

NuComp Steering Meeting – Sept. 14, 2011

Participants: Art Kreymer, John Urish, Steve Timm, Michael Wang, Marc Mengel, Adam Lyon, Robert Hatcher, Stephan Lammel, Dave Schmitz, Dennis Box, Margaret Votava, Eileen Berman, Stu Fuess, Jason Allen, Keith Chadwick, Mayly Sanchez, Andrew Norman, Brett Viren, Tom Junk, Gene Oleynik, Heidi Schellman, Marko Slyz, Lee Lueking, Rick Snider.

Notes:

Discussion of upcoming work on maintenance days. There will be a power outage of FCC2 on 10/15, a bluearc firmware upgrade and reboot is scheduled for 10/20 (this may occur on 10/15), Art will see if Oracle patch scheduled for 9/15 may be moved to the down times in October.

SLF4 will no longer be supported after 2/2/12. Minerva would like to begin transitioning to SLF5 VMs in the coming weeks. The request the upgrade of the IF nodes be done in late November, possibly 11/17.

SLF6 beta 1 was released last week. It has no crypto-card support. Support for compound principals (kron , etc.) will be available sometime in October.

Discussion experiment needs for FY12. We are using most of our pre-buy of FY12 disk for a cushion for Minerva (70TB), and additional space needed for MINOS. We will make need-driven decisions about the use of this space for other groups throughout the coming months. The price estimates we have for bluearc are less than half what we paid in FY11, so we may have additional options available for next year. Jason will present plans for the changes being applied to GPCF at the Oct. NuComp and we will better evaluate the FY12 needs for VM logins and Local batch once we better understand that. We discussed the estimates for GP grid slots and the possibility of getting some Run II resources. There was uncertainty whether CDF and D0 would actually be ready to release their quota by then and we need to understand this. Some of the numbers in the chart on p17 of the “NuComp News” talk for “GP grid slots” are not in line with current usage (i.e. mu2e), and these need to be examined in more detail.

LBNE asked if it is possible to prepare for production on a GPU farm. Stu says we need to identify customers, and Jason says we need a task code to purchase such a thing. The GPU cards now being tested are \$2k to \$3k each, but provide significant performance advantages over typical CPU (I think the number was x50 core).

We talked about the date/time for the October meeting. October 12 is the nominal date, although Mayly would prefer the 19th. There was no request to change the day/time of the meeting. Send Lee your thoughts on this.

Marc showed the work being done for IF monitoring. There was some discussion of the similarities between MCAS, although Marc said this is simpler and easier for us to support. It is also more flexible to put various graphing technologies on the user side.

Adam provided a status report on the SAM web interface and discussed using it in GAUDI, and the ART framework. There is ongoing work with Minerva and the ART team to move ahead with this work.

Lee presented a demo example of how cvmfs works, using the gm2 software release (see: https://cdcv.sfnal.gov/redmine/projects/ifront/wiki/Test_CERN_VM-FS). One question is if there are clients outside of Fermilab will it be secure? The answer is that the repository catalogs can be signed and a X.509 pub key distributed to authorized users. There is some question concerning the success of this in CMS, specifically it is reported that they (at Fermilab anyway) stopped using it. We will discuss with CMS and get a full report. CERN seems to be supporting it and pushing the project enthusiastically.

Andrew gave us an update of the IF Beam Data collection and user interface. This is now running and collecting data . There is a project page <https://cdcv.sfnal.gov/redmine/projects/ifbeamdata> ,and a data web page <http://dbweb4.sfnal.gov:8080/ifbeam/app/index> .