

The EUMEDGRID Project Begins: Supporting The Creation of a Grid Infrastructure Across the Mediterranean

Posted on February 6, 2006 by GARR

Malta, 6 February 2006 – Funded by European Commission, the EUMEDGRID - empowering e-Science across the Mediterranean - project starts officially with a meeting located, both symbolically and geographically, at the heart of the Mediterranean. During the next two years, a group of highly-motivated experts will collaborate to develop a Grid eInfrastructure for e-Science across the Mediterranean: a concrete initiative aiming at bridging the Digital Divide and fostering collaboration between Europe and its Mediterranean Neighbours.

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Successful Evaluation of 2005 Results

Posted on February 6, 2006 by CESNET

The evaluation of our research plan Optical national research network and its new applications took place on Thursday January 26. The evaluation committee stated that all goals designated to 2005 have been fulfilled. The results achieved have been declared excellent, of international importance. The evaluation protocol (in Czech) contains more information including the reviews and our annual research report (all materials are in Czech only, the English version of the annual report is being prepared). There is a press release describing this event.

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SUNET is Preparing for OptoSunet

Posted on February 2, 2006 by SUNET

SUNET, the Swedish university computer network, is planning for the future. Later this year the present network, called GigaSunet, will be replaced by OptoSunet, a hybrid network based on dark fibre. TDC Song has already been commissioned to build the new infrastructure. OptoSunet also needs a lot of equipment (DWDM, routers, amplifiers...). That part of the purchasing process is not yet completed.

OptoSunet will connect Swedish universities and university colleges with a capacity of 10 Gbps. In fact, some universities may get even more bandwidth. Researchers will be able to increase their bandwidth up to 40 Gbps. Within OptoSunet it will be possible to lease wavelengths from end-to-end.

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Official Kick-off for the EUChinaGRID Project: Pursuing Interconnection and Interoperability of Grids between Europe and China

Posted on January 30, 2006 by GARR

The new EC-funded EUChinaGRID Project has officially started: in the next two years an International group of highly motivated experts will interconnect the existing European and Chinese Grid Infrastructures and enable their interoperability, thus creating a network of collaboration between Europe and China. There are several international partners participating to the Project, one of them is Consortium GARR.

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SURFnet Launches Photo Competition for Students

Posted on January 27, 2006 by SURFnet

SURFnet has launched a photo competition for students at it's students' portal www.student.nl. Students are challenged to photograph the mess in their house. Entries can be judged by the site's visitors. The winner will be awarded with the services of a professional cleaning service for one day. Entries can be added until 23 February.

The competition was launched in order to promote the use of www.student.nl, which lists al services, relevant to students.

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SEEREN2 Newsletter, Issue No.1 - January 2006

Posted on January 26, 2006 by GRNET

Topics of interest:

- Negotiations with connectivity suppliers for the procurement of international connectivity to SEEREN2 beneficiary countries takes place in Amsterdam
- Cross border dark fiber connection between Serbia-Montenegro and Hungary has been established
- Workshop for the establishment of the Albanian NREN takes place in Tirana
- International Workshop on African Research & Education Networking
- Second Concertation workshop on eInfrastructures

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Presentations Opening SURFnet6 Available Online

Posted on January 26, 2006 by SURFnet

The presentations which were held last monday (23 January) for the launch of SURFnet6, in Amsterdam, are available online. SURFnet6 provides universities, research centres, and universities of applied science with both 'regular' Internet use and lightpaths with speeds up to 10 Gigabits per second.

The presentations can be found here:

<http://www.surfnet.nl/info/opening.jsp>

We also made a videospecial about the launch, which can be seen at:

<https://videotheek.surfnet.nl/asset-view/21595/>

Futhermore an animation about SURFnet6 was shown during the launch of the SURFnet6-network, titled 'En toen was er licht' (and then there was light). This animation tells about the history of SURFnet and explains the possibilities of the new network.

The animatie can be seen through:

http://videotheek.surfnet.nl/play_proxy/mmc/21244/entoenwaserlicht.wmv

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Low-cost Server Certificates Available via TERENA

Posted on January 25, 2006 by TERENA

Universities and institutions in the research and education sector in eight European countries can obtain server certificates at very low cost through their National Research and Education Networking

organisations (NRENs). This arrangement has been made possible through an agreement between TERENA and GlobalSign, a Cybertrust subsidiary.

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New TERENA Website Goes Live!

Posted on January 24, 2006 by TERENA

The new TERENA website went live earlier this week. The main focus of the new website is to make content more easily accessible and understandable for visitors.

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23 January: Live Streaming Opening SURFnet6

Posted on January 20, 2006 by SURFnet

The launch of the new SURFnet-network, SURFnet6, will be streamed live on 23 January.

The network will be opened by Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, the Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs.

The programme can be found at <http://www.surfnet.nl/info/opening.jsp>

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SWITCH Reducing Prices for Domain Names

Posted on January 17, 2006 by SWITCH

SWITCH, the registry for domain names ending in.ch and .li, is discontinuing the registration fee of CHF 40 as of 1 March 2006. The annual fee of CHF 35 will remain unchanged.

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SEEFIRE Workshop in Bucharest Raised Awareness about Benefits of Dark Fibre

Posted on January 17, 2006 by TERENA

The SEEFIRE (South-East Europe Fibre Infrastructure for Research and Education) project has held a policy workshop in Bucharest, Romania on Tuesday 17 January 2006. The workshop, the second in a series of SEEFIRE events, focused on the strategic and economic benefits of National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) owning and operating their own dark-fibre networks in southeast Europe. The workshop brought together end-users, university directors, telecommunication operators as well as decision makers and political representatives.

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Doctorat Honoris Causa for Prof. Jan Węglarz: Originator of the PIONIER Network

Posted on January 16, 2006 by PSNC

With the great pleasure we inform, that senate of the Poznan University of Technology, supported by the senates of Wroclaw University of technology, Gdansk University of Technology and AGH University of Science and Technology, awarded Professor Jan Węglarz a title of Doctoris Honoris Causa. The insignia and the diploma were presented to Him in Poznan on 14th of January 2006. About 500 people have participated in the ceremony taking place in Aula Magna of the Poznan University of Technology, mostly the authorities, members of parliament, church, members of the Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center team and his present and graduated students. This is 4th title of Doctor Honoris Causa after previous awards from Szczecin University of Technology (2001), AGH University of Science and

Technology (2002), Czestochowa University of Technology (2005).

Professor Jan Weglarz received His M.Sc. degree in mathematics from A. Mickiewicz University in 1969, and M.Sc. in Control Engineering from the Poznan University of Technology in 1971, and PhD., and Dr Habil. degrees from the same University in 1974 and 1977, respectively. Currently he is a Professor of Operations Management at the Poznan University of Technology and director of the Institute of Computing Science. He is also the director of the Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center. His research interests concern broadly understood scheduling and resource allocation problems in computer and manufacturing systems. He is the author of 10 monographs and over 150 papers in major professional journals and conference proceedings. He has held visiting positions and given invited lectures at over 50 universities and other research centers in Europe, USA, Canada, Japan, Israel, India.

From the very beginning he was involved in the work of the State Committee for Scientific Research within the team responsible for the IT infrastructure for Polish science and was one of the main authors and originators of the governmental program “PIONIER – Polish Optical Internet – Advanced Applications, Services and Technologies for the Information Society”. Thanks the engagement of Professor Jan Weglarz Polish scientific community has started building its own optical fibre lines connecting all the metropolitan area networks in Poland. The network construction and management was entrusted to Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center, which has been operating the whole infrastructure. The PIONIER Network enables Polish scientific community the participation in the International research as well as supporting the GEANT2 project.

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First Phase of GÉANT2 Pan-European Research and Education Network Goes Live

Posted on January 16, 2006 by DANTE

European researchers will now benefit from unparalleled collaboration with the deployment of the first phase of the GÉANT2 next generation network. Over one third of the network, which will connect 30 million users in 34 countries, has now been installed by research networking organisation DANTE, which is building and running GÉANT2, on behalf of Europe’s National Research and Education Networks.

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UK Research and Education to benefit from the UK’s Most Technologically Advanced Autonomous Network

Posted on January 13, 2006 by UKERNA

UKERNA has announced today that MCI has been awarded a £29 million contract to provide a state-of-the-art fibre optic network linking 19 regional networks across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales that will support a potential user base of up to 18 million users.

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Research and Education in Emerging Nations Boosted by Network Extensions

Posted on January 12, 2006 by DANTE

Research and development collaboration in Latin America and the Mediterranean/North African region has been safeguarded by the extension of European Union-funded networking projects into 2007.

The Latin American ALICE project and Mediterranean EUMEDCONNECT initiative provide links for researchers both within their regions and to their counterparts in Europe at speeds of up to 622 Mbps.

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6DISS Newsletter in South Eastern Europe, Issue No2 - January 2006

Posted on January 10, 2006 by GRNET

Topics inside this issue:

1) 6DISS Workshop in South Eastern Europe, 3-4 March, 2006

The 6DISS workshop in SE Europe will take place on 3-4 March 2006 in Kopaonik (Serbia & Montenegro). For two consecutive days, IPv6 experts from 6DISS project will give technical presentations on new technologies such as IPv6 transitions mechanisms, routing protocols, and applications. In addition to the theoretical sessions, hands-on training will be given at the local PC lab.

2) SEE IPv6 Workshop: Exploring the experiences in Research Networking, March 5th, 2006

In the same conference complex with the 6DISS Workshop, the SEE IPv6 workshop will take place on March 5th. The workshop is organized in cooperation with local academic researchers and aims to give the opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices from testing and deploying IPv6 technology in research & commercial networks.

3) 6DISS e-learning material

The 6DISS interactive e-learning multimedia application is accessed over the WWW. It aims to explain in simple wording the basic concepts and new features of IPv6 technology.

4) AfriNIC IPv6 workshop

The Egyptian IPv6 Task Force (E-IPv6) in cooperation with AfriNIC and the IPv6 Forum successfully organized an African IPv6 event on 12 & 13 December.

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Backbone DWDM Ring Operational

Posted on January 10, 2006 by CESNET

We deployed a backbone DWDM ring interconnecting CESNET2 nodes at Prague, Brno, Olomouc and Hradec Kralove. Thanks to the ROADM technology it offers a flexible provisioning of network paths based on current needs. The maximum ring capacity is 32 channels 10 Gbps each. More information is available in the press release.

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PIONIER enabled worldwide spread of the greatest charity action in Poland

Posted on January 9, 2006 by PSNC

On 8th January Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center second time was delivering the Internet live broadcast of an exclusive charity event - The XIV Great Finale of Wielka Orkiestra Świątecznej Pomocy (The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity). The content has been produced by Polish Television and distributed via PIONIER Network to over 25000 Internet users in Poland and all through the world.

Wielka Orkiestra Świątecznej Pomocy (The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity) is the biggest and most prosperous charity organization in Poland. Each year the Great Finale is a big day and many concerts, creative happenings and parties are taking place during which the money are being collected for the hospital equipment for children. Between 1993 and 2005 The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity has collected and spent over \$60 mln for saving children's lives.

Thanks the 10 GE PIONIER infrastructure and the content delivery system developed by PSNC during 2006 Great Finale two independent broadcastings could be realized and some additional content was available only for the iTVP platform which is the first interactive television platform in Poland developed by Polish Television in the cooperation with PSNC making that available for the broadband network users. This year event was very popular in the Internet as well. Over 160000 accesses have been registered and the aggregated bandwidth in the network exceeded 950 Mb/s.

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Optical interconnection to the U.S.A. and Taiwan

Posted on January 5, 2006 by CESNET

CESNET participated in building of inter-continental optical interconnection between collaborating institutions in the Czech Republic, United States and Taiwan. The infrastructure is used for scientific applications, videoconferencing and grid computing. The interconnection is a result of close collaboration between more partners from the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, United States and Taiwan. Press release contains more information.

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