

## Minutes

XXVII HTASC, 9/10 September, 2004  
Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences

### **Present**

Tobias Haas (Chairperson), Bjorn Nilson, Rainer Mankel, Christoph Grab, Gian Piero Siroli (partly over VRVS), Milos Lokajicek, Jurgen Knobloch (partly over VRVS), Nicanor Colino

### **Excused**

Francois Etienne, Joszi Kadlecsik, Rosette Vandembroucke

### **Guest :**

Johan Blouw (MPI fur Kernphysik, Heidelberg)

### **Welcome**

Jir Chyla, Deputy Director of the Institute of Physics, welcomed the members of HTASC and expressed his hope that HTASC would be able to conduct a productive meeting.

Tobias Haas welcomed the members of HTASC and thanked Milos Lokajicek for hosting the meeting in Prague.

### **Minutes**

The minutes were approved with one minor modification requested by Rainer Mankel.

### **Tobias Haas: “Report from HEPCCC and discussion on HEPCCC future”**

Tobias Haas summarized the most recent developments and in particular the last meeting of HEPCCC held on 2 June 2004 at CERN. He pointed out that no decision on the future of HEPCCC had been reached at that meeting.

The discussion within HTASC centered on the question what HTASC should do in view of those facts. All members present agreed that HTASC with its present mandate cannot continue to work if HEPCCC is abolished. However, everybody present stressed the point that HTASC plays an important role, in particular in fostering information exchange between the European countries. In this context the following specific points were raised:

- Under the auspices of the preparatory work for a linear collider European coordination is urgently needed.

- The topic of training has traditionally not been coordinated and the need for such coordination is seen.
- HTASC has been able to give a voice to activities not directly related to CERN experiments.

Since those members represented at the Prague meeting clearly represent a biased view on the matter, it was decided that all members of HTASC should be polled on their view in that matter. These views together with a summary of the discussion held during the meeting should be circulated within the committee and then presented to the chairman of HEPCCC.

### **Jiri Choduba: “Tier 2 Center in Prague”**

Jiri Choduba presented the ongoing work of establishing a tier-2 center in Prague. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. Following the presentation, the members of HTASC had the chance to visit the computing installation of the tier-2 center.

### **Connie Sieh and Troy Dawson: “Scientific Linux”**

Troy Dawson gave an overview of recent developments in the effort to develop a “Scientific LINUX” distribution. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. Further details can be found at <http://www.scientificlinux.org>. The discussion following the presentation centered on questions of long-term support of the project and management commitment both at FNAL and CERN.

### **Dietrich Liko and Massimo Lamanna: “Status of the ARDA project”**

Dietrich Liko gave an overview of the current status of the ARDA project. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. The discussion centered on how the project is funded and what the common ground is between the activities going on inside the experiments. Massimo answered that currently the major source of funding is through EGEE. The common ground is clearly the “gLite” middleware from EGEE. There is hope that the commonality will increase as the project progresses.

### **Round Table Discussion**

#### **Christoph Grab: Report from Switzerland**

Chris Grab reported on recent developments in Switzerland. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. A virtual institute of High Energy Physics, called CHIPP, has been created. It coordinates all High Energy Physics activities in Switzerland. CHIPP also has a computing board. The chair of this board is Chris Grab. The Swiss tier-2 center has been set up at the CSCS in Manno. The experience with the first hardware acquisitions was difficult due to very poor hardware quality.

### **Rainer Mankel: Report from Germany**

Rainer Mankel summarized recent activities in Germany. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. Rainer announced the school on GRID computing to be held at the GridKA in Karlsruhe, 20 – 23 October. The GridKA now serves 8 experiments with approximately equal shares. A major hardware upgrade is underway adding 106 dual Xeon and 36 dual Opteron nodes. Also 40 TB of disk and 100 – 200 TB of tape space is being added. dCache has been introduced as the mass storage caching layer. At DESY the WAN connection has been upgraded to 1 GB/s. DESY is participating in EGEE and contributes its mass storage expertise. dCache has become a standard mass storage component of the GRID. At DESY a core site with LCG-2 has been set up. This is actively used by the ZEUS experiment at HERA which has adopted its FUNNEL MC production system to make use of the GRID.

### **David Bailey: Report from the UK**

Dave Bailey reported that UK Light access point is now underway similar to Star Light in the US. Also UK institutes are making increasing use of so called “Dark Fibers”. He invited other countries to participate in information exchange about this topic.

### **Bjorn Nilson: Report from the Nordic countries**

Bjorn Nilson told HTASC that the ATLAS DC2 has been the major activity at NORDUGRID. NORDUGRID has been able to contribute 30% of the entire production.

### **Nicanor Colino: Report from Spain**

Nica Colino summarized activities in Spain. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. The NREN RedIRIS2 is now fully operational. Connectivity to GEANT is provided by two 10 Gbs lines. LCG-2 infrastructure is available in Barcelona (PIC), Santander (IFCA) and Valencia (IFIC). With this infrastructure Spain contributed 20% to the ATLAS DC2 on LCG-2.

### **Johan Blouw: Use cases of LCG-2 at GridKA**

Johan Blouw joined the HTASC from Heidelberg and reported on his work on setting up LHC-b production at the GridKA in Karlsruhe. Slides of the presentation can be found in the agenda system. He described in detail the differences between the LHCb production system DIRAC and LCG-2. The former is based on job agents running on worker nodes which “pull” data while the LCG-2 works based on the philosophy of “pushing” data to worker nodes. In 2003 DIRAC was used as the only production system. In 2004 both DIRAC and LCG-2 were used. In the end about equal amount of events were generated in both systems. While LCG-2 allowed to run many more jobs the efficiency of successful job completion was only about 60%. This needs to be improved. Now that all this data has been generated the next steps are skimming the data and using it in distributed analysis.