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## Virtualisation usage at CERN

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One may say that virtualisation techniques were present since some years. But this year it seems to be that virtualisation surged ahead of “Web 2.0” as the buzziest of buzzwords in the sector of information technology.

In the first half of March 2007 the FIO group launched its virtualisation project. The main object is to use the availability of cheaper and more powerful machines to consolidate low utilisation services. Besides this, there is an increasing demand for test and development machines, which are usually not heavily loaded and thus could be easily virtualised.

Half a year later I'd like to share experiences the project team made during the integration of a Xen based virtual machine environment into the existing infrastructures of CERNs Computing Centre. This covers issues regarding configuration, installation, monitoring, managing and modelling of the virtual machine environment.

Since FIO is not the only group using virtualisation technologies I will also report about two other use cases. One is the Certification and Test of the gLite middleware within the EGEE project. The other one is the ETICS project which uses virtual machines in their build and test system.

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