

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

National Center for
Supercomputing Applications

1205 Clark Street
Urbana, IL 61801



August 27, 2012

To: John Towns
PI and Project Director, XSEDE

Re: Letter of Intent to join the XSEDE Federation

John:

NCSA at the University of Illinois wishes to participate in the XSEDE Federation and SP Forum as a Level 2 Service Provider (SP) through its delivery of *MSS*. NCSA's Mass Storage System (*MSS*) is available to all users of NCSA HPC production systems for storage of data. It consists of a high-performance system running UberFS backed by EMC's DiskXtender software, which implements the IEEE Mass Storage Reference Model. Developed at NCSA, UberFS is a new service that is layered on top of the existing mass storage system and provides an updated interface for data management.

There are significant benefits of having *MSS* as a Level 2 SP. This resource has been associated with a long series of productions HPC resources and significant data resides in this archive that is critically important to the XSEDE researcher community. Continued support for integration of *MSS* into the XSEDE environment will facilitate migration of this data to appropriate alternate resources through the end of life of this resource in October 2013.

We have reviewed the XD Service Providers Forum: Charter, Membership, and Governance document (version 10.1, dated 2 February 2012, at: https://www.xsede.org/documents/10157/281380/SPF_Definition_v10.1_120228.pdf3) defining the mutual responsibilities of XSEDE and an SP and are confident that we can and will fulfill our obligations as described therein. In the event that you have an issue with our performance, please contact me, directly. Similarly, if we perceive an issue, we will contact you. In either case we commit to work with you to resolve any issues. We at NCSA look forward to working with XSEDE to advance the mission of XSEDE and the NSF in advancing the nation's research capability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John Towns'.

John Towns
Director, Collaborative Cyberinfrastructure Programs
National Center for Supercomputing Applications
University of Illinois