HEPiX Fall 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

TRIUMF Meeting at a Glance

- 95participants
  - 17+ countries including Australia (Melbourne T2)

- Dense agenda
  - No dominating topic, all usual threads
  - https://indico.cern.ch/conferenceTimeTable.py?confId=138424#all.detailed

- 20th anniversary of HEPiX

- Emerging topic: business continuity
  - Probably a track in future meetings

- Oracle-related discussions absent…

IPv6

- A WG was created in Cornell and just started
  - Identify operational issues and discuss a possible testbed
  - Led by Dave Kelsey
  - WG seen a useful initiative by many partners

- Work has now actively started with the testbed activities
  - Several sites have concrete plans (eg. CERN)
  - Many open questions but we'll need to start without an answer to every question

- Membership open to new sites/countries
  - May just listen at the mailing list, contact Dave

Virtualisation

- WG still active but less visible progress in the last 6 months but still a lot of activity

- Focus for the next months: demonstrate the concept of trusted virtual images is usable
  - Cross-site demonstration
  - F2F work day at RAL December 7-8

- Concerns on the long-term maintenance of required tools
  - Is StratusLab the answer?

Storage

- Still an active group of motivated people to continue storage solution evaluation
  - From the performance point of view

- Work in progress, no intent to provide a definitive answer or recommandation
  - Baseline for discussions and choices

- Will begin to look at new storage solutions from the cloud world
  - Eg. OpenStack Swift

Benchmarking

- Great success: AMD and Dell presentations based on HEP-SPEC06

- Currently mainly background activities but work done is still published on w3.hepix.org
  - Waiting for availability of new processors from AMD and Intel

- A WG revival may be needed after SPEC releases it new benchmark version next year

Upcoming Meetings

- Spring 2012: Pragua
  - April 23-27
  - Organised by FZU (ATLAST2)
  - https://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=160737

- Fall 2012: Beijing
  - Hosted by IHEP (ATLAS/CMS T2)
  - Target date: 2nd half of October

Conclusions

- HEPiX is healthy after 20 years with plenty of topics to discuss for the next 20!

- HEPiX is complementary to GDB
  - Focus on fabric management rather than grid services
  - Already many GDB sites participating
  - Many meetings hosted by WLCG sites

- HEPiX is open to every site interested
  - No formal membership
  - Register to the mailing list: hepix@hepix.org
  - Participate to meetings