

Dear EGEE-II project members,

As the time of the User Forum and EGEE-II review approaches, I take this opportunity to give you an update on a number of project activities.

#### *FP7 proposals progress*

EGEE is participating actively in the setup of a sustainable Grid infrastructure in Europe. Further to the work undertaken in the past few months with the launch of the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme, the European Grid Initiative (EGI) Design Study proposal will be submitted on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Driven by the needs and requirements of the research community, EGI intends to enable the next step in research infrastructures, thereby supporting collaborative scientific discoveries in the European Research Area. EGI will build on National Grid Initiatives that have already been established by many countries in Europe with the support of EGEE and the European Commission. Currently at different levels of maturity and implementation, in the long-term these initiatives aim to provide a common e-Science infrastructure in support of all sciences.

The work on the EGEE-III proposal has also progressed well, with a first full draft of the document circulated to the Project Management and Execution Boards for review at the beginning of April. This draft encompasses the programme of work of the project, in terms of vision, objectives, activities proposed and preliminary manpower estimates. The month of May and its important EGEE-II events, namely the User Forum and the first EGEE-II review, will see a pause in the EGEE-III work, which will be resumed soon after in order to finalise activities, manpower and Consortium structure. The call for this project proposal closes in September 2007.

#### *EGEE-II Review*

The first rehearsal for the EGEE-II review was held on 19 and 20 April and the Dress Rehearsal is scheduled for 3 and 4 May. . The review will be a good occasion to take stock of the status of the project on all fronts and gather useful feedback that will influence our plans for the second year as well as the proposal for EGEE-III.

#### *The EGEE Annual Report Brochure*

While all partners are busy filling out their timesheets, completing cost claims and contributing to activity reports in order to complete the periodic reporting and deliverable submission for the European Commission, the Project Office and dissemination activity at CERN have produced a brochure to present the achievements of the EGEE project to date. This brochure is intended as an "annual report" accessible to all audiences, and will be distributed at the first EGEE-II review.

#### *Changes in activity leadership*

Several changes have occurred in the project's activities in terms of their leadership, which are listed below:

- The Networking support activity (SA2), led by Mathieu Goutelle (CNRS, France), sees the departure of Jean-Paul Gautier (CNRS, France) who served as activity manager in EGEE and then as deputy activity manager in EGEE-II. He is replaced by Genevieve Romier (CNRS, France).
- The training activity (NA3), led by Brendan Hamill (UEDIN, U.K.) saw the departure of deputy activity leader Rüdiger Berlich (FZK in Germany) at the start of the year, who has been replaced by Gergely Sipos (SZTAKI, Hungary).
- Hannelore Hämmerle, Manager of the Dissemination, Communication and Outreach activity (NA2), will be leaving CERN in the Summer of 2007. Sarah Purcell has been appointed by CERN to take over the position from 2 May, with a transition period to ensure the handover of the activity.

We warmly thank Jean-Paul, Rüdiger and Hannelore for their hard work and dedication to the project and wish them every success for the future.

Further news on the project will be sent to you next month, with highlights of the User Forum and review. I leave you with news that preparations for the EGEE'07 conference, due to be held in Budapest, Hungary, on 1-5 October 2007 are well underway and registration for this event will open at the end of April (<http://www.eu-egee.org/egee07> ).

Yours sincerely,



Bob Jones  
EGEE-II Project Director

**Upcoming events:**

Month	Event	URL
May	3-4, EGEE-II review rehearsal, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland	<a href="http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=14472">http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=14472</a>
	7-11, OGF/EGEE User Forum Manchester, U.K.	<a href="http://egee-intranet.web.cern.ch/egee-intranet/User-Forum/">http://egee-intranet.web.cern.ch/egee-intranet/User-Forum/</a>
	15-16, EGEE-II Review CERN, Geneva, Switzerland	<a href="http://egee-technical.web.cern.ch/egee-technical/EU-reviews/index-review1.html">http://egee-technical.web.cern.ch/egee-technical/EU-reviews/index-review1.html</a>
	14-16, Ibergrid, Santiago de Compostela, Spain	<a href="http://www.ibergrid.eu">www.ibergrid.eu</a>
	21-22, DEISA Symposium 2007, Munich, Germany	<a href="http://www.deisa.org/news_events/future_events.php">http://www.deisa.org/news_events/future_events.php</a>
	21-24, Terena Networking conference, Copenhagen, Denmark	<a href="http://tnc2007.terena.org/">http://tnc2007.terena.org/</a>
June	5-7, Grid Asia 2007, Singapore	<a href="http://www.ngp.org.sg/gridasia/2007/">http://www.ngp.org.sg/gridasia/2007/</a>
	12, Grids for Science and Business, Gent, Belgium	<a href="http://events.ibbt.be/grid2007/">http://events.ibbt.be/grid2007/</a>
	25-28, EELA conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	<a href="http://indico.eu-eela.org/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=81">http://indico.eu-eela.org/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=81</a>
	25-30, Joint EGEE and SEE-GRID Summer School on Grid Application Support Budapest, Hungary	<a href="http://www.egee.hu/grid07">www.egee.hu/grid07</a>
	26-29, ISC 2007, Dresden, Germany	<a href="http://www.supercomp.de/">http://www.supercomp.de/</a>
	27-29, HPDC 2007, Monterey Bay, USA	<a href="http://www.hpdc.org/">http://www.hpdc.org/</a>
July	5-6, EGEE-II All Activity Meeting, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland.	Agenda TBD
	5-7, I. Symp. on Parallel and Distributed Computing, Hagenberg, Austria	<a href="http://www.gup.jku.at/ispdc">http://www.gup.jku.at/ispdc</a>
	8-20 International Summer School on Grid Computing (ISSGC07), Gripsholmsviken, Mariefred, Sweden	<a href="http://www.iceage-eu.org/issgc07/index.cfm">http://www.iceage-eu.org/issgc07/index.cfm</a>