

## **Authenticated Networked Guided Environment for Learning**

### **What is the Scheduled Services Manager?**

The Scheduled Services Manager (SSM), provides independently scheduled 'robot' functions such as current awareness alerting, maintenance checking of referenced URLs and other application-specific links between distributed service components.

### **What tasks will it perform?**

The Scheduled Services Manager (SSM) is responsible for collection checking for both service managers and end-users, alerting services, scheduled link checking services and license expiry warnings. The institutional administrator and end-users can make use of these 'additional' functions as required.

Library and learning resource administrators will use a 'thin', ANGEL-specific client web interface to directly maintain the internal resource and user metadata that configures the institutional ANGEL services. If this is to update changing target URLs of target resources, or renewed licences to commercial information services, the administrator can be prompted to do so by email messages from the Scheduled Services Manager, which can be tasked to periodically check such non-institutionally-controlled (and therefore "unreliable") access. Similarly, the SSM could be tasked by an end-user (instructor or student) to periodically repeat a search (via the Resource Manager) for items matching a topic of interest, emailing any new results found from either

bibliographic databases or accessible full-text sources.

### **How does it work?**

The Scheduled Services Manager (SSM) needs to carry out two separate tasks, which have very little in common. First, it needs to allow clients to interface to the database it will use to work out what tasks it needs to perform. Second, it needs to perform the scheduled tasks at the appropriate time.

The SSM will connect to the database, get a list of tasks to be performed, connect to the server broker to carry out the tasks, update the database and email the user involved. (It would be possible for clients to set other email addresses than end user ones, and to intercept the emails so that data can be updated without involving the end user.)

### **How can I implement the Scheduled Services Manager?**

The open source code and supporting documentation for the Scheduled Services Manager will be available from the ANGEL website:

**<[www.angel.ac.uk/inside/](http://www.angel.ac.uk/inside/)>.**

Users of ANGEL applications are further supported by the jiscmail list:

**<[angel-insiders@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:angel-insiders@jiscmail.ac.uk)>.**

**[www.angel.ac.uk](http://www.angel.ac.uk)**