LCG Grid Deployment Board Meeting

Meeting Summary

April 5 GDB meeting @CNR in Rome

Introduction (Kors Bos)

It was hoped to reach a decision on the **move from SL3 to SL4** but in the discussion it turned out that the date for gLite-3 to completely work under SL4 could not be defined. Some sites would like to move earlier rather than later. It was decided to get confirmation from the applications that they are ready for the transition and to arrange a meeting with the middleware developers to fix a roadmap to successively move the services.

In the Overview Board it was decided that the experiments must decide on **Tier-1 to Tier-2 relationships** if this is needed for the computing model and in particular for those countries where there is a Tier-2 but no Tier-1. It was recognised there are really two aspects: data exchange and operational support. All experiments agreed to do so. It was decided that the next GDB (June) is too late and that this information should be made available a.s.a.p.

The **next GDB** will be on June 7 at CERN.

Quattor (Charles A. Loomis)

CAL talked about a recent Quattor workshop in Paris. Considerable progress was reported. The power of the tool was much appreciated but there was concern on the complexity to use it. The improvement of the documentation has high priority and there will be a Quattor tutorial in conjunction with the Tier-2 workshop at CERN.

GFAL (Ian Bird)

GFAL was developed to cope with the different data access methods. It is used in lcg-utils. Root is now also integrated with GFAL. LHCb is using it. For the data access there is no performance penalty by using GFAL.

VOBoxes (Jeff Temlpon)

Jeff reported on the VOBox taskforce meeting the two days preceding this GDB. Two levels of severity of VO specific services were recognised. Some of the most important VO specific services were discussed. There is general agreement that those services must be implemented as general middleware services a.s.a.p. but as long as they are not we will have to provide VOBoxes. It was decided to wait for the final report from CAL (less than two weeks) and then organise a meeting to discuss how and when and by whom this prioritised list of services can be implemented and that this will be reported at the next GDB.

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Optical Private Network (David Foster)

A report was presented on an OPN meeting the day preceding this GDB. GEANT2 is currently rolling out its new infrastructure in Europe and some T1 sites are already connected to CERN through their final dedicated light path. There is sufficient bandwidth to the BNL and FNAL although there will be no OPN dedicated fibres across the Atlantic. A Network Operation Centre was discussed.

Policy Document (Dave Kelsey)

A list was presented of issues that must be covered in a policy document to be able to do accounting as the experiments require. From the discussion it emerged that the requirements are not sufficiently clear and it was decided that a meeting must be organised a.s.a.p. to resolve this and that the issue will be taken up at the next GDB again.

Accounting (John Gordon)

A proposal was presented to report accounting numbers to the Overview Board and Resources Review Board where in addition to the CPU usage numbers from APEL usage on disk space and tape will be listed per VO for the Tier-1 sites.

There was considerable debate on user-based accounting and it became clear again that the requirements from the experiments are not sufficiently well defined. A long term possibility was also discussed whereby the user information doesn't have to be stored centrally. It was also obvious that legal issues need to be further studied. It was decided to organise a full day meeting a.s.a.p. to discuss accounting details and report again at the June GDB.

Sites report non-grid usage of their resources 'by hand' to APEL. There was strong objection from the experiments and specifically from Atlas against this as this usage of the resources is outside their control and can therefore not be counted against their demands as in the MoU tables. It was therefore decided that only resources used through the grid may be accounted for and non-grid usage should be declared as another contribution to the collaboration outside the agreed Computing MoU.