Integration Update Since RAL Meeting

Enabling Grids for E-science in Europe

- Q: Components should be single language: this seems to be an unnecessary restriction.
  A: The statement made at the time that this doesn't really seem to be a restriction still holds true, but we are ready to change as needed
- Q: Need definition of the services, their deployment, run-time requirements, etc.
  A: This information is being provided now, deployment units are being created
- Q: Binary packages are built from cvs – source packages should be checked as well (by building binaries from them)
  A: Still not done. Can be done as part of the package tests?
- Q: Coding guidelines, documentation, unit tests coverage
  A: This is now mostly in place, guidelines and tools are available for Java, C and C++, not yet for Perl

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- Q: Is secure access to web-based tools needed?
  A: At the moment there are no tools requiring secure access, we can revise again later
- Q: Scripts for adding subsystems/components available. These should be checked automatically for consistency
  A: Still not done, but we are not sure how to do it. Verifications are done manually, but are normally not necessary if the scripts are used
- Q: Who will provide service startup/monitoring scripts? If possible should come from integration team
  A: Yes, we are doing it, but we need collaboration as usual

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- Q: Need to agree on a common set of external dependencies – will be provided in a common repository in pre-compiled version per platform
  A: This is done, no scalability problems observed (it's a linear behaviour). AFS-based repository has been provided after RAL, but nobody has ever used it. Not up-to-date at the moment, but it can be done
- Q: Modified external components (patched ones) will become a new version and needs to be approved by CCB. Preferably, the patch should be pushed to the original provider and a new version should come from them
  A: This is the current behaviour, but try to avoid to it
- Q: Internal dependencies will be put automatically in the rpm – external dependencies need to be added by provider
  A: The mechanism for doing this exists
- Q: Could dependencies be put into a configure script? (to allow services to discover them at installation time)
  A: Partially done by means of the deployment units templates (more about this later)
- Q: What to do with binary tarballs? (These should be specified in a dependencies file)
- A: Nothing done so far

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- Q: Common configuration structure for gLite system (common places; file types; used variables)
  A: Done and described in the Developer's Guide, some revision needed
- Q: Guide users in selecting correct values (structure configuration according to "to be changed" type)
  A: Done. Configuration files clearly lists this values (more on this later)
- Q: Investigations of currently used configuration systems under way (try to come up with a common structure)
  A: Done, but still not clear. The conclusion is that there is a lot of work to do…
- Q: Common configuration vs. individual service deployment
  A: This is up to you. We would like to agree with you a common gLite configuration system, but it may require giving away some independency for individual services (more about this later)

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- Q: Documentation/information flow good enough?
  Q: More training needed?
  Q: Regular ITeam meetings needed?
  A: The eXtended Integration Team (XIT) is now running every Tuesday at 16:00, but the level of participation is sometimes low: people attend, but some of them are not always really informed about their cluster integration problems
  Training sessions have been organised at CERN and outside, more can be organised if needed. The Developer's Guide explains how to perform most build operations in private workspaces
  The ITeam newsletter was published for a while, we thought it could be useful, but it requires a lot of time to prepare and it was not appreciated by everybody. We can resume it if you think it's useful