



Enabling Grids for  
E-science in Europe

**SA1-NA4 Meeting**

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# Four men

- Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, And Nobody
- This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.
- There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.
- Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.
- Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.
- Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.
- It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done

## Just to make it clearer

- This is a little story about four people named PEB, SA1, NA4, and Nobody.
- It was important and PEB was sure that SA1 would do it.
- NA4 could have done it, but Nobody did it.
- SA1 got angry about that because it was PEB's job.
- PEB thought that NA4 could do it, but Nobody realized that PEB wouldn't do it.
- It ended up that PEB blamed SA1 when Nobody did what NA4 could have done.

- There are a lot of acronyms used in EGEE and SA1
- There are more acronyms than people
- OMC – Operations Management Centre (my desk)
- ROC – Regional Operations Centre (9 desks from England to Russia)
- CIC – Core Infrastructure Centres (4 of the 9 desks have extra responsibilities)
- The reality is that there are 9 regional managers, each with a team of about 5 people to co-ordinate the work of about 5 resource centres
- At CERN, Alistair and Nick are co-ordinating the 9 regional centres and the CERN centre

## Recent talk about setting up VOs

- At the All Activities Meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September there was talk about the complexity of creating a VO
- Jeff Templeman said it was easy and could be done in just a day
- Others said that it takes at least 6 months
- What is the truth?

# Participation in VOs

- In the first quarterly report, the ROCs reported 38 VOs
- All were participating in Atlas, Alice, LCHb, CMS and dteam
- 4 were participating in Babar, Dzero and BioMed
- 29 had only one ROC
- Many of the local VOs are quite viable eg UK
- Many of the local VOs are ghosts

# Support for non-HEP apps

- Many non-HEP (and non-LCG HEP) VOs are supported regionally already
  - Several with interest to get more resources
- Biomed is first non-HEP app to be deployed EGEE-wide
  - We need to see strongly organised groups within new VOs that we can work with directly to get them going:
  - New VOs must create teams dedicated to doing this, and who feel it is their responsibility to make it work; this must happen soon
  - We would like to see some realistic goals defined by the new VO groups as to what they want to achieve
- SA1/NA4 group can be a vehicle for this (ref – to paper)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting this week
- Integration of new VOs
  - Draft paper from France
  - <https://edms.cern.ch/document/488885>
- Most RCs want to support the VOs they are funded to support
  - Resources not being made available to the other VOs.
  - We would probably like sites to make their resources available to all support EGEE VOs
  - Need to start mandating “10%” queues for such use (for example)
  - SA1/NA4 group should agree this policy

- A problem is a situation where doing nothing is not a viable option
- The problem is to determine a viable course of action
- Once we have a viable course of action, then it is a job to be done
- Jobs do not do themselves, people do them
- A viable course of action is only viable if people are committed to doing it, and to doing it in a reasonable time and to a reasonable level of quality
- There are nearly always four viable actions and it is painful to reject three of them
- Analysis paralysis usual leads to failure



# What is the problem?

- EGEE has to demonstrate that the EGEE grid can provide a useful resource to an application community within Europe
- The useful resource can do things more cheaply than simple alternatives such as buying a cluster for the application community
- There has to be a very encouraging sign of success by February 2005
- There has to be a demonstrable success by September 2005
- If this is not successful, we will all be doing something else in 2006
- What are the four alternatives, and which one do we choose?

# What SA1 can do for a potential VO

- Provide documents eg Fabio's work, Maria's work
- Provide assistance with configuration
- Provide a small amount of consultancy/ advice
- Share its experience with running a VO ie dteam
- I will listen to your needs

## What SA1 will not do for a potential VO

- Provide computing resources
- Broker agreements with resource centres
- Configure the systems for the VO
- Provide a box of VO management parts

# Monkey management

- The creation of a viable VO is a monkey
- Everyone agrees that it is cute
- Everyone knows that the monkey requires daily feeding, care and attention
- No one wants to provide the monkey with the attention it requires
- Leaving the monkey in my office with a sign “please look after this monkey” is not the same thing as “I have agreed to look after this monkey”
- If you try to leave the monkey in a good manager’s office, you are likely to end up with two monkeys!

# Conclusions

- To create a credible VO we need agreements
- A clear statement of what the VO does
- An authority to operate the VO
- A trustable registration authority
- A problem to be solved by the VO
- Users committed to the use of the VO
- Resources available to the VO
- Applications which can benefit from the EGEE grid
- The success of EGEE is dependant on doing this