

Operations Status Report

Ian Bird CERN

GDB Meeting

8th February 2005







- 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)
- 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

OMC
GIS
Infrastructure

Grid Infrastructure
Support

OMC
C&T
Certification & Testing

GDB

Grid Deployment Board

EIS

Experiment/Application IntegrationSupport

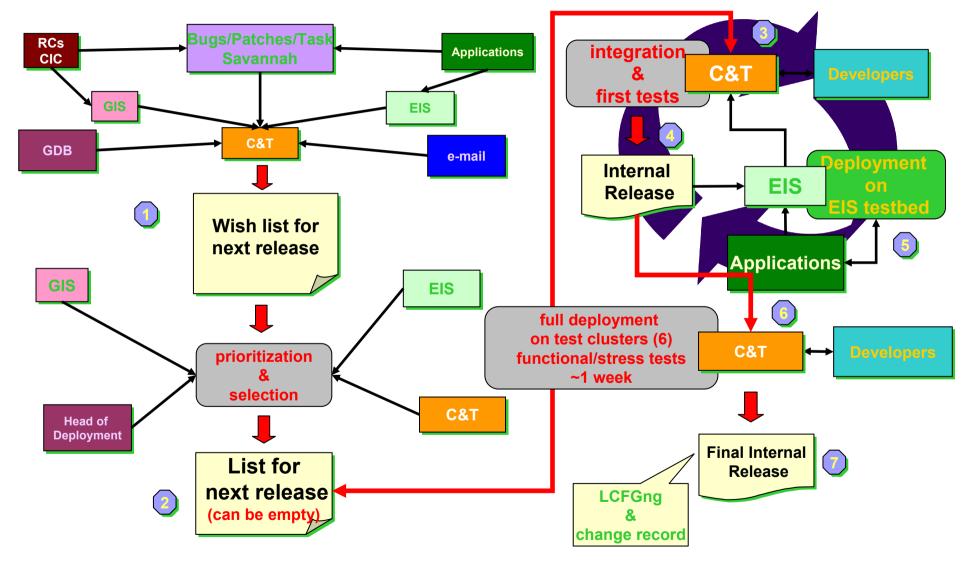
Applications

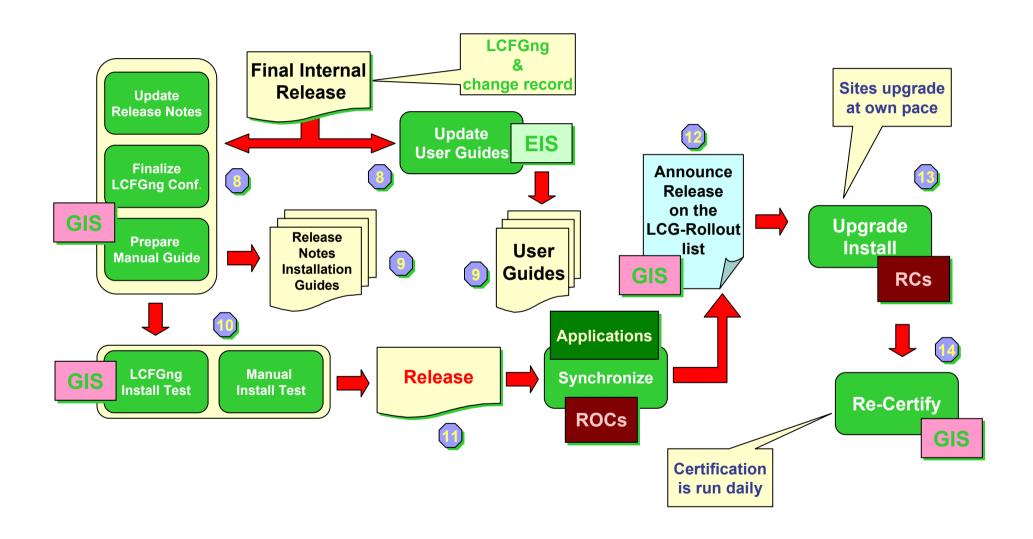
CICs/ROCs

RCs (sites)



Release Preparation







- 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)



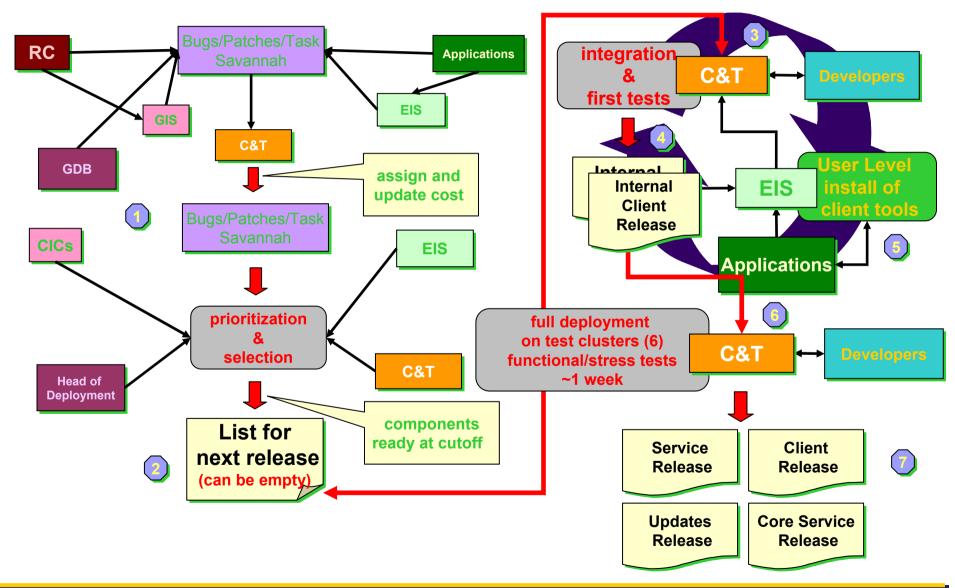
- Simple Installation/Configuration Scripts
 - YAIM (Yet Another Installation Method)
 - semi automatic simple configuration management
 - based on scripts (easy to integrate into other frameworks)
 - all configuration for a site are kept in one file
 - APT (Advanced Package Tool) based installation 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)



- different release frequency for
 - 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

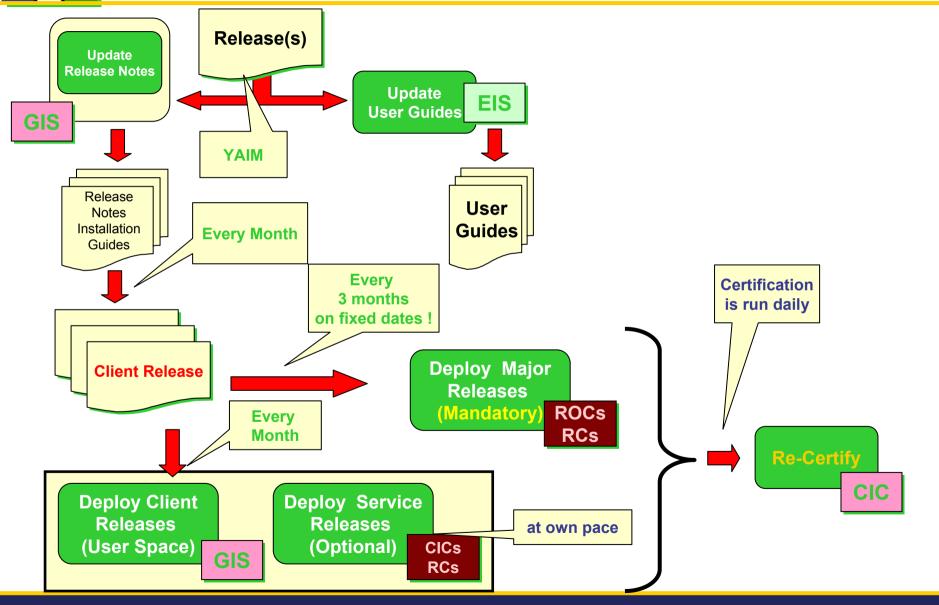


New Process (simplified)





New Deployment





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



Operations: Roles

SA1 EGEE European Grid Support, Operation and Management activity **OMC Operation Management Centre** CIC Core Infrastructure Centre RC RC ROC Regional Operation Centre ROC RC Resource Centre RC RC CIC CIC Global Grid User Support (FZK) **GGUS** CIC OMC CIC RC RC ROC RC RC RC RC



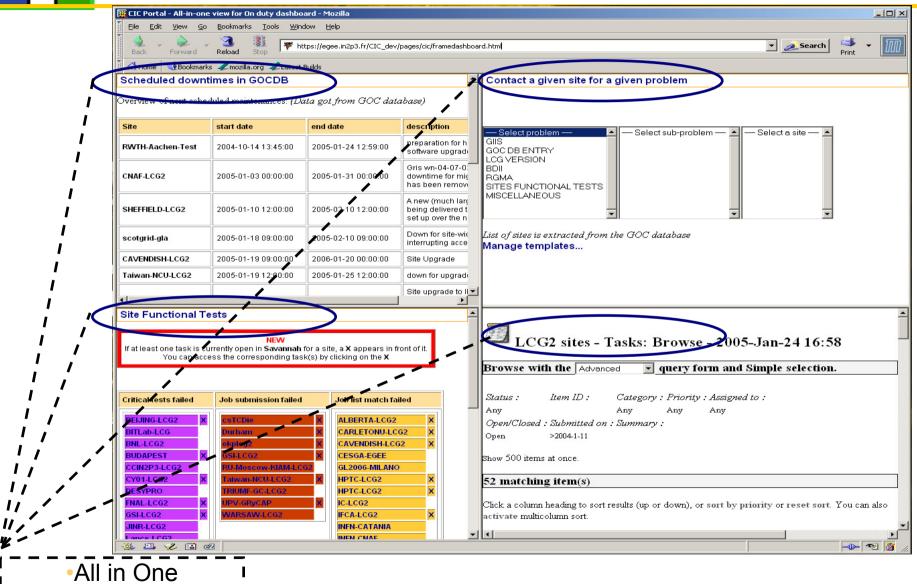
- Driven by experience during 2004 Data Challenges
- Reflecting the outcome of the November Operations Workshop
- Operations Procedures
 - roles of CICs ROCs RCs
 - weekly rotation of operations centre duties (CIC-on-duty)
 - daily tasks of the operations shift
 - monitoring (tools, frequency)
 - problem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



- 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

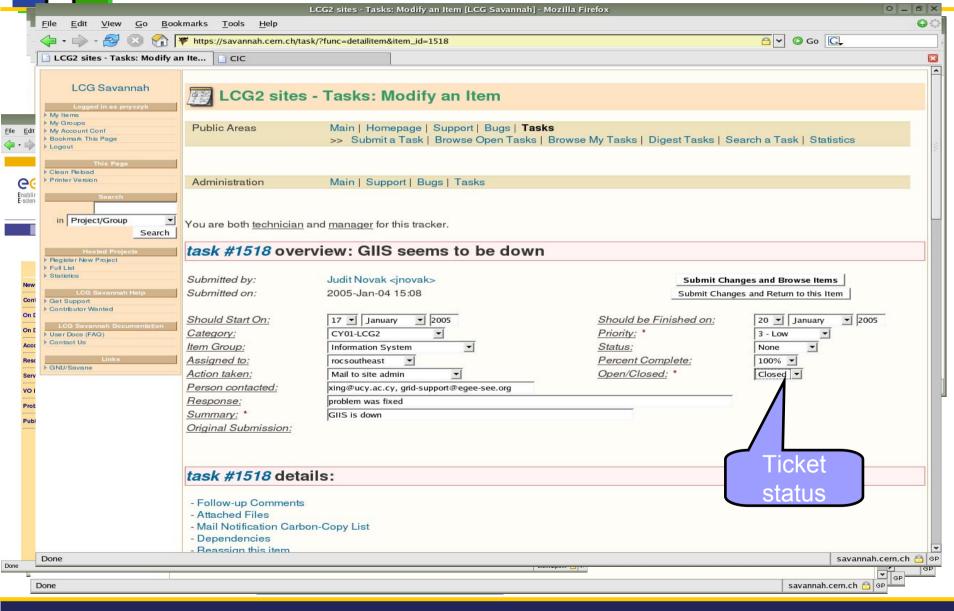


lan.Bird@cern.ch



lan.Bird@cern.ch

A day in an operators life goes on







A day in an operators life goes on and on

By watching the EGEE Monitoring tools, here a selection:



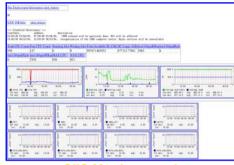
GIIS Monitor



GOC Data Base



Gridle - VO view



GIIS Monitor graphs



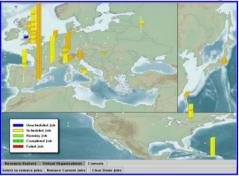
Scheduled Downtimes



Gridlee - fabric view



Sites Functional Tests and History



Live Job Monitor



Certificate Lifetime Monitor



- Initial set of operations procedures are available and implemented
 - based on experience 2004 and Operations Workshop
- No long term 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)



- Produce and publish metrics for
 - Service and site reliability and stability
 - Information available extract, plot, and publish
 - Application efficiency from logging and bookkeeping, also good to have application instrumentation
 - Build realistic jobs, instrumented, run 2-3 times per day
 - But need reasonable resources and priority at sites to run these
 - Application verification of site
 - For many applications now
 - Select stable, well configured sites: efficiency >85-90%
 - D0, CMS, Geant4, ...
- Improve and demonstrate a reliable and trusted user support service
 - See Flavia's talk
- Pre-production service and gLite ...
 - Priorities vs LCG-2