

GDB Evolution

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GDB Role

- It is not the Management Board
- Forum for high-level technical discussions between sites, experiments and WLCG stakeholders
 - › Evolved from original focus on grid deployment to operational issues planning evolution
 - › Discussing/preparing evolution is becoming more important with the forthcoming long shutdown
- GDB is healthy and useful if an active participation of all experiments and many sites
 - › A requirement for T1s but **T2 participation is also very important**
- The chairman is a convener
 - › Helps with putting the things together and not forgetting important issues



How to Participate

- GDB takes place every second Wednesday of each month
 - Sometimes a pre-GDB day for a specific activity/meeting
 - Mostly at CERN, twice a year outside : **proposals for hosting GDB are welcome!**
- Agenda publically available at <https://indico.cern.ch/categoryDisplay.py?categId=31181>
 - Draft available ~3 weeks in advance... but GDB value is more!
 - Feel free to send me requests/suggestions for the agenda
- Physical attendance open to everybody interested
 - No registration needed
- Remote participation through Vidyo also possible
 - See agenda for details



WLCG
Worldwide LHC Computing Grid

Meeting Summaries

- Meeting summaries are important for **following-up discussions/decisions**
 - Help those who could not attend to get the essential of a meeting
 - Not formal minutes
 - Mostly a summary of discussions, decisions and open questions
- Available in GDB Twiki area in the next days after the meeting
 - <https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/LCG/WLCGGDBDocs>
 - Meeting summary linked from the agenda as *minutes*
 - Twiki area also contains a list of actions in progress and topics to be followed-up



TEGs and Possible WGs...

- TEGs played a major role to revitalize GDB role
 - Good output: reviewing where we are and understanding possible evolution paths
 - A lot of new peoples involved, including from T2s
 - Mandate completed with the reports
- All TEGs proposing follow-up actions, sometimes involving creation of one or several WGs
 - Good in principle but must remain sized according to the participating people and their availability
 - Must **be focused** on making progress on (implementing?) one specific topic identified
 - Need to prioritize between of all proposals and spread them out
 - Must keep in mind long shutdown as an opportunity window...



... TEGs and Possible WGs

- ◉ Identify what is really WLCG specific
 - NY workshop should help identifying these issues
 - GDB WGs should focus on these issues
 - Some issues are better discussed with a wider community
 - E.g. batch systems, storage new technologies, technology survey...
 - Develop (not exclusively!) already successful collaboration with HEPiX
- ◉ WG should aim to allowing participation and close collaboration of experts not part of the GDB
 - Regular F2F meetings are important
 - Pre-GDB slots could be used for that
 - Booked with every GDB until the end of the year
- ◉ WG should report to GDB at least every 2 months
 - Should have short-term mandates, renewed if necessary



T2 Participations

- T2 participation has never been very strong and visible...
 - Despite a few of them are regularly attending, at least remotely
- But T2s are an essential part of WLCG
 - Even more since data taking started as they host the main resources for analysis
- Storage and data access for analysis are now a major topic
 - GDB discussions during deployment phase used to be dominated by T1 issues, in particular (mass) storage related
 - Possible evolution will impact T2 resources and require their involvement
- TEGs were the occasion to get more T2 participation
 - How to make this contribution more visible in GDB meeting?



Experiment Participation

- GDB is focused on resource/service deployment, operation and evolution but experiment input is **very** important
 - › Makes the difference with site-only forums like HEPiX
- GDB is complementary to experiment-specific site coordination
 - › A good way to discuss with all experiments at once
- Quaterly experiment sessions are focused on interaction with sites
 - › Attempt to identify 1 or 2 specific issues per experiment issue
 - Can be issues raised by sites or by experiments
 - › Follow-up discussed issues
 - › Next one: June or July?
 - Probably focused on SL6 readiness and memory requirements



Changing World

- Major changes expected in the next 2 years
 - May be more important than end of EGEE...
- End of European support projects
 - EMI (1 year): who will support/develop existing MW? Has EMI being able to create an ecosystem/community able to take over?
 - EGI: end of HUC support in 1 year, end of EGI-Inspire in 2 years
 - Are NGIs ready to take over the EU funding role?
 - What impact on WLCG?
 - StratusLab (1 month): important role for cloud investigation
 - Same question as EMI regarding the future
- Strong European support for a new model based on public cloud providers
 - Helix/Nebula: alternative or complement to existing infrastructure?

Conclusions

- ◉ GDB proved it still had an important role to play after the start of data taking
 - › Focus shifted to evolution of current infrastructure, in light of the the experienced gained
 - › Long shutdown is an opportunity to use as efficiently as possible
 - › External world is going to change dramatically
- ◉ GDB is a forum open to any site interested
 - › More T2 participation is welcome
- ◉ Trying to improve the follow-up of decisions
 - › Meeting summaries will hopefully help
 - › Considering creation of short-lived working groups
- ◉ Thanks to John Gordon who kept the GDB alive as a useful forum after the start of data taking