User Training and Induction (NA3)

1. Effort must be focused on Application Developer courses to help support application domains in NA4.
   - NA3 partners have been asked for, and responded with, new commitments in this direction.
   - We also ask new application domains to arrange commitment for training (embodied in the NA4 Memorandum of Understanding).

2. The limitations of *ad hoc* solutions to providing t-Infrastructure has been recognized at UEDIN and physical resources are being put in place to address this requirement. Further investment from NA3 federations and others will be required in EGEE II.

3. We plan to expand the content of the materials archive and improve its structure and interface based on feedback from users. This will be integrated with our eLearning plans.

4. We also intend to introduce improvements in NA3's web site to ease the input of course information, requests for registration, etc.

5. Multimedia presentation s from the training archive will be developed. For instance, expanding the use of grid-based communications technology in presenting courses:
   - The use of AccessGrid to remotely present courses has been trialed at UEDIN and with FZK.
   - Similarly GRNET has experience in the use of SMIL extensions to XHTML for providing material over the web.
   - Events to promote the use of this technology are being held prior to the 3rd EGEE conference in Athens.

6. Expand the use of eLearning technology in order to provide increased support for training.
   - UEDIN has appointed Dr Boon Low. He has considerable experience in this area, to develop prototype eLearning frameworks for NA3, building on the existing materials repository.
   - An initial plan will be presented at the 3rd EGEE conference in Athens.

7. Develop and publish integrated user-oriented documentation.
   - A group (User Information Group, UIG) spanning NA2, NA3, NA4, and SA1 has been brought together in order to update the provision of information from EGEE to users.
   - A work plan for this group has been agreed with the PEB and work is now underway.

8. Commence intensive gLite training in response to demand, starting in Q3, 2005. this will be pioneered by UEDIN and the Russian Federation in conjunction with JRA1, and then released for general use to NA3.

9. Rapidly prepare to present gLite training.
   - UEDIN is appointing a developer to focus on porting the EDG tutorials to gLite and to develop training materials from the JRA1 testing suite.

10. UEDIN will develop training examples to demonstrate the porting of biomed applications to the grid and to use these as the basis for more generic models.

11. FZK and INFN will continue to investigate virtualisation technology that delivers a 'gLITE in a box'.

12. We will conduct a 'user follow on' survey throughout the NA3 federation to gauge long-term user satisfaction and training outcomes.

1.A.1.1 Summary

In summary NA3 has been functioning well. We propose it should continue in its present form for the remaining period of EGEE. It provides a good template for EGEE II but we recommend extension to include the major missing areas. In EGEE II the effort in training should be sustained as we would expect to increase the rate of user induction and skill development. However we would adapt to new application goals and technologies while integrating the work with other training programmes.

NA3 is, in line with the 1st review recommendations, concentrating on consolidating training for the existing NA4 applications, developing gLite training while maintaining effort and commitment.

The 22 NA3 partners have all been working well to achieve the goals of EGEE both in collaboration with each other and with the other EGEE activities. The expected target of 40 courses over the two years of the project has now been exceeded and 84% of the 1500 trainees target has been met.

Activity number :	NA3	Start date or starting event:				Project start			
Participant:		2 GUP	3 UINNS BRUCK	4 CESNET	5 BUTE	6 ELUB	8 MTA SZTAKI	11 ICM	12 PSNC
Expected per Participant K€		20	10	80	17.5	17.5	41	26	26
Requested Contr per Participant K€:		20	10	40	17.5	17.5	41	26	26
Participant:		13 II-SAS	17 UEDIN	28 FZK	31 INFN	34 KU-NATFAK	41 IHEP	42 IMPB RAS	43 ITEP
Expected per Participant K€:		90	684	200	100	93	53.2	8	27.2
Requested Contr per Participant K€:		45	684	100	100	93	26.6	8	13.6
Participant:		44 JINR	46 PNPI	47 RRCKI	51 GRNET	52 TAU	53 ICI		
Expected per Participant K€:		24	20	20	240	70	140		
Requested Contr per Participant K€:		12	10	10	120	70	70		

Objectives

- To produce a portfolio of training material and courses from introductory to advanced user material.
- To use this material to train a wide variety of users both internal to the EGEE consortium and from the external user groups from across Europe who will make use of the infrastructure.
- To ensure an EGEE Team Spirit is engendered early in the project's lifetime.

Description of work

The tasks associated with this Networking Activity will focus around three main areas:

- Production of training material from introductory to advanced.
- Teaching of this material to the EGEE user community.
- Teaching of this material internally within the EGEE consortium.

In the first two years of the project we expect to run over forty training courses for over 1500 people from across the EGEE consortium and user communities. We will have a particular focus on hands-on training to ensure early usage of the EGEE infrastructure.

Each course will be followed up by recording participant and provider evaluations. These will be analyzed and used to direct course improvements. Summary statistics will be published as Key Performance Indicators every 3 months.

Deliverables

DNA3.1.1-3   M3   Training Plan with revisions at M15, in a new format (in line with reviewers comments previously)

DNA3.2   M6   Initial Training Course Material (continuously revised thereafter)

DNA3.3.1-3   M9   Training Progress Report with updates at M15 and M21

Milestones[1] and expected result

MNA3.1   M3   Planning phase complete – DNA3.1.1 delivered

MNA3.2   M6   First user training material and induction course available

MNA3.3   M13   First external review of User Training and Induction with feedback

MNA3.4   M21   Second external review of User Training and Induction with feedback, combined with DNA3.3.3

The outcome of this activity will be twofold: firstly the creation of a well trained group of EGEE users across the European Union and from a wide variety of disciplines, secondly the creation of a set of high quality training material, in a variety of European Languages**.**

Justification of financing requested

In total funding for 196 person months of effort is requested along with some additional budget to run training events across Europe. Having run over 50 training events over the past year, NeSC (**UEDIN**) has considerable experience in running such events and managing their costs to ensure best value for money. While we have tried to focus the production of much of the training material in one place, we have also taken the approach of involving partners from across the consortium in this activity. We believe this will greatly improve the opportunity for training material to be translated and taught throughout Europe.

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[1] Milestones are control points at which decisions are needed; for example concerning which of several technologies will be adopted as the basis for the next phase of the project.