Support for Platforms in Geant4

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Definitions

- Platform is defined by
  - Hardware
  - Operating system release
  - Compiler version
- Examples:
  - For i386 on Linux RedHat 7.3 we support
    - gcc/g++ 2.95.2
    - Gcc/g++ 3.2.3

Current support

- 3 groups of support
  - Official platforms
    - Regular full testing
    - Full support
    - Binary distributions
  - Verified configurations
    - Tested to compile and run
    - Minimal support
  - Configured, but NOT tested or supported
    - Often platform we have no access to

Situation for Geant4 6.0

- Official platforms
  - Solaris 5.8, CC 5.4
  - Linux RedHat 7.3, gcc 2.95.2 and gcc 3.2
  - Windows2000, CygWin tools with Visual C++ 6.0 SP 5

Full details in release notes

Situation for Geant4 6.0

- Verified configurations
  - Solaris 5.8, CC 5.5
  - Linux RedHat 7.3, gcc 3.3.2
  - Windows/XP, CygWin tools with .Net Visual Studio 2003 C++ 7.1

Full details in release notes

Situation for Geant4 6.0

- Configured platforms, untested
  - Dec V4.0, cxx C++ V6.1-027
  - HP10.20, aCC C++ B3910B A.01.23
  - SGI V6.5.5, CC 7.2.1
  - AIX 4.3.2, xlC 6.0
  - MacOS 10.2, gcc 2.95.2 / gcc 3.2

Full details in release notes

After Geant4 6.0

- Choices must be made
  - Interest to drop support for RH7.3 & gcc 2.95.2
    - Who needs it?
  - When to move to new Linux distribution
  - When to move to Solaris 8 & CC 5.5
  - Situation on Windows?
    - Windows/2000 vs. Windows/XP
    - VC 6.0 vs. VC 7.x
    - .dll support
  - Extend support to
    - Intel's icc on i386
    - Intel's ecc in IA-64
    - MacOS X, gcc 3.3

    In place of retired platforms

- Need feedback from user groups and users

Available Options

- State the alternative strategies
- List advantages & disadvantages of each
- State cost of each option

Recommendation

- Recommend one or more of the strategies
- Summarize the results if things go as proposed
- What to do next
- Identify action items