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Integrated cluster management at the Manchester Tier-2

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We describe our experience of operating a large Tier-2 site since 2005 and how we have developed an integrated management system using third-party, open source components. This system tracks individual assets and records their attributes such as MAC and IP addresses; derives DNS and DHCP configurations from this database; creates each host's installation and re-configuration scripts; monitors the services on each host according to the records of what should be running; and cross references tickets with asset records and per-asset monitoring pages. In addition, scripts which detect problems and automatically remove hosts record these new states in the database which are available to operators immediately through the same interface as tickets and monitoring.

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