**Title:** Adoption of the libfabric API – the User Perspective

**Session Leaders:** ???

**BoF Topic Area:** ???

**Abstract:**

One way to improve the efficiency or performance of applications (or communications middleware) is to focus on the way those applications consume network services as exported over a network API, like libfabric. The objective of this BoF is to allow consumers of the libfabric API to share points of view and to leverage experiences in deploying the libfabric framework, APIs and associated user level libraries. The format for the BoF consists of a series of lightning talks from key individuals deploying libfabric. The expected audience consists of consumers of network APIs as well as the open source community that has been developing libfabric.

**Long Description:**

Libfabric is a framework, APIs and associated user level libraries designed to improve access to network services among applications, communications middleware, and languages (e.g. PGAS) that depend on network access.

Since its introduction in 201?, libfabric has gained quite a bit of traction among various types of consumers of network-based services. Previous BoFs have focused on the initial development of libfabric. This BoF is focused on those who are deploying libfabric in support of applications.

The objective is to bring together those with a vested interest in deploying libfabric to share results, foster collaboration and spark new ideas for further development of the API. Those who are curious about libfabric or networking operations from a consumer perspective, as well as those who are evaluating libfabric as a future path, will find great value in this BoF.

The BoF will consist of a number of lightning talks delivered by those with relevant experience in deploying libfabric, with the first lightning talk consisting of a brief update on recent developments in the API. This first talk will be delivered by a member of the libfabric development community; all succeeding talks will be delivered by those developing applications, middleware, or languages adapted to the libfabric API.

Libfabric is supported by healthy mail lists targeting developers, users, and specific application areas, plus robust interactions via Github. We intend to leverage these resources both to solicit participation in the BoF and to make its presence widely known.

**Session Format:**

- what is the primary format for content that does not directly involve audience discussion? The BoF will consist of a series of lightning talks by a small number of speakers, with time allotted for Q&A after each talk and a discussion period at the end to summarize and capture relevant points.

- does the BoF topic deal with commercial technology? Vendor-neutral

The BoF will begin with a brief overview of recent developments in libfabric. This will be followed by 5-6 lightning talks from a range of different types of consumers such as PGAS, MPICH, MPI and others. Each bringer of lightning will be allotted 5-10 minutes plus time for Q&A. This will be followed by a moderated discussion including both presenters and participants.

**Description of the session format:**