



SPI

Software Process & Infrastructure for LCG

Summary and Perspectives

LCG Application Area Internal Review 20-22 October
2003

Alberto AIMAR

Difficulties we had to overcome

- Technical difficulties are quite few
- Mostly human issues
 - Normal as is the first time for most of users
 - Difficult to adapt to an infrastructure
 - Explain that developing infrastructure is to avoid for maintenance and quality issues
- Very large variety of projects and users
 - Decisions are taken at last minute, but is normal in an active environment
 - Everything needs to be discussed many times, which is good to get a good solution. Sometimes a bit too many
 - Quite an unglamorous work but is very important for all projects

Achievements

- There is a set of services that are working
 - Savannah Project Portal
 - Software Testing
 - External Software Service
 - Quality Assurance and Policies
 - Software Distribution
 - Software Documentation
 - Build and nightly builds
 - ...and more
- They are used by the LCG projects and outside the LCG
- Unlike in the past, we match the environment and habits of the way people work in HEP
- Basic services with open source software

Achievements (2)

- We have followed the strategy defined
 - Work with the users
 - Ask their help
 - Develop as little as possible
 - Provide simple and modular solutions
- We have commitments to the users but also to provide a sustainable service
- Is normal that most people move on to new projects, as it was planned
- Most people left SPI but the inter-personal relationships are very good and all still help
- Important achievement for me is that the project is a good group
 - people that genuinely help each other even after they are on other projects
 - care for the service we provide and for the users

Perspectives

- New features
 - Need to re-asses and strengthen the current solutions
 - See if the build system is not a too high burden to maintain and support
 - The planned resources allow to maintain and improved the existing services
- New services
 - Not many requests
 - Mostly requests of improvements
- New users
 - EGEE is interested in having a common infrastructure
 - Time will tell ...

Conclusions

- Homogeneity is important for the LCG and for its projects
 - People can move from project to project or work across projects
 - common structure, same tools, etc
 - Common services avoid duplication of work in the projects
 - software library, repository
 - Users/developers get a uniform entry point to all projects
 - projects portal

- SPI's address is → <http://spi.cern.ch>

Credits and Thanks

- Thanks to the people in SPI
 - Y.Perrin (savannah) 100%
 - E.Poinsignon (ext. libraries) 100%
 - I.Roman (scram) 100%
 - J.Moscicki (quality and policies, distribution) 50%
 - M.Gallas (testing) 30%
 - A.Undrus (nightly builds) 20%
- Thanks to people that still help us very often
 - A.Pfeiffer (servers, cvs)
 - D.Feichtinger (savannah)
 - F.Orellana (savannah)
 - M.Lamanna (quality and policies)
 - L.Mancera (code documentation)
 - S.Ashby (scram)
- Lot of work is done with/by the users (Pool, Pi, Seal, LHC experiments, IT)

