



Contribution ID: 75

Type: oral presentation

UK Grid Computing for High-Energy Physics

Monday, September 3, 2007 3:00 PM (20 minutes)

Over the last few years, UK research centres have provided significant computing resources for many high-energy physics collaborations under the guidance of the GridPP project. This paper reviews recent progress in the Grid deployment and operations area including findings from recent experiment and infrastructure service challenges. These results are discussed in the context of how GridPP is dealing with the important areas of networking, data storage and user education and support. Throughout, the paper offers feedback on observed successes and problems with the gLite middleware and the experiment specific software which is required to make the Grid usable. The paper moves on to examine current thinking on how ready GridPP sites are for LHC startup with an emphasis on some of the remaining challenges such as meeting strict WLCG availability targets and the scaling of resources at many sites to levels well beyond previous levels. The paper ends with a discussion of the decisions being taken to ensure a stable service and project through LHC startup until GridPP funding ends in 2011.

Submitted on behalf of Collaboration (ex, BaBar, ATLAS)

GridPP

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Session Classification: Computer facilities, production grids and networking

Track Classification: Computer facilities, production grids and networking