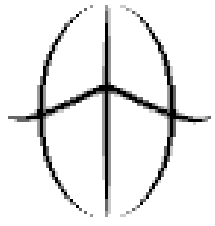# HyperNews

Douglas A. Smith, Terry Hung
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center
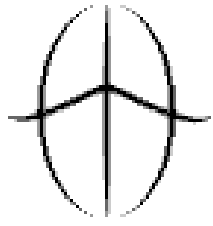Peter Elmer
Princeton University

CHEP 2007
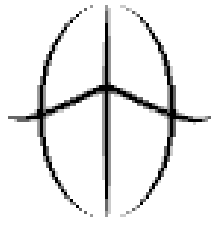Sep 5th 2007, Victoria, BC, Canada

Communication problems

- Today's experiments are large, multi-institution, multi-country affairs, with hundreds of participants.

- There is a need to tie the collaboration together with proper communication to coordinate efforts.

- Discussions need to be quickly accessible to the whole collaboration, open to more people.

- Discussions also need quick feedback to find answers to problems in a timely manner.
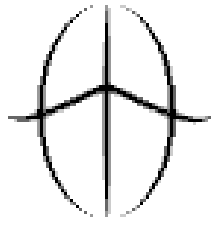
HyperNews

- HyperNews discussion system was created to join the open, centrally stored, discussions of web forums, and the rapid feedback of e-mail.

- The system is organized as a series of forums, each one is a web discussion, with a e-mail list back end

- The collection of forums are joined together as the discussions for an organization.

- Members of the organization are managed, and members can subscribe to any forum, getting all discussions as e-mail.
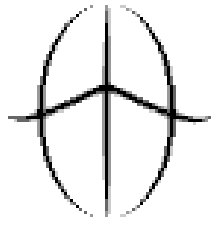
Security

- HyperNews highly configurable.

- Web access can be restricted with password control and SSL encryption.

- E-mail posting through a mail-gateway, can be restricted to known addresses, gateway can be filtered.

- Used in many large sites now (SLAC, CERN, FNAL, BNL) and many security concerns have been met.

- Development is in our hands, and we can work with you to meet your concerns.

Searching supported with Swish-e

- Discussions often become documentation, if they are archived, and can be easily found.

- Postings saved as files, and can be indexed.

- Indexing and searching uses the Swish-e package more info at http://swish-e.org

- Many indexing tools investigated, Swish-e found to be best: small, fast, configurable.

- Current state of support ~450,000 postings, index up to date every 15 mins. Search on "test" returned 55,475 results in 0.08 secs.

Coordinated discussions in forums

- Discussions centrally managed, divided into forums

SLAC Forum List by Category			Not Logged In (login)
Forums by Category Forums by Time Order Request a New Forum	Recent Postings Search in Forums Subscribe to Forums	Member Info Members List New Member	Overview Contact Admin

Page Help
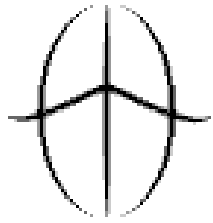
Category: Discussions on these forums, announcements and setup

Hypernews Announcements   Hypernews Test   Suggestions for changes to setup of these forums

Category: Hypernews Use and Development

Hypernews Development   Hypernews Feedback/Problems

This site runs SLAC HyperNews version 1.11-slac-71, derived from the original HyperNews

Threading of discussions

- Discussions are threaded in terms replies to postings:

29 Updates to HN Edit Message page *by Peter Elmer, Jan 15, 08:02*
   1 Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page *by Shahram Rahatlou, Jan 15, 08:14*
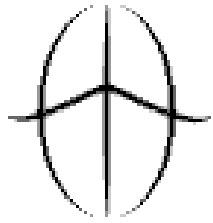   2 Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page *by Traudl Hansl-Kozanecka, Jan 15, 10:28*
      1 Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page *by Peter Elmer, Jan 15, 10:39*
   3 Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page *by Dmitriy Kovalskyi, Jan 19, 15:28*
28 Color of already visisted messsages *by Frank Winklmeier, Jan 11, 09:56*
   1 Re: Color of already visisted messsages *by Peter Elmer, Jan 11, 10:09*
      1 Re: Color of already visisted messsages *by Frank Winklmeier, Jan 11, 11:18*
        ... 1 Message(s)
   2 Re: Color of already visisted messsages *by Douglas Smith, Jan 11, 11:42*
27 Re: Reverse time order in "Recent Postings" *by Peter Elmer, Dec 14, 19:58*
26 direct mails and mails to HN subscribers *by Peter Elmer, Dec 11, 23:55*
   1 Re: direct mails and mails to HN subscribers *by Dmitriy Kovalskyi, Dec 12, 00:49*
   Re: direct mails and mails to HN subscribers *by Peter Elmer, Dec 12, 01:00*

Searching integrated

- Easy to search the many postings in the BaBar use

Search the BaBar HyperNews index
Searching help for using this index
E-mail comments to: Douglas Smith

test   Search!

Limit search to: ⦿ Subject & Body ○ Subject ○ Document Path ○ From ○ Full Name ○ Forum
Sort by: Rank ▾ □ Reverse Sort
Limit to: ⦿ All ○ Today ○ Yesterday ○ This Week ○ Last Week ○ Last 90 Days ○ This Month ○ Last Month
○ Select Date Range Sep ▾ 3 ▾ 2007 ▾ through Sep ▾ 3 ▾ 2007 ▾

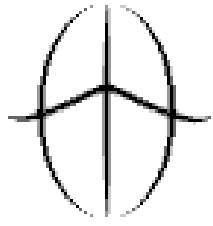Results for **test** 1 to 15 of 55475 results.   Run time: 0.076 seconds | Search time: 0.039 seconds
Page:1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 3699 Next 15

1 Re: Exercise: computing database sizes -- rank: 1000
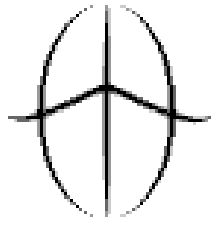   ... are the sizes for the V5 fdb: 563806208
    /objy/databases/test/physics-opr/V5/events/groups/AllEvents/col/col004000-006000/evs_g_AllEvents_col0040
    495468544
    /objy/databases/test/physics-opr/V5/events/groups/BackgroundStream/col/col004000-006000/evs_g_Backgro
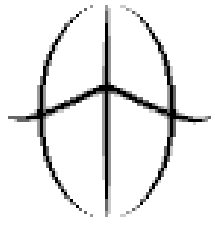   559054848

User Control

- Recent developments to control spam use -- better user management and control, and only members can post.

- Through the web interface

  - Membership requested, and now moderated by e-mail feedback from user and admin.

  - Configurable, sites can decide to use or not

- Plug-in script

  - Membership controlled by plug-in, not allowed from web requests (use in HEP for member lists).
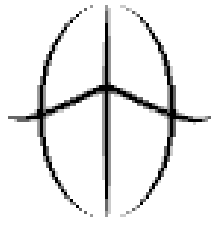
Better control for e-mail

- People post to forums from e-mail, but for spam control need to filter these posts.

- Default is to now allow only e-mail posts from member e-mail addresses.

- Each member has a default e-mail (to receive posts), now there can be a list of up to 5 allowed e-mail addresses per member to accept posts.

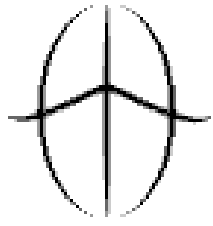- These accepted e-mail address lists can be changed by users as needed.

Attachment support

- E-mail attachments will be saved as part of posting

- Saved on disk, and served from there. A link to the attachment is then sent with the e-mail to subscribers.

- Admins can control mime-types of attachments which will be saved for posts.

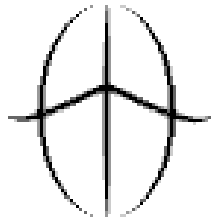- Limits on file-size of attachment are enforced.

SLAC HyperNews

- Hosted now at http://hypernews.slac.stanford.edu.

- Can be downloaded and put to use.

- Development discussions handled in HyperNews (
  http://hypernews.slac.stanford.edu/HyperNews/hypernews/cindex).

- This is a Open Source project, and people are encouraged to help development.

Used in HEP

- Currently manages all discussions in BaBar in ~400 forums, over the years managed ~1800 members, and now contains ~450,000 postings.

- Used in LHC experiments -

  - CMS - ~180 forums, ~1700 users, ~100,000 posts
  - ATLAS - ~170 forums, ~1700 users, ~43,000 posts
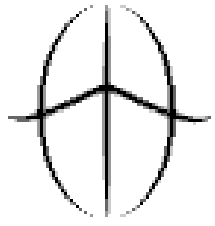 - Small use also in LHCb and Alice.

Beyond HEP

- HyperNews has now been setup for use for LSST.

- Setup for telescope development, not data or analysis (so far).

HyperNews for your collaboration

- HyperNews has been proven to help get work done in BaBar over the past decade.

- Can scale to the size of your organization.

- Now easily downloaded and used.

- Development and support in our hands, quick response to problems in HEP use.

- With growing use in LHC experiments, should be around in continuing development for years.