



gLite Certification, Deployment, and Operations Process

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EGEE 1st EU Review
9-11/02/2005

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Introduction

- Current Release and Deployment Procedures
- Experience
- Additional Input
- New Procedures
 - gLite & LCG
 - preproduction service
- Lessons Learned
- Operations
- Roles in EGEE Operations
- Procedures
- Implementation
 - Examples
- Status and Summary



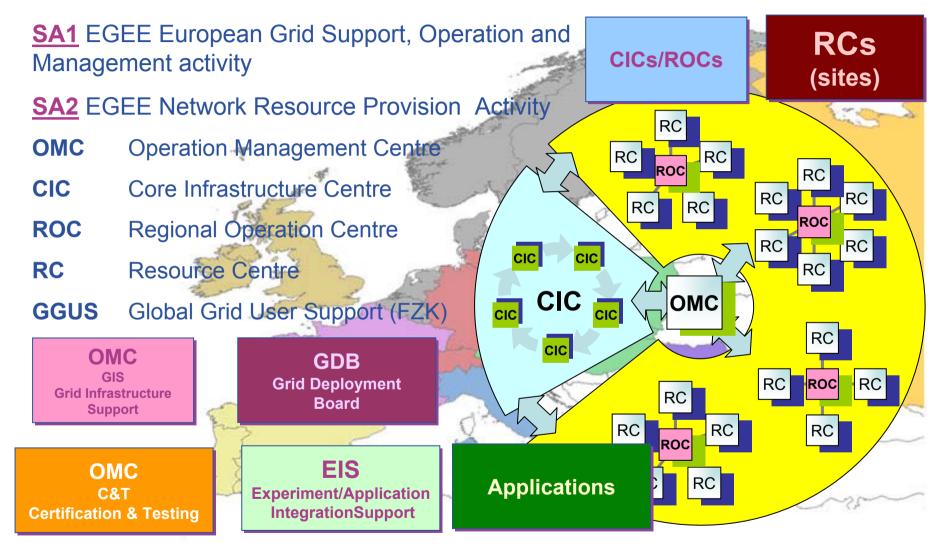
Current Procedure

- Monthly process (sequential)
 - Gathering of new material
 - Prioritization
 - Integration of items on list
 - Deployment on testbeds
 - First tests
 - feedback
 - Release to EIS testbed for experiment validation
 - Full testing (functional and stress)
 - feedback to patch/component providers
 - final list of new components
 - Internal release (LCFGng fabric management tool)
- On demand (parallel)
 - Preparation/Update of release notes for LCFGng
 - Preparation/Update of generic install documentation
 - Test installations on GIS testbeds
 - Update of user documentation
 - Announcement on the LCG-Rollout list



Roles

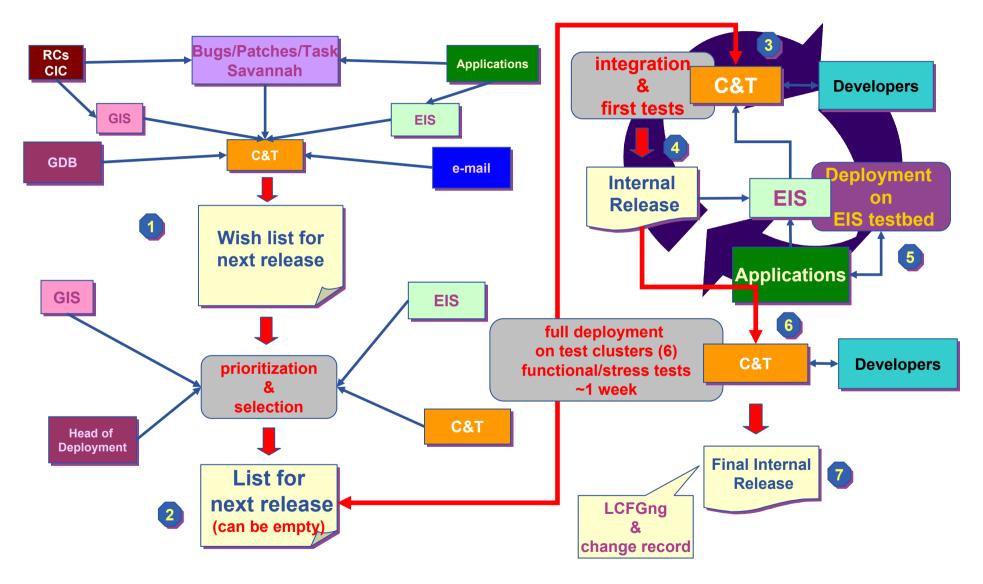
Enabling Grids for E-sciencE



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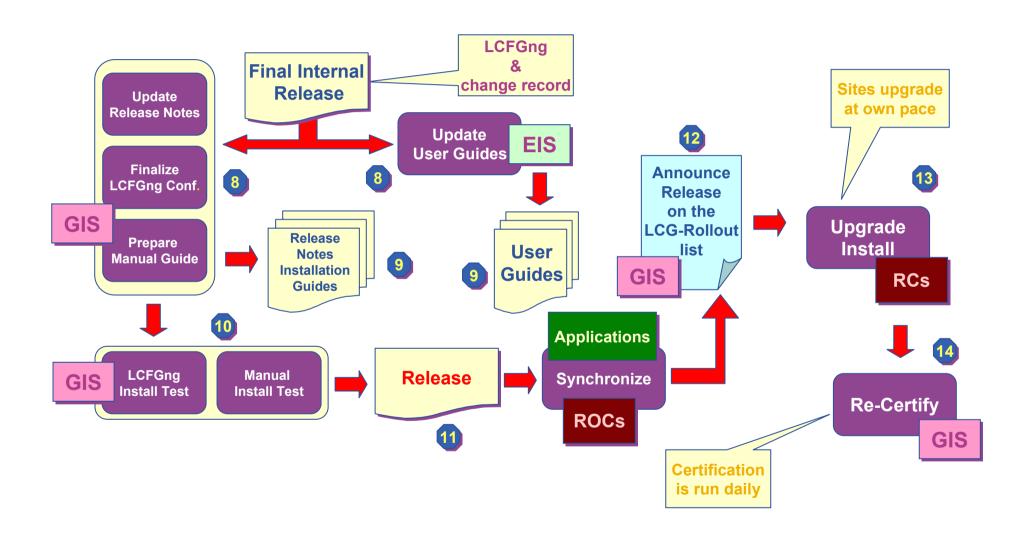


Release Preparation





Deployment





Experience

- Process was decisive to improve the middleware
- The process is time consuming (5 releases 2004)
 - Many sequential steps
 - Many different site layouts have to be tested
 - Format of internal and external releases differ
 - Multiple packaging formats (tool based, generic)
 - All components are treated equal
 - same level of testing for non vital and core components
 - new tools and tools in use by other projects are tested to the same level
- Process to include new components is not transparent
- Timing for releases difficult
 - Users: now sites: scheduled
- Upgrades need a long time to cover all sites
 - Some sites had problems to become functional after an upgrade



Additional Input

- Data Challenges
 - client libs need fast and frequent updates
 - core services need fast patches (functional/fixes)
 - applications need a transparent release preparation
 - many problems only become visible during full scale production
- Installation tool is not available for new OS versions
- Configuration is a major problem on smaller sites
- Operations Workshop
 - smaller sites can handle major upgrades only every 3 month
 - sites need to give input in the selection of new packages
 - resolve conflicts with local policies
- gLite releases need to be deployed
 - software already partially tested by JRA1
 - unit and functional tests
 - certification will need fewer iterations
 - preproduction service
 - replaces part of the certification process
 - LCG2 and gLite have to run side by side (coexist on same fabric)



Changes I

Simple Installation/Configuration Scripts

- YAIM (YetAnotherInstallMethod)
 - semi automatic simple configuration management
 - based on scripts (easy to integrate into other frameworks)
 - all configuration for a site are kept in one file
- APT (Advanced Package Tool) based installation of middleware RPMs
 - simple dependency management
 - updates (automatic on demand)
 - no OS installation
- Client libs packaged in addition as user space tar-ball
 - can be installed like application software
- Process (in development)
 - new process to gather and prioritize new packages
 - formal
 - tracking tool, priorities are assigned to the packages
 - cost to completion assigned (time of a specific individual) at cut off day
 - selection process with participation of applications, sites and deployment
 - work will continue based on priority list between releases (rolling)

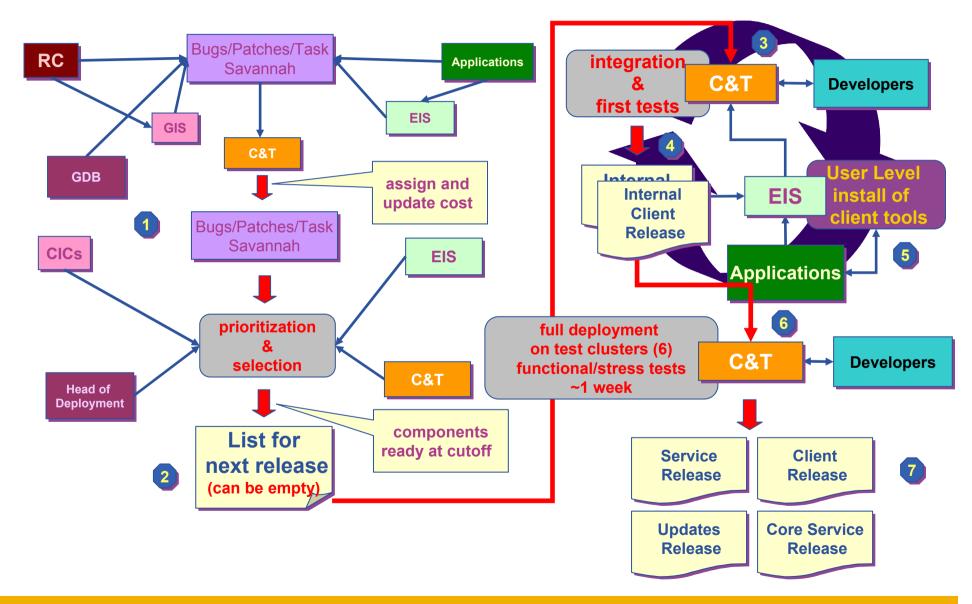


Changes II

- Different frequency of separate release types
 - client libs (UI, WN)
 - services (CE, SE)
 - core services (RB, BDII,..)
 - major releases (configuration changes, RPMs, new services)
 - updates (bug fixes) added any time to specific releases
 - non critical components will be made available with reduced testing
- Fixed release dates for major releases (allows planning)
 - every 3 months, sites have to upgrade within 3 weeks
- Minor releases every month
 - based on ranked components available at a specific date in the month
 - not mandatory for smaller RCs to follow
 - client libs will be installed as application level software
 - early access to pre-releases of new software for applications
 - client libs, will be made available on selected sites
 - services with functional changes are installed on EIS-Applications testbed
 - early feedback from applications



New Process (simplified)





New Deployment

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE YAIM Release(s) Update **Release Notes** Update **EIS User Guides GIS Every** 3 months Release User on fixed dates! Notes Installation Guides **Every Month** Guides Certification is run daily **Deploy Major Client Release** Releases (Mandatory) ROCs **Every RCs** Month **Re-Certify** CIC **Deploy Client Deploy Service** Releases Releases at own pace (User Space) (Optional) **CICs** GIS **RCs**

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Differences

- Unit and functional test already performed by JRA1
- Releases have to be synchronized between JRA1, SA1 based on NA4's priorities

New Sequence

- Certification Testbed (CERN)
 - Installation/config tests
 - Rerun functional tests (to validate configuration)
 - Synthetic stress tests
- Preproduction Service
 - Sites
 - Krakow, FZK, IN2P3, CNAF, Padua, Bari, NIKHEF, SNIC, Protvino-IHEP, UOM, LIP, PIC, RAL
 - sites test installation and configuration
 - Applications test by using their production software and give feedback on reliability and functionality

Status

- Documentation of process is in draft state
- Certification Testbed
 - gLite pre-release installed
- Preproduction Service
 - Sites are installing current LCG2 release as a platform for the gLite components
- Porting of tests and collection of existing tests (JRA1, NA4, ARDA) started



Lessons Learned

- Certification of the middleware was the essential tool to improve its quality
- Early access to new releases was crucial for applications
- Process has to undergo evolutionary changes
 - software matures
 - certification becomes more complex (shift to applications)
 - scale (110 sites)
 - releases with radical changes become very hard to deploy
 - usage (production)
 - some uniformity and fast spread of fixes is expected by applications
- Preproduction Service for gLite
 - currently building up
 - new releases have to be introduced to subsets of the sites (staged)
 - feedback from applications essential to prioritize the work



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Procedures

- Driven by experience during 2004 Data Challenges
- Reflecting the outcome of the November Operations Workshop
- Operations Procedures
 - roles of CICs ROCs RCs
 - weekly rotation of operations centre duties (CIC-on-duty)
 - daily tasks of the operations shift
 - monitoring (tools, frequency)
 - problem reporting
 - problem tracking system
 - communication with ROCs & RCs
 - escalation of unresolved problems
 - handing over the service to the next CIC

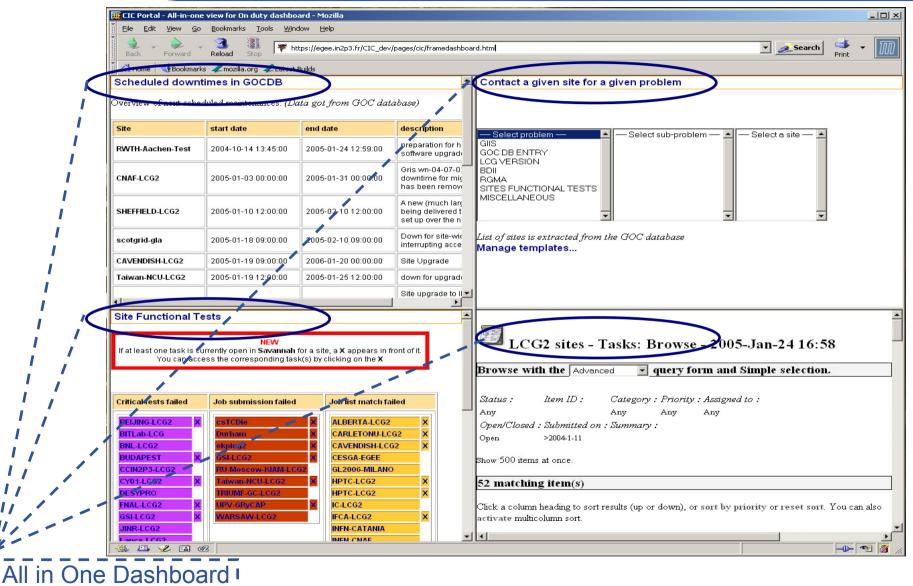


Implementation

- Evolutionary Development
 - Procedures
 - documented (constantly adapted)
 - available at the CIC portal http://cic.in2p3.fr/
 - in use by the shift crews
 - Portal http://cic.in2p3.fr
 - access to tools and process documentation
 - repository for logs and FAQs
 - provides means of efficient communication
 - provides condensed monitoring information
 - Problem tracking system
 - currently based on Savannah at CERN
 - is moving to the GGUS at FZK
 - exports/imports tickets to local systems used by the ROCs
 - Weekly Phone Conferences and Quarterly Meetings

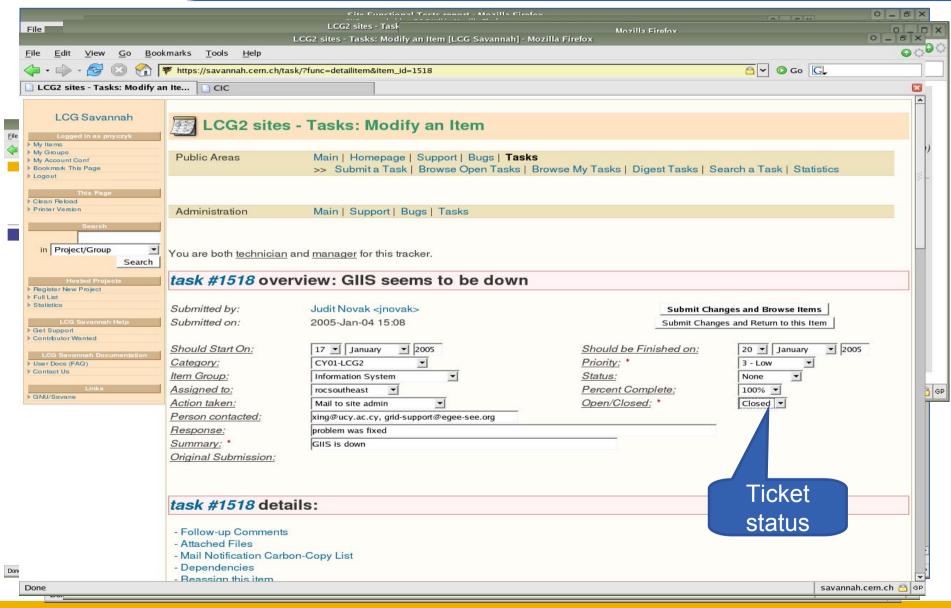


A day in an operators life





A day in an operators life goes on





A day in an operators life goes on and on

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

By watching the EGEE Monitoring tools, here a selection:



GIIS Monitor



GOC Data Base



Gridlce - VO view



GIIS Monitor graphs



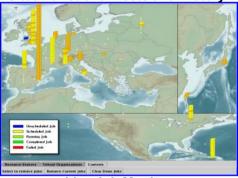
Scheduled Downtimes



Gridlce - fabric view



Sites Functional Tests and History



Live Job Monitor



Certificate Lifetime Monitor



Summary

- Initial set of operations procedures are available and implemented
 - based on experience 2004 and Operations Workshop
- No longterm experience exists
 - have to adapt tools, roles and procedures as we learn and grow the system
- Rotation between CICs
 - spreads the load (~50 tickets are handled per week)
 - distributes knowledge quickly
 - first step towards 24/7 operation
 - introducing CICs in other time zones (Taipei, Vancouver)
- Monitoring tools need to be linked to give access to all information
 - automate creation of alarms
 - better diagnosis of problems
 - first steps taken, several monitoring tools export data into EGEE R-GMA
- Certification and Operation are closely linked
 - same entities involved
 - same knowledge needed (FAQs)