Deployment Review Issues

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Organisational Issues

- **Experiments and LCG are in client-server mode**
  - Must move towards a collaboration of LCG and 4 experiments
    - This will be the key to the success of the project

- **Need for a technical meeting to complement the GDB**

- **Need for a grid security officer.**

Testbeds

- The importance of a stable LCG testbed
  - The experiments will have to use experience gained during 2004 for the creation of the TDR's in early 2005. This means that a stable LCG implementation needs to be in place across Tier 0, 1 and 2 centres for most of 2004.
    - Tier-2 less well defined
- The multiple use of the same testbed causes problems with too little time for each test
  - We recommend that a specific small "validation testbed" is created (at CERN) with the specific purpose to let the experiments test their software before official LCG releases.
- The Tier-1 centres have had many problems with the installation of LCG-1. This shows that there are issues related to the installation and configuration that were not caught during the test phase. The LCG area/task should pay closer attention to this issue.

Deployment Issues

- The effort on easing the installation and reducing/clarifying its dependencies should be strengthened.
  - An area of concern. Some important improvements for LCG-2 are planned:
    - Easy installation outside LCFGng
    - Experiment-driven installation of experiment-specific s/w.
  - We applaud/support these plans and eagerly await their completeness
  - The Tier-1 experience presentation demonstrated that there are many shortfalls in the current deployment. Many of them are real, others seem to be due to insufficient communication. Given that a perceived problem is almost as bad as a real problem:
    - We recommend that closer links between the relevant actors be put in place. Current GDB meetings do not include "the troops" – perhaps a regular (monthly/bi-monthly) meeting of a technical nature would help.
    - Particular attention should be paid to the issue of newcomers (and synchronizing them to the old and established practices).

Support

- Lacking authorization for phase 2 of LCG, the long-term support of software packages developed in EDG and LCG is a concern
  - This needs to be addressed in 2004, well before the end of phase 1

- In the future there will be different fabrics
  - Remember this when sealing the RedHat deal
    - Others likely to use SVR-Linux instead

Summary

- Organisational
  - Technical meetings at system manager/administrator level
  - Security Officer
  - Make regional centres a collaboration
- Installation
  - Get away from complex dependencies
  - Get away from reliance on LCFGng –
    - Need simple installations, basic configuration tools
  - Need better site certification testing
- Support
  - Provide support for existing packages
  - Provide support for (some) new platforms
    - Dependencies(!)

- These last 2 require:
  - Focused effort to move to LCG build system/CVS etc;
  - Work on breaking dependencies on OS, other packages etc.