Plans of the CERN Computer Centre for the Christmas shutdown

- Recent article in the CERN Weekly Bulletin
- Most services will be working, and the level of support from IT will be better than in the previous years

Problems with long series of jobs

- A LOT of CPU available
- Many (∼50) jobs can execute simultaneously, and very often they start at the same time
- Normally job at the very beginning requests 50 samples to be subsequently read
- This means that there can be simultaneously ∼2500 staging requests from one person
- Typical size of an input sample is 100-200 MB
- So the new long series of jobs will immediately need ∼200-500 GB of staging disk space
- The total capacity of our staging disks is 2.3 TB !
  (We are trying to get more, but the CERN management is not willing to give any resources to the declining experiments. . .)
- And now imagine several persons running a long series of jobs, on different input samples !

So PLEASE: let us (`delphi-core@cern.ch`) know few days in advance if you intend to process a large input sample !

It can always be worse - and it will!

- Additional factor: early next year, before the accelerator start-up, half of tape drives will be reserved for copying the COMPASS and HARP Objectivity data to another data-base. It is known already now that the main technical problem will be the tape drive availability, so if for any reason this is late, even more drives will be taken. Obviously they MUST finish before the next data taking!
- For us it means: until Easter longer waiting time for any data not already on disk.
- Anybody remembers the mess we had 2 years ago??