A few ideas

Github centred workflow

In CMS we have started to keep sources for externals we use in Github, either as full mirrors (like in the case of root) or as set of snapshots, taking advantage of git automatic intra-file compression.

- Simplifies handling of source backups
- Allows full blown repository viewer for externals
- Simplifies development of externals by us, when required (e.g. root, geant4, but also gcc, boost, clang).

Getting serious about Docker and Mesos

In CMS we have a first iteration of build infrastructure based around Apache Mesos, deployed via CERN puppet infrastructure. It would be extremely interested in sharing the knowledge and help out building a common effort and knowledge there.