

Minutes of GDM Meeting 8/31/04

(There were problems with videoconferencing and it never got connected. What should we do to prevent this happening in future.?) We also took a while to get the projector synchronized w/ laptop.

Intro – Ruth

Goal of meeting.

Igor T.: What is a farm?

A. Good question – will be answered in course of discussion, maybe. First definition – production systems, commodity systems

Diesburg – D0

JIM installation questions from Mike: where does experiment specificity fit in layers?

JIM architecture question: distribution of user data – is it scalable to large system?

Snider – CDF

Vicky: Your goal says ‘extensible control system’ not extensible and portable.

A. Operable on other platforms is long term goal.

Vicky: Why are scripts any different from what D0 does?

Mike: they’re not but old D0 scripts not portable

Vicky: Why use dcache to write output? Why not use enstore?

A. Want to keep data close on tape.

Vicky: Have you done a simulation?

A. No, and that would probably be useful.

Vicky: How does CAF distribute tarballs? Why does CAF not call this a scalability issue when D0 does?

A. CAF copies tarballs to the nodes, from a headnode.

Jon: Ordinary users can use gdb without logging in to node?

A. Yes, and it’s very popular so we want to retain it.

Steve T.: What happens to CDF farm?

A. Bring up this system on the CAF, then migrate it back to the farm.

Vicky: What is your timescale?

A. By the end of the shutdown, including back porting to the farm.

Vicky: I did not hear the word runjob anywhere.

A. No, we don’t think it’s required. We think it might be useful for MC.

Bakken – CMS

Timm – GPF

Wyatt: What's involved in loosening the partition of grid testbed and the rest of the farm?

A. One login and one minute. (Just a matter of FBSNG configuration change.)

Liz: Why don't you use dcache pools?

A. Are planning to look at that, and see if stken dcache pool has enough capacity.

Petravick (slides delivered by Merritt) - FermiGrid

Vicky: Mechanisms for job submission – different problems?

Ruth: Some of that development is going on in Tech dev group, some in other groups, and the outcome should be a set of development projects.

Wyatt: Going ahead with this matrix will let us tackle problems in separate ways.

Q. (Steve T.) What about the security waivers for the various access methods?

A. There is a plan for SAZ.

Q. It isn't ready, is it?

A. Will be in production for CMS by end summer. Server done, deployment in progress.

Q. (Vicky) Why would you do the third column?

Rick S: My guess is you wouldn't pursue E5, you'd alter the CAF model.

The fact that the other 2 columns are E0, we should find a column that's less than E5.

Work plan will come out of next meetings, that may be why it sounds so simple right now.

Did not get as far as assessing level of FTEs.

Amber: When the E1s are done, they quickly become E2.

Amber (and Rick) – it's not that, it's the amount of effort to use a general resource. Either way, we have an evolution path.

(Comments from Lothar, Liz S-K):

Vicky: I think we have to have facility networking, think it through

(Liz) Life would be easier with one large farm.

(Vicky) With that proposal, people are scared of losing control of their resources.

(Amber) It is work for people to make these resources available, and if there are tools to make it look like a single resource, that's enough.

(Liz) Headnode concept seems like a step backward.

(Amber/Vicky/Gabriele) There may be some misrepresentations there; these issues need to be clarified.