NA3 Reporting Back

David Fergusson, Malcolm Atkinson et al.

4th EGEE conference

Pisa, Italy

28th October 2005

4th EGEE Conference

Pisa

24-28 October 2005

www.eu-egee.org

Information Society

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- **Tuesday: Presentations NA3+NA2**
  - Also ICEAGE

- **Wednesday: Joint NA3+SA1+JRA1+JRA3**
  - Review activities' interaction
    - What is working really well
      - *Make certain it continues*
    - What is a limit to growth
      - *Think how we may tackle it*
    - New ideas & advances we should share
      - *Think how they can be developed in our plans*
  - How should we organise for EGEE II

- **Thursday**
  - NA3 – Planning rest of EGEE I & Form of EGEE II
  - NA3 - CE

- **TUESDAY   Related Projects**

  (views from outside the project)

- **Training priorities**
- **What mode of delivery do users need**
  - It is very clear from all sources of information that what users need from training is very much direct contact
    - Strongly advocated by panelists
  - We cannot let this drop from our focus

- **Secondly support for self-paced learning**
  - We need a framework for this -> can't ignore all of the experience/peadogical theory
  - Content
    - The material we have created (from above)
    - The documentation

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- **Nearly all projects explicitly mentioned training**

- **Output of some projects could provide the basis for training material**
  - Eg. ISSeG, Security best practice

- **EGEE training could provide a 'hub' for the related projects**

- **Related projects noted the training they had already received from EGEE**
  - Eg. MAGIC -> 'First Magicans become adicted by the EGEE Grid
  - They want more training!'

- **Wednesday   NA3/SA1/JRA1/JRA3**

  (views from inside the project)

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Status of user documentation for EGEE

Ideas for discussion

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1. The users have expressed dissatisfaction in this area

> **User documentation has been identified in the user survey by NA4 as a priority item for improvement**

2. User documentation has been mentioned by some of the other plenary talks including:

> **OSG**
>
> **Diligent**

3. The idea of good quality documentation emerging in a co-ordinated way from volunteers without direction is unrealistic

4. The present source of user documentation is:

> **NA3**
>
> **EIS/ ARDA (SA1/ NA4)**

5. The UIG was established in Den Haag with willing (but busy) volunteers and has no executive

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

1. **Review work of UIG/NA4 and identify areas for action**

2. **Make UIG into an editorial board which:**
   - **Sets direction and priorities**
   - **Meets regularly (3-4 times per year)**
   - **Is accountable to the PEB**

3. **The activities have to provide resources for writing documents**
   - **The activities must put this provision into their activity plan (TA)**
   - **We must make documents either deliverables or milestones for the activities**

4. **The activities most likely to contribute to this are:**
   - **NA4**
   - **NA3**
   - **SA1/SA3**

- **NA3 contribution**

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- **Local interactions with other activities**

- **Shared personnel**

- **Domain interaction**

- **Enthusiasm and interest**
  - It's clear that all activities want everyone to hear what they are doing
  - Many people want to be part of training activities
    - Mechanism for transferring knowledge

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- **Centralised communication**

- **Aquisition of knowledge/skills**
  - Time needed for transfer of knowledge/skills

- **Reporting**
  - QA
  - Credit for effort

- **Metadata**
  - Information about the information we have

- **Tools**
  - Coordination and sharing

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- **Raised by Frederic**

- **Capturing and transferring the experiences and perception of EGEE**

- **Currently informal channels and use of existing project tools**
  - Staff shared by activities, working in the same site (eg.INFN, FZK)
  - Submission of bugs

- **NA3 will identify internal 'champions' to aid and formalise this process**

Thursday   **NA3**

(or, so what are we going to do about it then?
       - helping EGEE face project wide issues)

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- **E-Learning**
  - Phase one: digital library and content management system
  - Based on open source repository system - Fedora
  - Web Services API & W3C XForms user interface
  - Standard Metadata: Dublin core, Learning Objects, etc.
  - On track with timeline presented at Athens
  - Very sucessful demonstartion on Wednesday
  - Next: "wiki in e-learning" developments

- **Collaboration meeting with DILIGENT and visit**
  - Sharing content/metadata
    - All gLite documentation (DILIGENT -> NA3)
    - Training material archive (NA3 -> DILIGENT)
  - Showing the benefits of adhering to standards
    - Dublin core/LO etc.
    - Also promoting Google cross searching etc.
- **WS services – clients can be constructed to meet varied needs**
- **Requests for the personalisation services already being built in.**

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- **How does EGEE improve documentation**
  - Identified core?
    - Fluent and simple sharing for the rest of our creative channels
    - Segmenting audience
      - *Both of these begun by UIG as part of its workplan agreed with the PEB*
  - A workflow for accredited & QA'ed Documents?
  - Metadata & Structure?
  - Properly resourced Documents in Core:
    - UIG with staff act as Editorial Board
      - *Establish policy & criteria*
      - *With teeth and an executive staff*
      - *With resources*
      - *With multi-activity buy in and contributions*

    - Part of Requirements
    - Part of Release schedule
    - Staff time allocated – in all relevant activities
    - Write this in the EGEE II technical annex

- **Now but mainly for EGEE II**
- **Working with but separate from UIG**
- **Establishing a Selection & Accreditation of Materials**
  - E.g. exemplar / currently most up-to-date courses
- **Recognition of value of variety & adaptation**
  - Much praised by external review
  - A necessity for attracting new users
  - The MAGIC experience
- **Recognition of high volume of material**
  - Unexpected
  - New trainers and learners require a lead to best choices
- **Integration with e-Learning planned**
  - Funding for eLearning server (with Edinburgh Library) from JISC
- **All this is labour intensive**

- **How should we Organise & Structure NA3**
  - Developing the basis of scalable training for Europe
  - E-Infrastructure
    - General purpose, pervasive, persistent, reliable & easy to use
    - How can we make best use of it?
  - Target thousands to tens of thousands / country
    - All disciplines:
      - *Research, Innovation, Engineering, Health care, Decision making*
      - *Domestic use*
  - NA3 in EGEE II has to invent & create the foundations
    - For scalable & popular training
    - Developing the knowledge, skill and facilities
    - Developing the core of Educators & Trainers
    - Convincing local resource providers and funders to engage
    - Raising the profile of e-Infrastructure – building a market for training
  - Forming alliances & sharing / relinquishing control

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- **Dividing the Work to Provide semi-autonomous sub-activities**
  - Regional / Federation organisation

- **Increasing the NA3 Management & Leadership Capacity**
  - Deputies
  - Regional / Federation leaders & managers
  - Individuals responsible for oversight of various roles

- **Progress from 22 → 30 Partners**

- **New ones here**

- **Mutual Introductions**

- **Email training-support@nesc.ac.uk**

  - Your partner number

  - Your partner name

  - Contact Person for NA3

    - Name, email, telephone number, postal address

  - Other staff you want on the email circulation

    - Name, email

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- **Scaling mechanisms**
  - eLearning support
    - Demo highly successful, development on target
    - The features are those being asked for at the conference
  - Training trainers
    - On going
  - Education
    - Complementary effort (ICEAGE) to stimulate long term solutions (cf above)
  - Support communities' training plans
    - On going – collaborating on MoUs with NA4
      - *Example outcome -> recent Magic course*

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- **Documentation**
  - Must be created as part of development process
  - Is part of software not external to it
  - Mechanisms for providing access

- **Joint Operational Structures**
  - Establish the UIG as an Editorial Board
  - With resources
  - And a mandate that controls quality for user information
    - *Including training*

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- **Providing markers for where to start with material**

    - NA3 agreed internal Editorial Task Force
        - Markus Hardt (FZK) to lead

    - Integrate into eLearning
        - Implementation of Task Force policies

Safe journey home