



Report on services from IT department

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ACCU Users Meeting, 11 June 2019



Information Technology Department

Collaboration Services - Rooms

- B6 : new room equipped (6-2-008)
- B354: 8 new table top mics at 354-1-019
- Main Auditorium
 - 4 new webcast encoders for more redundancy during high-profile events
 - **Unavailable during March 2020** for an upgrade of its video acquisition system



Collaboration Services - Vidyo

Please refrain from using “VidyoDesktop for Linux” for two reasons:

- The client application has been deprecated by Vidyo
- Users joining a conference via it could cause an audio problem impacting the whole video conference

We recommend using WebRTC instead, for which we are increasing the capacity of its infrastructure




Collaboration Services - Indico

- Indico has been upgraded on June 4th
- It includes a completely new room booking system, taking into account accumulated feedback received over time
- Thanks to those who alpha-tested the platform



Collaboration Services - Email

- Currently all incoming spam (~700k/day) is rejected
- As of tomorrow, the “Junk E-mail” folder will be enabled on CERN mailboxes, such that:
 - Low confidence spam (~20k/day) will be delivered there
 - High confidence spam will still be rejected
- Check out for this new folder:  **Junk E-mail [283]**
(naming subject to language localisation)



LXPLUS/LX BATCH CC7 migration timeline

January 2019

- 30% of public and grid lxbatch resources became CC7
- lxplus.cern.ch alias still pointing at SLC6 nodes, CC7 via lxplus7

April 2019

- 50% of public and grid lxbatch resources became CC7
- lxplus.cern.ch alias points to CC7, remaining SLC6 via lxplus6.cern.ch
- Default OS target for HTCondor becomes CC7

Early June 2019

- Migration to CC7 of the remainder of public and grid lxbatch resources

April 2020

- Stop lxplus6.cern.ch



AFS migration, revisited

Reduced concerns about the longevity of upstream OpenAFS

- Had several releases since 2015 → assume OK for next 3-5 years on CC7
- Residual risks (e.g server-side vulnerabilities) can be mitigated (e.g no external access)

No specific urgency to replace the current AFS service

In parallel, CERNBox on EOS is a very reliable and highly functional service

During 2019 CERN-IT will pause and **review the strategy and migration plan**, while:

- We encourage all users to make use of CERNBox for the majority of their “home directory” needs, allowing secure storage and file sharing. This applies equally to Windows, Mac, Linux, or other desktop users
- Migration of Windows DFS to CERNBox will go on, as part of the strategy to reduce dependencies on Microsoft-based infrastructure
- Migration out of AFS for other use cases will be reviewed in the coming months, with recommendations on a case by case basis; in particular for usages relying on a high speed, mounted file system (software build, engineering applications, etc.) currently hosted at AFS



CERN Computing Blog

New communication/outreach channel of IT Department:
www.cern.ch/computing-blog

The “CERN Computer Newsletter” (CNL) publication (1966-2010) was quite popular during its time (Archives: <http://cnl.web.cern.ch/cnl/>)

Why are we starting it again?

- Evolving and growing computing demands from the whole community
- One of the challenges is to engage the community with CERN-IT by providing up to date information...
- .. and in a way which is more accessible than the traditional peer-to-peer channels (e.g. meetings, working groups)

So early 2019 we have decided to bring back the CNL in a new format



Analogue Telephony

Migration continues - cleanup process by end of June by removing lines without identified users:

- At offices (Ref. Dep.Phone responsables)
- Outside offices (Ref. TSOs and Location responsables)



Microsoft Alternatives

Pilot phase launched for a range of solutions; volunteers welcome:

- Telephony: Skype for Business to WebRTC
Contact: Mattermost, channel “Malt-Telephony”
- Mail: Kopano (with fallback to e365 should the pilot prove unsatisfactory)
Contact: Mattermost, channel “Malt-Mail”
- Office: alternatives will be proposed complementing Office 365 (Libre Office, Only Office)
Contact: msoffice-cda-alt@cern.ch



Microsoft Alternatives

Diagram Drawing

- MS Visio license expires this summer
- (Free) MS Visio viewer will remain available via CMF
- Selected alternative: Draw.IO
- If continued use is required, file a request via the Service Desk



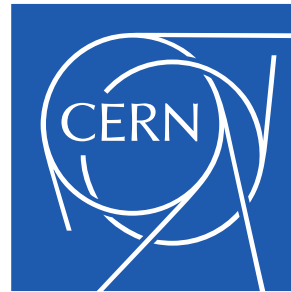
Microsoft Alternatives

For feedback and communication:

- Reference site: <http://cern.ch/malt>
- Brainstorming and discussions:
<http://cern.ch/mattermost/it-dep/channels/malt>
- Your participation is welcome by:
 - Testing the products under evaluation
 - Detailing your use cases



Thanks



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Questions welcome