

SUNDEV discussions

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CERN-EP

FOCUS 2000/12/07

Les Robertson:
Focus 10/00

Validation of SUN Physics Services

FOCUS – SUN required in foreseeable future as a
second development platform

IT proposal

- The prime physics platform remains Linux/Intel.
- Consolidate physics SUN services in SUNDEV
 - physics software development
 - support of development and engineering tools not available on Linux
 - shared by all experiments
 - NOT a batch service (“non-prime” & “background” batch only)
 - NOT a general “desktop support service”
 - not for mail/browsing/text processing and other tasks that belong on the desktop
 - existing SUN services migrated progressively to this service
 - details to be agreed with PDP group
- This is concerned with systems that users log into, run jobs on - it does not affect the policy towards specialised servers (e.g. Oracle database servers)
- This is a consolidation proposal - it does not imply any additional investment in SUN support



SUNDEV working group

- Focus 10/2000: Form a working group, convened by M. Pimiä and N. McCubbin, in order to define a policy
- Involved: Cattaneo, Defert, Düllmann, Jank, McCubbin, Meinhard, Pimiä, Poulard, Stavrianiakou, Stickland
- Meeting on 19 October 2000, further follow-up in E-mail discussions
- Memorandum sent to Hoffmann, Jeffrey, Robertson on 26 October 2000

Conclusions of memo (1)

- Second platform indispensable
 - for validation and verification
 - of software
 - of computing model
 - not limited to until 2005
- Current choice: Solaris on Sparc

Conclusions of memo (2)

- Common, shared facility acceptable if
 - implements transparently experiment environment
 - delivers allocated shares
 - allows for partitioning
 - run different software environment (OS, compiler, ...)
 - address temporary capacity needs
 - address librarians' needs for building software releases
- Up-to-date hardware required
- Access restriction, if at all, by experiment, not by user

Conclusions of memo (3)

- Software environment:
 - Basically all usual tools required
 - Web browser necessary for development, mail tools for automatic notifications etc.
 - In addition software development tools
 - xdmcp is **not** necessary
- Data processing:
 - Significant amount is indispensable part of validation and verification of software and computing model
 - Access to data as from Linux capacity
 - CMS estimate for capacity req: ~ 12% of Linux

Summary of memo

- “A high-quality service for batch as well as for development is needed on two independent platforms in order to build and maintain the high quality software needed for online and offline event selection, reconstruction and analysis.”

Implications

- Material: investments, infrastructure, system administration
 - Setup for 2001 included in PDP planning as approved by Cocotime
- Personnel
 - IT management always stresses implication on personnel - experiments would like to understand this better
 - What difference on the personnel does a 1% farm vs a 10% one make?