Container Working Group: Mandate and Scope

Gavin McCance
CERN IT

Mandate

To be discussed, modified, agreed… (process?)
"""

To understand and track the use of containers within WLCG for compute and for service deployment, and to make recommendations to sites on potential deployment patterns that they may wish to adopt.

To ensure the WLCG-wide deployment of Singularity and its support services for the LHC experiments.
"""

How do we know when we're done?

- I suggested 3 goals:

- 1. Singularity is deployed sensibly in WLCG and in use by all experiments, and we've documented and understand the [mucky] operational aspects.

How do we know when we're done?

- 2. We should have surveyed and made recommendations on potential deployment patterns (and technologies) for container-based compute deployment and provisioning, with an aim to reduce operational effort on the sites, and to meet the needs of the ongoing analysis reproducibility work going on in the experiments.

  At the end, we should have clearly documented a few reasonable paths for a site (should it wish to) to migrate their compute to these technologies.

How do we know when we're done?

- 3. We should have surveyed and made recommendations on potential deployment patterns (and technologies) for services within WLCG, again with an aim to reduce operational effort on the sites. Here, we should understand the interplay of container-provisioned services with the current configuration management systems in use in WLCG.

  At the end, we should have clearly documented a few reasonable paths for a site (should it wish to) to migrate their (suitable) services to these technologies.

What were not doing

- Forcing all sites to move their compute and services to containers

- (…though we do want all sites to support Singularity for the experiments).

Aspects to understand today

- Singularity:
  - Relationship to traceabilityWG
  - Open operational issues, concerns
  - Experiment adoption status, concerns open questions
  - Are we aligned on how we want to distribute the images/chroots? Aligned on how we want to configure it?
  - Make a plan of things we need to address for wider deployment

- Brainstorm on future activities

RFC…

- Mandate and scope
  - Agree?
  - Disagree?
  - Widen / narrow scope?
  - Missing things
  - Singularity everywhere?