

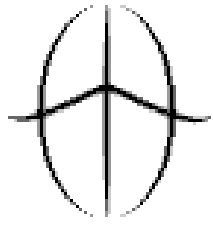
HyperNews

Douglas A. Smith, Terry Hung
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center

Peter Elmer
Princeton University

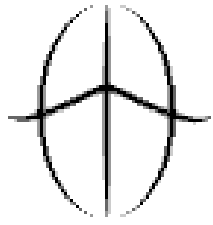
CHEP 2006

Feb 15th 2006, TIFR, Mumbai, India



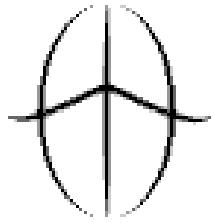
Communication problems

- 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.



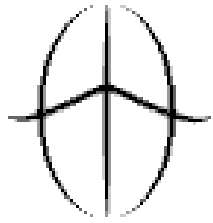
Distributed communication

- E-mail
 - Used for a long time now, well understood.
 - Point to point message.
 - Messages watched constantly, quick feedback.
 - Discussions trapped in various mailboxes, not shared, not archived.
- Web forums
 - Newer, not always understood by users.
 - Messages open to all.
 - Postings not watched, need to check for replies, usually once a day feedback.
 - Discussions centrally stored, but viewed through web interface.



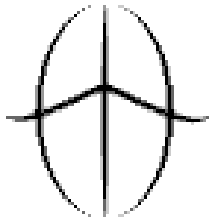
Comment on e-mail lists

- What about e-mail lists?
 - Might be nice compromise, can be archived, there are some web interfaces to archives.
 - Large organizations create many, many e-mail lists, and are often not coordinated together, and not central maintained and owned.
 - Archives are mostly in terms of posting time, not threaded by subject (although some support this).
Makes it hard to follow different discussions in list.



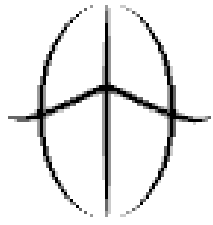
HyperNews

- 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.



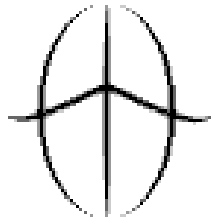
Security

- 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 ~250,000 postings, index up to date every 15 mins. Search on “test” returned 41,244 results in 0.12 secs.



Coordinated discussions in forums

- Discussions centrally managed, divided into forums

SLAC Forum List by Category



[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](#)

[Help](#)

[Contact Admin](#)

Categories

Discussions on these forums, announcements and setup

Hypernews Use and Development

Discussions on these forums, announcements and setup

Hypernews Announcements

Hypernews Test

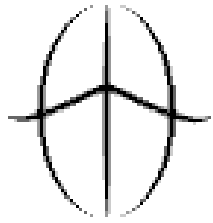
Suggestions for changes to setup of these forums

Hypernews Use and Development

Hypernews Development














Hypernews Feedback/Problems

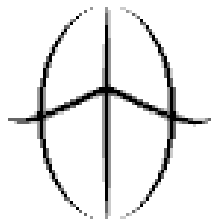
This site runs SLAC HyperNews version 1.11-slac-31, derived from the original [HyperNews](#)



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



View of mail client

+	- direct mails and mails to HN subscribers	Peter Elmer	12/11/05 11:55 pm	4.7 KB
-	- Re: Reverse time order in "Recent Postings"	Peter Elmer	12/14/05 7:58 pm	2.3 KB
-	- Color of already visisted messsages	Frank Winklmeier	01/11/06 9:56 am	2.0 KB
-	- Re: Color of already visisted messsages	Peter Elmer	01/11/06 10:09 am	4.3 KB
-	- Re: Color of already visisted messsages	Frank Winklmeier	01/11/06 11:18 am	4.8 KB
-	- Re: Color of already visisted messsages	Peter Elmer	01/11/06 2:16 pm	3.2 KB
-	- Re: Color of already visisted messsages	Douglas Smith	01/11/06 11:42 am	2.5 KB
-	- Updates to HN Edit Message page	Peter Elmer	01/15/06 8:02 am	3.1 KB
-	- Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page	Dmitriy Kovalskyi	01/19/06 3:28 pm	4.1 KB
-	- Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page	Shahram Rahatlou	01/15/06 8:14 am	3.8 KB
-	- Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page	Traudl Hansl-Kozanecka	01/15/06 10:28 am	4.3 KB
-	- Re: Updates to HN Edit Message page	Peter Elmer	01/15/06 10:39 am	2.5 KB

N
o
H
T
M
L
*** Discussion title: Hypernews Development

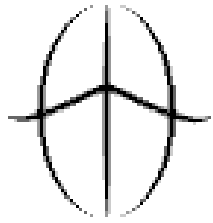
Updates to HN Edit Message page

From: "Peter Elmer" <Peter.Elmer@cern.ch>
To: HNDevelop-shn@slac.stanford.edu
Date: 01/15/06 8:02 am

*** Discussion title: Hypernews Development

Hi All,

One comment I've gotten from 3 separate people is that the "Edit Message" page is too cluttered in the latest version of HyperNews. To remind you what that looks like:



Central subscription to forums

- Each member can subscribe quickly to any number of forums.

Current Subscription Status for Member **douglas**

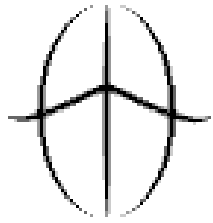
Use the checkboxes and submit button to change the subscriptions. A checked box means "subscribed" while an unchecked box means "not subscribed". Each forum's title is a link to the forum page.

Member douglas is currently subscribed to:

- [Hypernews Announcements](#)
- [Hypernews Development](#)
- [Hypernews Feedback/Problems](#)
- [Hypernews Test](#)
- [Suggestions for changes to setup of these forums](#)

Enter password for member **douglas**:

Submit changes for member **douglas**:



Browse recent postings

- Members can browse postings to forums in the recent past

Search past days for new posts to

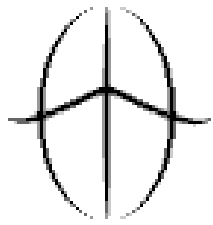
All Forums **OR** from the following Selected Forums:

Hypernews Announcements
Hypernews Development
Hypernews Feedback/Problems
Hypernews Test
Suggestions for changes to setup of these forums

Show Me (Today is Thu, Feb 9 2006)

Hypernews Development

- ⊕ [Re: HyperNews: mime multipart/mixed messages and mail-incoming.pl](#) (Terry Hung) **NEW**
- ⊕ [Re: HyperNews: mime multipart/mixed messages and mail-incoming.pl](#) (Peter Elmer)
- ⊕ [Re: HyperNews: mime multipart/mixed messages and mail-incoming.pl](#) (Terry Hung)
- ⊕ [HyperNews: mime multipart/mixed messages and mail-incoming.pl](#) (Peter Elmer)



Searching integrated

- Easy to search the many postings in the BaBar use



BABAR

™ and © Nelvana, All Rights Reserved

Search the BaBar HyperNews index

[Searching help for using this index](#)

E-mail comments to: [Douglas Smith](#)

Limit search to: Subject & Body Subject Document Path From Full Name Forum

Sort by: Reverse Sort

Limit to: All Today Yesterday This Week Last Week Last 90 Days This Month Last Month

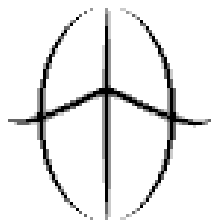
Select Date Range through

Results for **test** 1 to 15 of 41244 results.

Run time: 0.102 seconds | Search time: 0.067 seconds

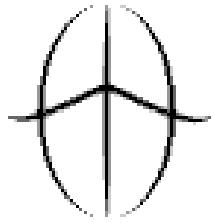
Page: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 2750 Next 15

1 Re: Job specifications -- rank: 1000



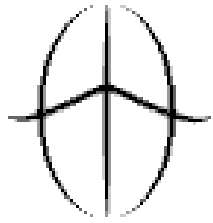
Used in HEP

- HyperNews was first developed years ago as threaded web discussion system, history of this can be seen at <http://HyperNews.org>
- Brought to SLAC for use by BaBar, and then to BNL for use by STAR, about a decade ago.
- Proved very useful for BaBar, and many people require it now for the coordination of discussions.
- HyperNews continued to be dev. at SLAC for BaBar use.
- Currently manages all discussions in BaBar in ~400 forums, over the years managed ~1800 members, and now contains ~250,000 postings.



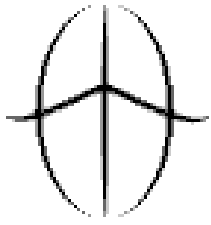
SLAC HyperNews

- This past year different branches of HyperNews were cleaned up and brought together for one package.
- 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.



Continuing use in HEP

- In the past year, as part of the cleanup and package effort, HyperNews has been put into use at other sites.
- Now in increased use in CMS and Atlas, hosted at CERN.
- Current numbers in CMS and Atlas use:
 - CMS: 296 members, 41 forums, ~1800 postings
 - Atlas: 151 members, 29 forums, ~550 postings



HyperNews good for HEP

- 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.