

**Abstract – NMCI Call for Papers  
Automated Provisioning – Identity and Access Management (I&AM) in a  
Heterogeneous Environment of Web-enabled and Legacy Applications**

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## **Automated Provisioning – Identity and Access Management (I&AM) in a Heterogeneous Environment of Web-enabled and Legacy Applications**

### **Thor Technologies –**

Behind all organizational activities are users who require access to information and applications in support of their role whether stateside or in-theater. Most organizations have deployed email, financial systems, time reporting, management and other applications to help their users be more productive and to enable collaborative users across departments to interact. These applications are typically heterogeneous, a mix of mainframe, custom, client-server and web-based systems and applications. While such complex environments can bring many challenges to the IT organization, arguably the most critical challenge is that of identity and access management. Properly administering user access rights and privileges across these systems, applications and other resources, while ensuring that organizational security policy and standards are followed is a big challenge. To gain better control over user access rights, enterprises are turning to automated access rights management, also known as **provisioning**.

Enterprise provisioning involves the management activities, business processes and technologies governing the creation, modification and deletion of user access rights and privileges to an organization's IT systems and applications. This includes governing what, if any, approvals are required before a user's access privileges can be created. Provisioning systems, such as Xellerate® from Thor Technologies, work by creating user access accounts on the particular IT systems they manage. They do this by matching information about that user, such as function, location, department and title, to organizational policies and regulatory requirements governing what systems and applications the user needs. Provisioning can be very granular and not only governs what the user can access but also what data within the managed system they can access or modify.

Xellerate's unique capabilities would benefit the Navy in the following tasks:

- **System consolidation:** As the Navy reduces the number of legacy systems, automation and consistency will be key. Xellerate's Reconciliation Engine can detect and identify user accounts through the application of complex rules automating the process of consolidating accounts across a heterogeneous environment. Once an identity is brought into Xellerate, provisioning automation then ensures that each user is provisioned with the proper credentials and entitlements to the target systems.
- **Reduction in number of System Administrators:** This is Xellerate's primary source of ROI. By automating the user information gathering, profile creation, access determination, and the execution of the provisioning events, Xellerate can vastly reduce the amount of time systems

administrators need to spend on the tedious tasks of account creation and management.

- Increased security: With estimates of over 50,000 legacy applications in place, consistent policy implementation is impossible to maintain without automation. Xellerate ensures that security policies and access policies are consistently enforced across all applications. In addition, Xellerate's state machine tracks each user's access across all applications so at any point time you know who has access to what, who authorized that access, and can terminate any or all of a user's access at any time either programmatically or with a single click.
- Flexible identity management across domains: Xellerate affords an extreme level of flexibility and configurability that cannot be matched. As the user's context changes from location to location, function to function, and/or organization-to-organization, accesses and entitlements are instantly recalculated and the sailor arrives at the destination with all of the tools required for that user based on any number or combination of parameters.

## Summary

Having such an extremely complex and rapidly evolving IT environment, the Navy will face many challenges. These challenges are magnified as the user base is expanded to both internal and external users via the Web. Keeping up with the demands of creating, modifying and revoking the access rights of large, dynamic user bases requires automated processes. Xellerate, the secure enterprise provisioning system from Thor Technologies, is a powerful solution to these critical enterprise challenges. Xellerate centrally administers user access rights to the applications and other resources in the enterprise, and manages the entire process with intelligent automation according to organizational policies. Xellerate increases productivity by connecting users to the resources they need in a fraction of the time previously required. Xellerate increases security and ensures policy compliance by automatically governing user access to sensitive information and applications and then instantly revoking access to these resources when necessary.