

HEPiX Spring 2011 Highlights

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HEPiX Facts

- 20 years old, self-organized forum of people involved in “fabric management” in HEP
 - › More sysadmins than IT managers
 - › Open to anybody interested
 - › <http://www.hepix.org> : archive of all meetings
- Mix of large and small sites, many involved in WLCG
 - › Better understanding of each others
 - › Each one benefit of the others
- 1-week meeting twice a year
 - › Last one at GSI (Darmstadt) last week
- WG on specific issues to reach consensus when needed



GSI Meeting at a Glance

- 85 participants
 - › 17 countries including Taiwan, China and Korea
- Dense agenda
 - › No dominating topic, all usual threads equally active
 - › <https://indico.cern.ch/conferenceTimeTable.py?confId=18192#all.detailed>
- Progress on trusted virtual images
- Datacenters and computing tracks more active
- Follow-up in discussion with Oracle started at Cornell

IPv6

- A topic in the background since 2 years
 - › NorduGrid (Spring 2008), Fred Baker (Fall 2008), INFN testbed (Fall 2010)
 - › A memo from US Federal CIO asking for concrete plans to be in place by the end of this year
- Shortage of Ipv4 addresses started in Asia
- A WG was created in Cornell and just started
 - › Identify operational issues and discuss a possible testbed
 - › Led by Dave Kelsey
 - › Many partners (including EGI) agreeing HEPiX is a good place to coordinate on this
 - › Forward Dave name of people who should participate



Virtualization and Clouds

- WG created 18 months ago and succeeded to promote the trusted virtual images
 - Good contact with StratusLab which implemented most of our recommendations in its Marketplace service
 - VMIC (from CERN) is a tool to help managing trusted virtual images and is ready for test by other sites
 - Work will focus on trying to reuse StratusLab Marketplace as much as possible : better long-term support
 - Interoperation day planned in June
- WG invited to participate to EGI Virtualisation Workshop in Amsterdam in the next 2 days



Oracle / Sun

- Many sites expressed concerns about former Sun products since buyout by Oracle in Cornell
 - › Impact both HW and SW products including Thor, ZFS...
- Contact established with Oracle (M. Marinucci) and 3 Oracle representative at GSI for a 2h session
 - › Oracle wanting to reestablish links with our community...
 - › ... But main message is "come to us or fork"
 - › Will follow-up but outcome not yet clear
- LUSTRE: Oracle out, 2 coordinated consortiums to drive further developments of LUSTRE
- GE: situation confused, fork between Oracle and open-source

Other Topics

- Data centers: several projects underway
 - › CC IN2P3 extension: interesting report about the process which allowed delivery in time!
 - › CERN update on extension of current CC infrastructure
 - › GSI: interesting talk about their 3D cube project and visit of the prototype
 - Focused on very low PUE (~1)
 - Racks using a cooling rear door without fans (using machine fans)
- Computing: revival of benchmarking activities
 - › 64-bit, virtualization
- Indico and Invenio project status and roadmap



Upcoming Meetings

- Fall 2011: TRIUMF, Oct. 24-28
 - › Will be the 20th anniversary of HEPiX
 - › A specific event planned Thursday evening + Friday morning
- Spring 2012: Pragua
 - › Target date: second half of April
- Fall 2012: Asia
 - › 2 proposals: KISTI (Korea) and IHEP (Beijing)
 - › Decision in TRIUMF



Conclusions

- HEPiX is healthy and will celebrate its 20th anniversary next fall
- HEPiX is complementary to GDB
 - › Focus on fabric management rather than grid services
 - › Already many GDB sites participating
- HEPiX is open to every site interested
 - › No formal membership
 - › Register to the mailing list: hepixonhepixon.org
 - › Participate to meetings