

Notes from the FSP-CMS Computing Team Phone Meeting August 25th, 2011

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Participants:

RWTH: Excuses received

KA: Oliver Oberst, Günter Quast, Manuel Zeise

UHH: Hartmut Stadie, Martijn Gosselink

DESY: Birgit Lewendel, Christoph Wissing [Protocol]

Some information can be found on the following indico

page: <http://indico.desy.de/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=4763>

1.) HEP Track at GridKa School

The program is mainly ready and most talks are confirmed. The HandsOn using a CVMFS installation are being prepared next week by Christoph and Benedikt H.. ATLAS has not yet named a speaker for a presentation. Günter offers a presentation by Marian Z. about Glidein WMS usage in CMS. Will be decided beginning of next week.

On Friday the HappyFace folks will meet at the GridKa school. Recent results from the work of a summer student at DESY should be brought to the meeting. (Perhaps via someone from UniHH.)

2.) Preparation of TAB HGF Alliance GPB meeting

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During the GridKa school there will be a joined meeting of the TAB and the HGF GPB. (Agenda is linked from the Indico page of this meeting.)

KA colleagues will present CMS Tier1 items:

- T1 usage
- Experiences with GlideinWMS
- Dcache tuning
- WLCG pledge for 2012 ~10% of CMS T1 resources
- Future funding profile for the next funding period under discussion

T2 items are either being presented by Thomas K. or get merged into the T1 presentation:

- D-CMS Tier2 resources should be 7.5% of all CMS T2 capacity (That matches the author fraction)
- Inside DESY (IT and CMS) the aim for 7.5% is acknowledged
An external request to the DESY management will be helpful to get the pledges fulfilled.
- Share between DESY and AC should be 2:1 (as usual)
- Show plots of the good performance of the German T2s
Stress the importance of AC T2

There will be slot for a NAF presentation. No speaker seems to be appointed yet. DESY will take care that the slot is filled with an appropriate speaker.

Preparation of the FSP Meeting - Computing

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Parallel slot on Tuesday late afternoon, chair persons Thomas K. and Christoph. A link to the FSP agenda is linked on the indico page of this meeting.

On Wednesday a summary in the plenary will be given (Thomas or Christoph).

Order of the talks still to be defined, speaker are confirmed.
User feedback will be presented by Oliver and Manuel from KA.
Short reports of the status and perspectives of the German analysis resources are planned. German T2s by Thomas, NRG by Karlsruhe, NAF by Birgit.

Ideally the session helps to develop a vision of the future of those resources and how they interact. Modern technologies (Cloud is the buzz word here) can help to make the resources appear less distinguished.

We need to make people aware that we are going to be resource constrained in the future and therefore need to monitor usage much more strict.
(See following discussion.)

Lively(!) Discussion on Quota/Threshold

Resources, disk space in particular, are getting short since the LHC machine produces more and more lumi. During the rush before the summer conferences it was almost impossible for the Computing Team to deal with shortage and hunt down the users to remove unnecessary files. Therefore we need to delegate this task.

For the T2 /store/user area we have a nice HappyFace space monitoring that shows (in the admin view) the space usage of all users grouped by institute. A threshold per institute can be implemented and the management of the space "allocated" the institute can be delegated to representatives.

Setting threshold per institute is politically not really recommended since this indicates separation instead of collaboration. Discussions in the past always concluded with the result that grouping the space by physics topics will be difficult (if possible at all). For a grouping schema by topic assignment of users to topics we would need a technical implementation and also active management.

Fixing a metric for a threshold is a delicate topic. A fixed amount per institute appears to be very unfair as the spread in size is large. A metric based on authors or the sum of physicists plus students (incl. undergraduate) should be more fair.

We aim to communicate the following to heads of FSP CMS:

Ideally resources are always sufficient such that no thresholds are needed at all.

Since that might be not realistic, representatives for space management from each institute are to be appointed.

A metric for thresholds will be proposed and should be decided on.

Summing disk usage by topic rather than institute is suggested, but requires some effort.

During the week of the GridKa school, we should draft a mail to the group leaders and send it well in advance such that the topic can be discussed in the group leaders meeting during the FSP meeting.