now >> double that of mid-2010 (inset shows build up over previous years)

In 2010 WLCG delivered ~ 80-100 CPU-millennia!

# ESA: SSEP & GeoHazard Supersites

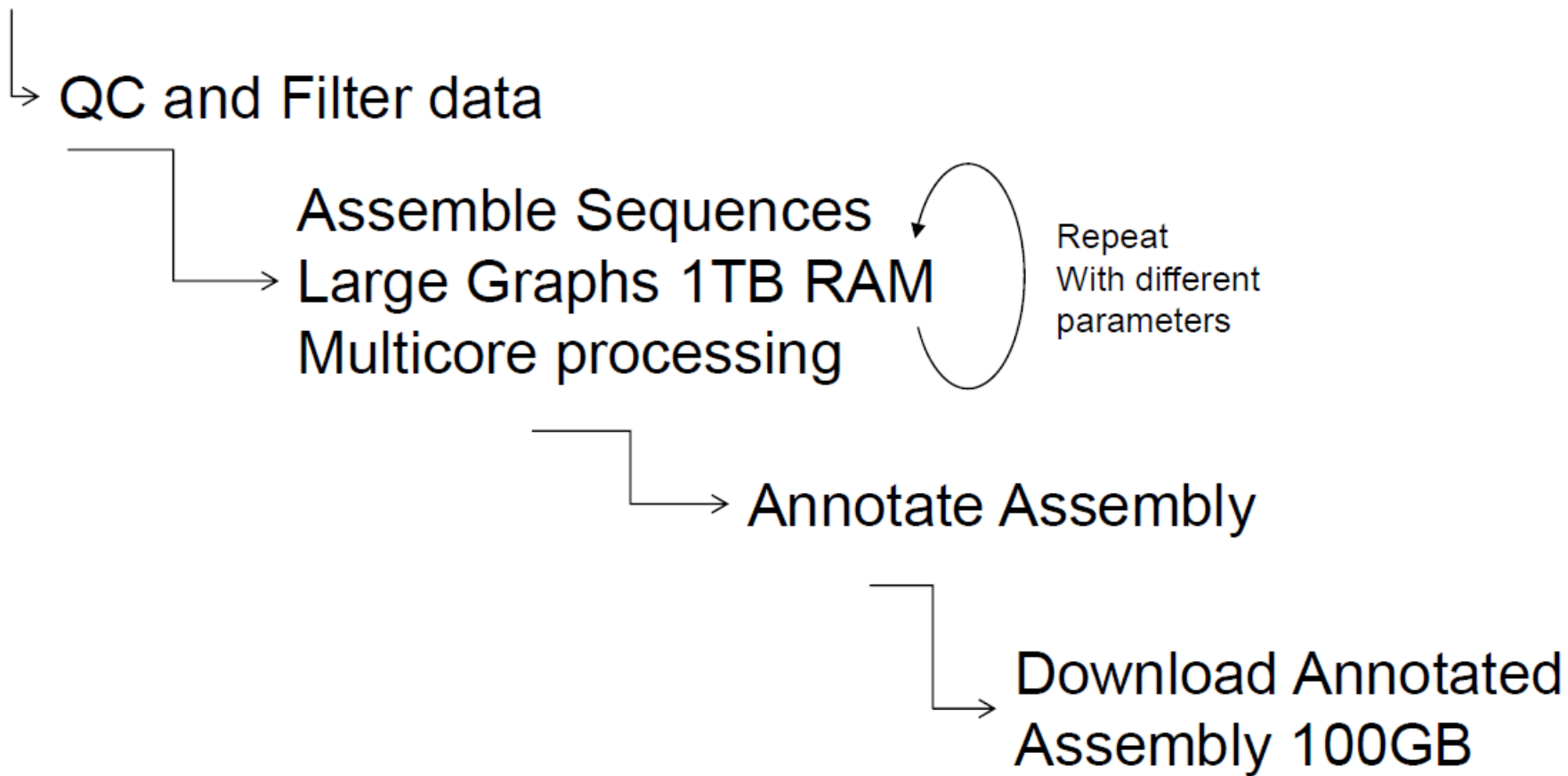
- The SuperSites Exchange Platform (SSEP) flagship is based on the **GeoHazard Supersites** initiative.
- The GeoHazard Supersites initiative aims to increase the **scientific knowledge of the Earth** through a **global partnership** of projects, organizations and scientists.
- The GeoHazard Supersites goal is to advance the **scientific understanding** of the physical processes controlling **earthquakes, volcanic eruptions**, and unrest episodes as well as those driving tectonics and Earth surface dynamics by:
  - improving geohazard monitoring through the **combination of in-situ and space-based data**,
  - **facilitating the access** to data relevant for fundamental research and geohazard assessment.



# EMBL: Genomic Sequencing

Upload Data

1TB sequence data





# Flagship Requirements

	ATLAS H.E.P. Cloud Use (CERN)	Genomic Assembly in the Cloud (EMBL)	SuperSites Exploitation Platform (ESA/CNES/DLR)
Scientific goal/society impact/photogenic	•	•	•
Scale of resources used	•	•	
Federation/Aggregation of datasets		•	•
Long-term archiving of data			•
On-demand processing	•	•	•
Impact on community & benefits	•	•	•
Potential increase of users	•	•	•
Interoperability	•	•	•
Data security	•	•	•
Maturity	•	•	•
Access to license-controlled sw			•

# Flagship use cases Participating Suppliers in Proof of Concept stage

Atos

CloudSigma 

interoute  
from the ground to the cloud

logica  
be brilliant together

terra<sup>due</sup> 20 

..T..Systems..

the  
SERVER  
LABS

the IT architects

sixsq.



# Lessons from POCs

- No common deployment models across participating cloud providers
- Networking set-ups vary considerable
- Demand-side institutions have their own legacy requirements
- Reality is a many to many model for supply to demand side interactions

# Security User Stories

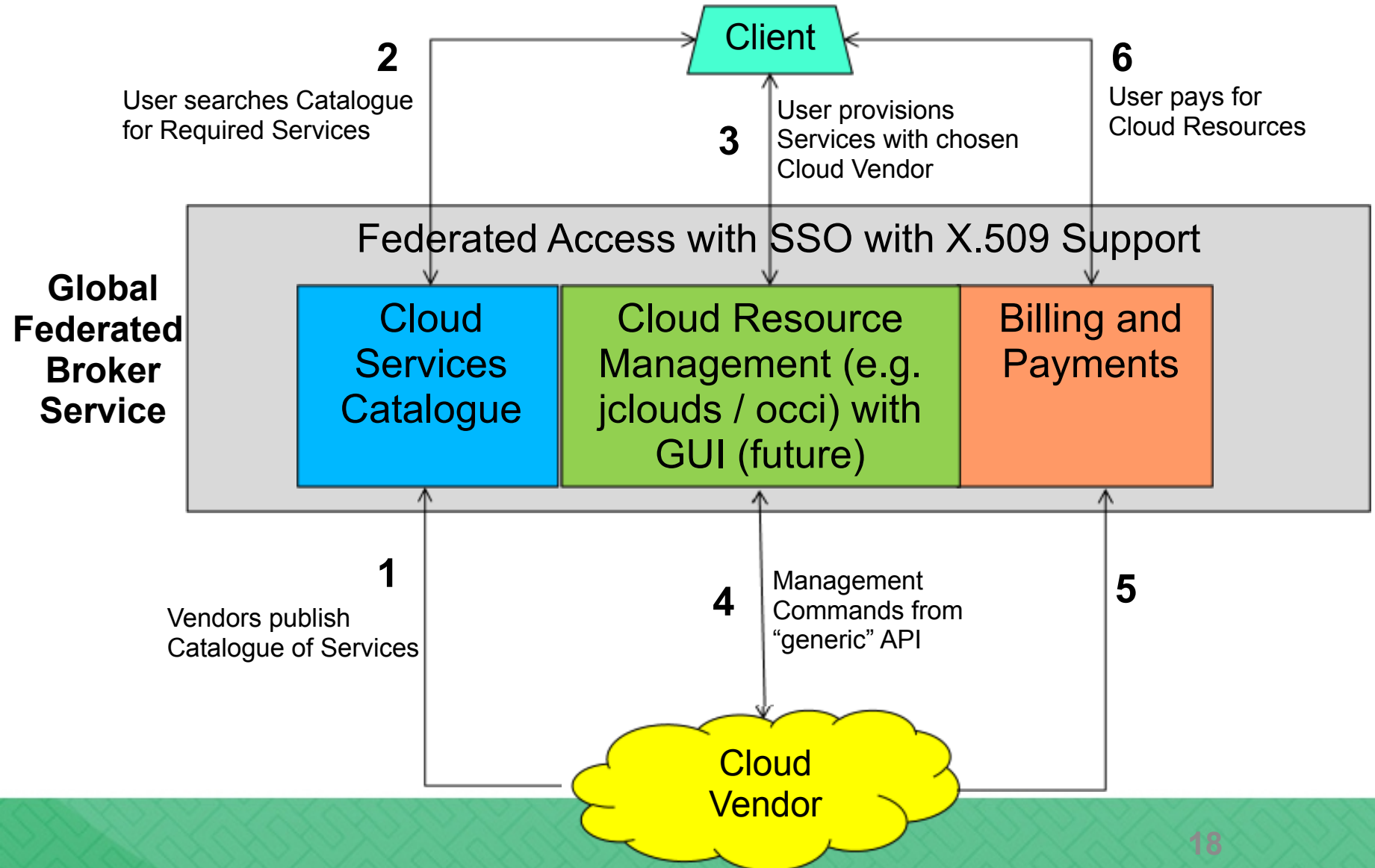
## As a customer,

- I can set-up firewall rules for each instantiated VM such that I can control access to my cloud resources
- I can set-up firewall rules between different cloud providers in order to establish transparent networks
- I can manage my instance keys such that each have pre-assigned firewall rules, which I can specify when provisioning instances or modify while the instances are running
- I have a mechanism to rotate login credentials and instance keys such that different instances are started with different credentials and keys thus improving protection and security of my Vms
- I can encrypt data in movement as well as persistent data
- I can use the same login credentials to access all the services and cloud providers using SSO

# Security Aims

- Each cloud provides its own physical security and policies. The consortium has security policy with minimum requirement plus transparency on policies by supplier
- Perimeter security configurable across clouds using a service enabling framework (more later)
- Enable transfer of data & drive/server images between clouds securely and transparently
- Ability to security harden server images across providers using a standardised interface & methodology
- Centralised security monitoring and incident response services

# Federation Architecture

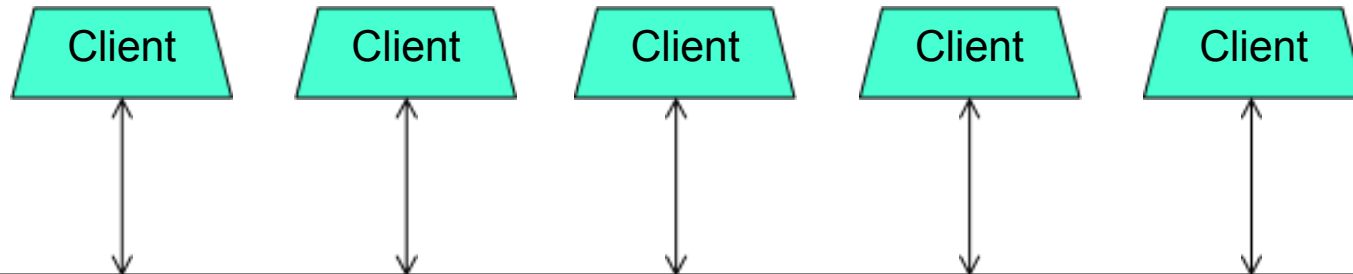


# Federation Architecture

- A platform hosting the Global Federated Broker would offer 3 core services
  - **Cloud Services Catalog**, populated using some common standards-based language, this would be the repository for a vendor to list services, costs, SLA's, etc.
  - **Cloud Resource Management**, this would be a common API (RESTful) and/or a GUI to allow the user to provision and manage cloud compute resources over a group of cloud providers.
  - **Billing and Payments**, here a common set of processes would come into play to allow vendors to bill users for services consumed, there would be some B2B aspects to the delivery of the invoice (e.g. EDI)
- The Broker would need to be:
  - Distributed
  - Highly Available
  - Vendor agnostic
  - Standards based and compliant

**Technical guidance and execution driven by dedicated technical architecture committee.**

# Federation Architecture

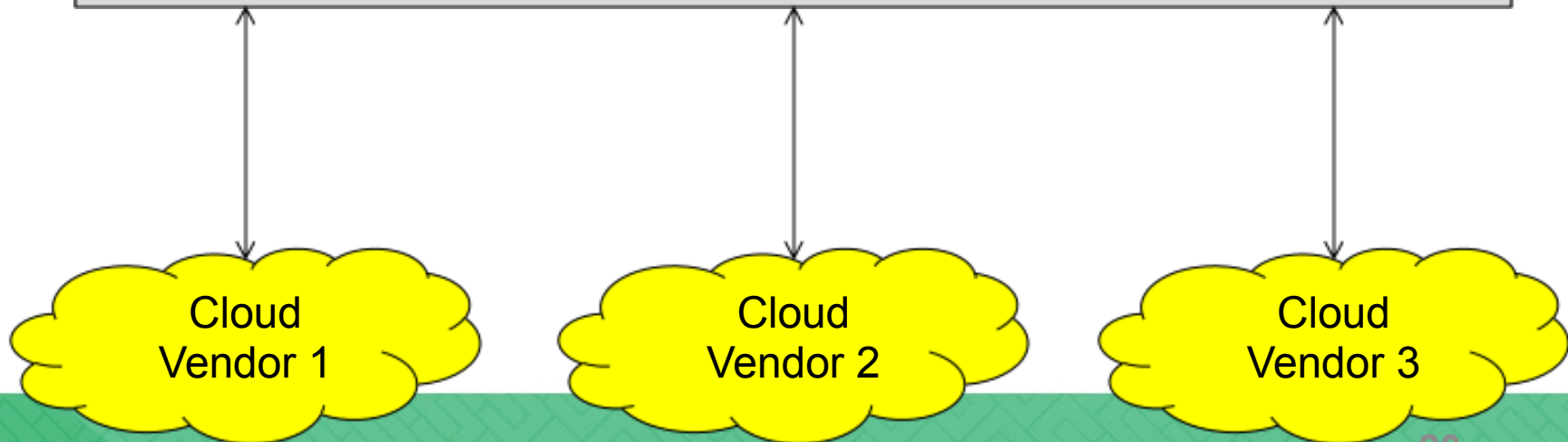


Federated Access with SSO with X.509 Support

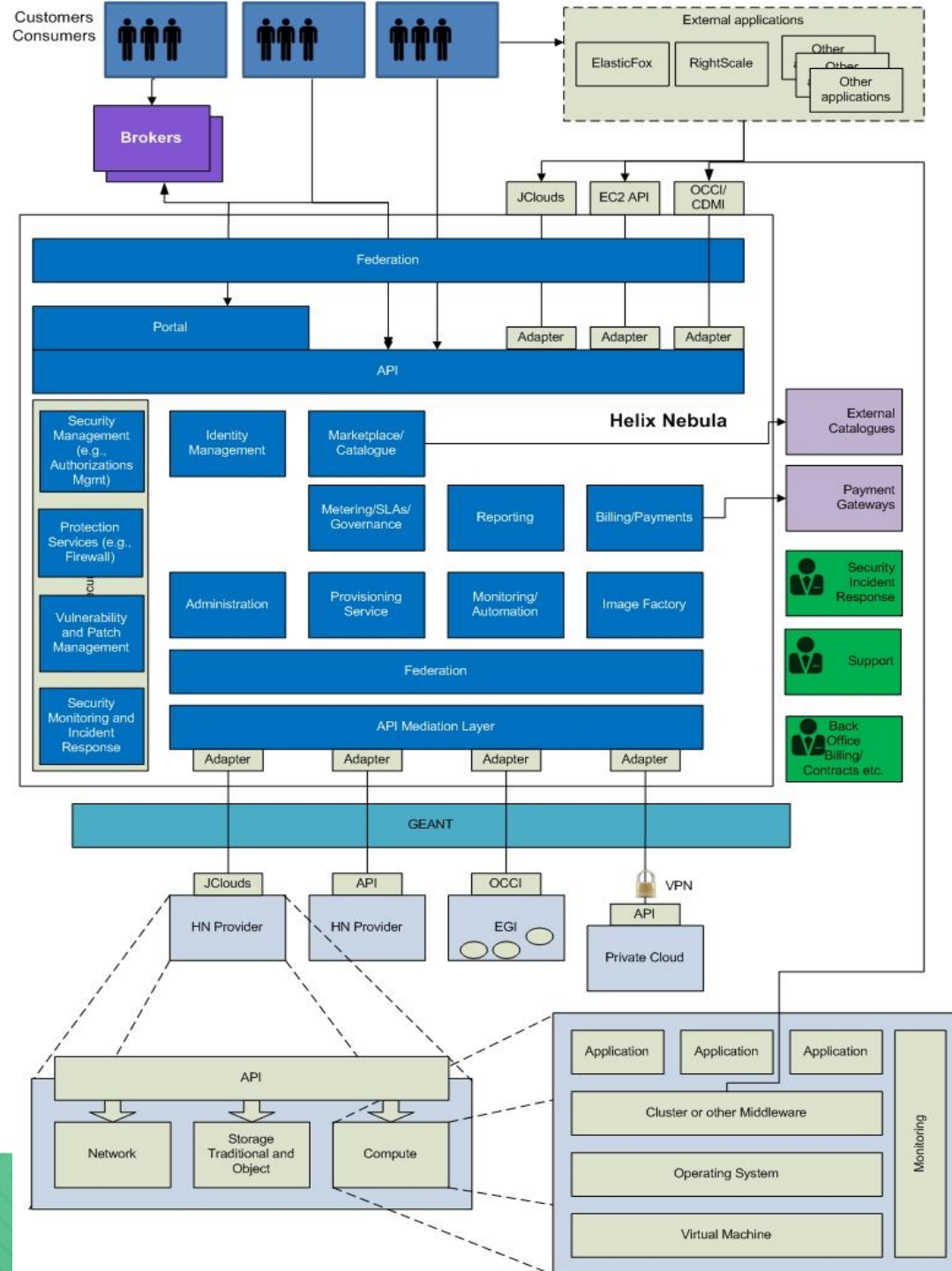
Cloud  
Services  
Catalogue

Cloud Resource  
Management

Billing and  
Payments







# Release plan

## Release 1:

- Full SSO
- Common API and image library
- Allow full firewall set-up & configuration
- Basic credential and key rotation functionality
- Security monitoring and incident response performed manually
- GEANT connectivity

# Release plan

## Release 2:

- Key ring management
- Automated Credential/Key Rotation
- Automated Security Monitoring & Incident Response
- Vulnerability & Patch Management



**CloudSigma** 

**HOLIX  
NBULA**  
THE SCIENCE CLOUD