EGEE Cork Conference
NA2/NA3 meeting 20/4/04

The following is a summary of discussions following Malcolm Atkinson's slide presentation.

D.Horne: Compared to any other computer training, after Grid training a user/developer has to cross the hurdle of joining a VO. We may need VOs for people who don't obviously belong to any particular community.

Malcolm: Don't currently have VO support, development mechanism required. Currently NA4 generate Vos: this may not be adequate. Should NA2 be involved?

D.Horne: Need to get new VOs when trying to attract users from different areas.

Malcolm: There are highly fragmented communities, overall umbrella VOs may not suit (eg biology, electrical engineering).

D.Horne: Will a Grid 'kindergarten' be available in the long run, generic VOs?

NA2 formal delivery at the end of month 3 is the dissemination plan, which should be made available ca 12/5/04. A telecon with NA3 liaison may be required before this.

NA3 resource allocation to NA2 tasks – not yet sorted out. Need to define the kind of person required. NA2 need a real person to talk to. Malcolm is currently the liason and he and Jo will discuss this.

Also NA4 input, particularly in industry and in attracting developers.

Malcolm: What NA2 market research is currently available?

NA2 expertise mostly within NREN machinery, service providers. Do they conduct their own surveys?

Christos (GRNET) CESNET is an NREN, does PR and outreach, is aware of community and pressures to get Grid resources.

NA2 to collect and collate information from NRENs, although this may not be high quality information.

TIRANA compendium - yearly survey of NREN stats, etc.

NA2 web site, conference list – could identify other conferences which it is worth going to with more than just posters etc, eg. Tutorials.

NA2 want input to identify conferences etc from all partners.

D.Horne: Many partners may not have an NA2 contact, but need to get material from NA2 for conferences etc?

NA2 wish contact from all federations, all NA2 materials to be available on-line. NA2 is working on branding/style/visualisation. Have to coordinate with NA3 about styles. Target production date is end May 2004.

NA3 will have most details on EGEE internal site. NA2 will provide a simpler outward-looking site. These sites will be differentiated by look & feel but navigation between them will be provided. However, outward facing site shouldn't have too simple a link to EGEE internal site, may only be where "those who know" can find it. Experience with interim site suggests that we don't need button at the bottom for easy access to Intranet.

Christos (GRNET): Include testimonials, user experiences over time? Interactive area for people to leave comments? Press corner already there.

Guy (PPARC): Way of requesting documentation, etc? NA2 site link straight to NA3 site for that, link to request training?

NA2 controls domain – public.eu-egee.org

Could create, e.g. training.eu-egee.org, industry.eu-egee.org

Jo: Training people who are not part of EGEE?

Malcolm: Training is available for both internal and external users. Need mechanism for requesting training for external users.

Jo: NA3 doing things to bring in trainers?

Malcolm: Have internal communication channels to some communities (ie. Federated areas, subject areas). Need NA2 to talk to outside areas where we have no current channels.

D.Horne: If we take on NA2 activities can they be budgeted as such?

No money is available but can contribute to unfunded and should do so.

John Murison: NA2 plans for the intranet?

Work is being done on dissemination materials, styles, recommendations, etc.

Malcolm: Could also use a calendar list of people attending events, so that requests can be made about materials, etc there.

EGEE intranet is waiting for material to come from activities.

Should the Intranet be hidden with secure access only, running WIKIs, BBs etc?

This would mean defining the membership of EGEE, which is not straightforward.

Editing sections lies with the leaders of activities.

New user attraction – the cost of visits can be a deterrent to some users.
This could be answered by the local federated structure so that people don't have to go too far. Also experts can be imported to aid training.

Should also have dissemination material available any time people go to a course. Which formats are the best for long term dissemination? Postcards, A4, A6?