Alistair Mills

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1 List of tasks
    0. Identify people who can work on support at the various centers
            Web designers/php developers/...
            Experts in ticketing systems
          - Experts in middleware
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          - VO supporters
         - CICs/ROCs support contacts, etc.
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          - Security experts
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          - CA contacts
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    1. Improve GGUS ticketing system for the help desk

1.a) Certain features are absolutely needed before the system can be used.
A non exhaustive list is the following (I was still not able to test the new interface):
All people involved in providing support for a given problem should be notified about

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                actions taken by others
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              - It should be possible to involve other supporters
              - It should be possible to broadcast to supporters/developers (to ask for help and to find new supporters who know about the problem)
- It should be possible to broadcast to VOs or site-admins
- It should be possible to redirect the problem to local support (manually at the
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2.1
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                 beginning but with a well known procedure)
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               - It should be possible to escalate the problem (manually at the beginning but with
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                 a well known procedure)
         1.b) Various bugs reported for the central GGUS ticketing system – Somebody should make a list and start reaction \,
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               - Create a group for GGUS problems as well
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         1.c) Users have been asking since long time for a powerful search engine.
                - We can suggest the usage of Google while developing an adeguate tool
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                 (we should advertise google in the GGUS and local support Web sites)
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               - The Italians are building a good Knowledge base. GGUS should point to
                that knowledge base till something else is available.

Improve the search engine on tickets (I was not able to search by a key as user!)
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         1.d) Work on interfacing various ticketing systems automatically whenever possible.
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         1.e) Organize ticketing system by area with a default one. Ticketing system problems should
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                also be categorized.
          (A supporter is forced to have 2 accounts. One to use the system as a user and one to use it as a supporter. Not critical - can it be avoided ?)
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    2. Increase portal usage
          The goal here is to discourage the posting on the LCG rollout list and bring users
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          to GGUS. Right now I see something like 3-5 tickets/day posted to GGUS. The traffic
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              on the LCG rollout list is much higher (20-30 postings/day).
         - What stated in 1 is a prerequisite.
- We need to monitor the system.
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          - Make shifts to monitor supporter's answers and make them aware of the correct
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                 procedure to follow.
          - Monitor user's satisfaction reacting quickly and involving more supporters if needed.
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          - Produce a report with uncovered issues/needs and report to the Central Support Committee.
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          - Promote and advertise the use of the portal whenever possible - However the portal has to work
            sufficiently well before being advertised. Otherwise we just discourage our users! At the beginning this will require a lot of babysitting.
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    3. Improve portals presentation. We should agree on the content. (We need a WEB expert here ?)
          - Information is missing
- Documentation is not organized (EGEE organization, release, installation, special
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          servers/configuration,
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                                user docs, developers, training, User Support, VO specifics - see EIS security and CA organization - how do I find my CA of reference ?)
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         - A pointer to central GGUS
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         - Pointers to other local support centers
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         - Pointer to contacts (VOs, CICs, ROCs)
         - Pointers to useful software distributions (UI installation, etc.)
- Pointers to useful user tools (for monitoring, administration, accounting, etc.)
- Hints (which batch system to use? Which installation tools? What is a possible configuration for
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66
               a site ?)
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         - FAQs
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         - HOWTOs
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         - Search engine (google?)
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         - We need to review existing portals and decide on possible organization.
          - We need to review portal presentation once the LCG portal changes.
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    4. Create communication channels among various bodies
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           Establish what the bodies involved are: siteadmins, VOs, CICs, ROCs, etc.
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          - Establish a mechanism
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          - Creating a news broadcast engine via subscription, for instance.
    5. Training
         - We should introduce training on support at each User/Site Admin tutorial
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          - Create an on-line tutorial and documentation
            Understand the procedures to train supporters
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          - Establish strict contact with NA3. Help produce documentation - this helps create new knowledge
84
            and supporters.
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    6. Documentation
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         - We need to document the GGUS organization and support flow
         - We should provide help creating User and Developers Guide
- We should provide help creating Administration Guides
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91 - Develop Hints and FAQs and HOWTOs.
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93 7. Coordination with NA4
94 - What needs to be done when a new VO joins?
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