

Comments from Technology and Software Lead

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1. The PBS/LSF probe is in the worst shape of all the probes. It's the one where maintenance is not sufficient and a rewrite is needed.
 - Background: it is the last remaining probe written in multiple languages (a combination of perl, python, and C++). The configuration is spread across multiple files; generally, no one knows how it all works. The C++ portions are the core of the probe and are based on an abandoned EDG project.
 - At this point, the I consider the "responsible maintenance" cost to be higher than the rewrite cost. This implies, of course, we are not doing a responsible level of maintenance. The probe is getting in worse shape as the years go on. Until the 2012 rewrite, the Condor probe was in the same position.
2. Other than the PBS probe, the probe in the second worst shape is the gridftp probe. The maintenance costs of that are a bit higher than average, but not unreasonable. It's not yet at the point where a rewrite is necessary.
 - All other probes are simple enough or in sufficiently good state that I do not actively worry about them.
3. The probe common libraries are in OK shape. The odds-n-ends maintenance needed can be contributed by the probe maintainers.
4. There are no large projects or TODO items I am aware of for the collector. However, there is a need to maintain the developer knowledge in the various personnel. Typical maintenance tasks take a month of calendar time, but we don't know of them more than a month or so prior to the start of development.
 - I know this makes it difficult to justify the collector maintenance. If necessary, I can think of a few minor tasks for 2013 collector maintenance that aren't at the tip of my brain.
 - In the end, I'd like to see around .25FTE of effort for the collector. Could even go smaller than this (I don't believe in splitting people smaller than .25 though), but really must remain nonzero. I would consider zeroing out maintenance to be a risk to the OSG.
5. Tanya is doing a wonderful job. She has effectively utilized what little resources she is given and done a good job of leveraging contributions of others. I know it's not the most rewarding task - often a frustrating one! - but I'm happy with the stewardship performed in FY2012.