VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2005 Quarter 4, Month 1 (October): Narrative

1. General and Project management

We have contributed to the writing and costing of the second leg of the VEGA programme, for UK work on the Gaia data flow system. RSC attended the ADASS meeting and presented a poster on the WSA. We have drawn up a programme for this quarter's work including the first half of the design studies for Phase 4, benchmarking existing designs to test their performance with VISTA data volumes. Depending on the outcomes of these tests, we have pencilled in studies of alternative solutions for next quarter. Other work includes shaking down the archive with experience of real data and with feedback from real users and adding data delivery facilities.

We met with David Salmon (UKERNA), and colleagues from NeSC and EUCS to discuss further our possible use of UKLight for data transfers from CASU and will study this further as part of the design studies for Phase 4.

2. Hardware

A further 2.19 TB of SCSI disk space was acquired for the public Catalogue Server, Amenhotep. We have been installing the latest Debian release and software on the third image data server, Khufu. There have been a few hiccups but the systems have been recovered OK and the UPSs proved their worth during two power cuts in one afternoon.

3. Software

The facility to allow batch upload of users' coordinated lists to get Catalogue data, as requested by science verifiers, is complete. We have continued refactoring tools written a while back but latterly exercised, fixing bugs, memory leaks and speeding up execution. There has some to-ing and fro-ing regarding reprocessed catalogue files from CASU, but we have now the SV1 and SV2 data and data up to June and are proceeding with ingest. Priority remains the release of the SV data so the SV process can be closed out.

4. Tables

Progress and project status are summarized in the usual Quarter and EVA tables.

PMW
2005 November 7