

Minutes of Information System Task Force, 31st March 2016

Local: Maria Alandes (chair, minutes), Maarten Litmaath, Julia Andreeva, Alessandro di Girolamo, Alexey Anisenkov.

Remote: Andrew McNab, Alessandro Paolini, Balasz Konya, Oxana Smirnova, Stefano Belforte, Florido Paganelli

Agenda available in Indico

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/510089/>

1. Next Steps

Maria summarises the current state of the art as far as information sources is concerned [<https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/pub/EGEE/WLCGISEvolution/ISSources.pdf>] for both computing and storage. Maria explains that since many VOs still rely on the BDII, OSG has been contacted to know whether there is a clear deadline to stop BDII support, but there is no answer yet. Stefano clarifies that CMS doesn't actually currently depend on OSG BDII at all. Maria requests an update of the Current Use Cases document to reflect this, as this is not what has been described in CMS Use Cases. Maria asks whether ATLAS is still relying on OSG BDII. Alessandro explains that since AGIS queries top BDII for gatekeeper + queue details, OSG sites who are still publishing this via BDII are indeed queried. However, HTCondor CEs are queried through HTCondor scripts and in the worst case, manual input is also possible. However, Alessandro di Gi would like to know about the BDII decommission plans from OSG if this is now known. Maria will forward their answer as soon as they reply.

Maria describes the ongoing activity between CMS and ATLAS who are working on a common information system called CRIC (Computing Resource Information Catalogue). A prototype is expected to be ready in the next months and once both experiments are happy with this, it will be presented to the MB for approval. If everything goes well, maybe there will be a new IS for WLCG by the end of the year (rough estimate).

Maria proposes to start reducing dependencies on BDII. For storage this is not needed, so she suggests to try to stop publishing information for dedicated LHC resources. Maarten argues that this is not going to be easy as most sites have mixed resources shared with non LHC VOs where BDII publication is needed. Maria and Alessandro di Gi insist on the fact that this could be at least done for dedicated resources since it is useless effort as the published information is not used. Maria explains PIC use case since she has been recently in contact with them to test this. There have been issues when storage stops being published from the BDII with SAM OPS tests that started to

fail. Maria will follow this up with EGI. Alessandro Paolini confirms BDII is needed for SAM OPS tests. Julia also suggests to check with T0 who seemed to be interested in SAM OPS tests in the past.

Maria also proposes to use GOCDB/OIM as primary information sources with or without CRIC. This requires to include more static information. Maria explains that with the new tag functionality one of the first things to do is to validate WLCG resources using the experiment VOfeeds. Then it would be good to agree on whether GOCDB/OIM could be considered the primary information source for this. Julia mentions the need for an automatic writeable API to really profit from GOCDB/OIM if we add more static information there. Andrew McNab agrees with this.

Maria asks experiments if they agree with the proposed actions. Andrew explains that he thinks it is interesting to reduce dependencies on the BDII. Right now they don't see a big benefit in using CRIC if it's finally implemented, but if this proves to be better than GOCDB, they will be happy to use it. Maarten explains that CRIC is not a priority for ALICE right now, but if information is proven to be correct, he doesn't see why not consuming information from there. Right now, ALICE LDAP server is hardcoded, it could be interesting to explore how to update it from CRIC in an automatic way. Maarten adds that in fact CRIC will provide a starting point for all VOs with correct information, with extra functionality like logging or notification mechanisms when a user changes some information. It will give an overview of what WLCG really is, which is something that we are missing today.

Action items:

- *Inform to TF members whether OSG has now a timeline to decommission BDII (Maria)*
- *Study the feasibility of stopping BDII publication for storage resources dedicated to LHC VOS. This includes discussing with EGI about OPS tests (Maria)*
- *Validate WLCG resources (associated to the WLCG tags) in GOCDB by comparing to the experiments VOfeeds (Maria)*
- *Understand the timeline to have a writeable API in GOCDB (Maria)*
- *Find some volunteer sites to start playing with more static information in GOCDB/OIM (Maria)*

2. Next meeting

No meeting scheduled yet.