



TF-MSP

Monday 29 & Tuesday 30 September 2008

SWITCH Offices, Zürich, Switzerland

Minutes by John DYER, TERENA

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1. Introductions

The meeting started with the usual formalities in which attendees introduced themselves. There were no comments on the notes of either the joint TF-MSP/TF-PR meeting or the notes of the informal TF-MSP meeting in Brugge.

The table of TF-MSP deliverables was reviewed in detail and the updated version will be put on the web page TF-MSP shortly.

2. Cost Models at RedIRIS - Alberto Perez

Alberto explained that the rationale behind developing a cost model at RedIRIS was to get a better understanding of true costs rather than as a step towards direct cost recovery from the users. Currently RedIRIS only make additional charges users for the cost of dedicated 10Gbit lambdas.

In his presentation, Alberto showed that the basis of the RedIRIS model is to assign costs to one of three major categories:

- Network
- Middleware and Applications
- Dissemination

This enables RedIRIS to understand how much of their costs are associated with each element. Alberto went on to discuss the benefits and problems of using direct/indirect charges and explained the effects that it can have on pricing.

Koen Schelkens of BELNET reported that they have been working with some budgetary software. He went on to say that only direct costs are passed on to their users with the indirect costs for research and education users being covered by government funding.

Walter van Dijk explained that SURFnet developed a costing model to enable client sites to decide which services over and above the core services they wished to utilize. Walter gave the examples of mail-filter and the certificate service which are optional and consequently charged extra above the basic fee.

3. Customer Segmentation at BELNET – Koen Schelkens

Koen presented the BELNET vision “The Network of Knowledge” and went on to mention the BELNET mission statement for 2006-2008. Koen explained that BELNET has 189 customer sites that have been categorized as falling into three categories:

- Research & Education
- Administration & Public Services
- Private Research and International Organizations

Nearly 70% of their customers fall into the Research and Education category. Koen went on to explain how the direct and indirect BELNET costs are apportioned between the different categories. This information can be found in his presentation slides. BELNET do not currently have a universal policy for schools, but are considering what can be done now that there is some interest from regional government.

4. RedIRIS Reputation Block List – Alberto Perez

RedIRIS have been weighing up the pros and cons of methods for defeating spam. Content filtering has to be organised from the centre and requires a lot of agreements with the institutions. Reputation block lists are a lighter weight solution and are still 70-90% effective.

Details of the RedIRIS block list (in Spanish) can be found at: www.rediris.es/irisrbl/

5. Media Content Services

There was a general discussion about the media content services. Several NRENs present expressed an interest (NL, ES, IE, CH, UK, BE) in exploring collaboration in this area now that the use of services such as YouTube are becoming so prevalent. Three NRENs mentioned specific projects that are already operating in this area:

JANET(UK)	IPTV	www.ja.net/development/iptv.html
SURFnet	SURFMedia	www.surfnet.nl/Documents/SMleafletlr.pdf
RedIRIS	ARCA	arca.rediris.es/

It was suggested that it would be an appropriate time for TERENA to organise a one day workshop to discuss the issues.

[NOTE added by meeting secretary: Members of the former TERENA Task Force TF-ECS discussed these issues in a BoF at TNC2008. They are planning to organize the 1st workshop in January/February 2009. It is intended to cover video recording and repository issues in the context of archiving and distributing university course through channels such as YouTube. They will also consider the metadata, copyright protection, and federated access aspects of doing this.]

6. Over-Provisioning of Bandwidth

John Dyer mentioned that the data collected for the 2008 edition of the TERENA Compendium of National Research and Education Networks in Europe revealed apparent low utilization of some parts of NREN networks. This is a result of the use of over-provisioning to provide an acceptable Quality of Service for the users and is to be expected. In his paper "Data networks are lightly utilized, and will stay that way" Andrew Odlyzko of the University of Minnesota sees this as the norm.

Shirley Wood of JANET(UK) provided a pointer to their statement on Quality of Service on JANET.

www.ja.net/development/network-engineering/qos/qos-statement.html

7. Handling of Tariff Models in TF-MSP

Walter van Dijk of SURFnet introduced the topic of how to handle tariff models in TF-MSP by asking the question: "What can we learn from one-another?"

Some international organisations such as ESA, the UN and NATO obtain connections from European NRENs in different countries under different terms and conditions. It would be helpful for such organizations if these terms and conditions could be harmonized across.

Apart from the need to harmonize things like AUP and SLA's might it be better for these organizations to be able to buy all their connections from a single European re-

seller rather than deal individually with several NRENS?

The case of the research arms of multinationals that use NREN services across borders was also discussed. It was thought that if some NRENS have a policy excluding industrial research use of the network, we need to know. It seems there is a coordination role.

It would also be helpful if there were a single point of contact for issues relating to such services. Ann Harding reported that there will be a service activity to be known as SA2 - Multi Domain Network Service Operations in GN3. It was agreed that it would be useful for TF-MSP to interact with GN3 activity leaders in this respect.

The discussion then turned to the topic of value added services.

As previously reported in these notes, SURFnet charges customers a basic fee plus a further charge for additional value added services such as mail-filtering and SURF-certificates. SWITCH, BELNET, HEAnet and JANET(UK) also charge for additional value added service on top of a basic. Dedicated lightpaths are commonly charged as an additional service.

8. Organisation of Future Activities in TF-MSP

The attendees said they found TF-MSP meeting in Zürich to have been useful and productive and are keen to keep up this momentum. It was agreed that the task force should focus on 2 or 3 major topics, rather than try and tackle the whole deliverables list at once. Potential workshops were identified as a useful way forward with mail-filtering and media portals being named as topics. It was agreed that TF-MSP should only identify topics that were not being handled elsewhere and were appropriate to collaborate with other TERENA task forces.

Alberto suggested that we have a single focus for each month and something about that topic should be written and posted to the TF-MSP list and put on the web pages.

Koen Schelkens was keen to proceed to find answer to the list of questions in his presentation and proposed to develop a small questionnaire for other NRENS. Walter van Dijk was keen to work further on the user base activity.

Alberto said that he had looked at several NREN AUPs and will write his reflections on his findings as soon as possible.

9. Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting of TF-MSP will take place during the week starting Monday 2 February 2009 at the TERENA Offices in Amsterdam. The precise details will be sent to the TF-MSP distribution list and posted on the TF-MSP meetings web page.

10. Action List

Reference	Who	Action	Status
20080929-01	JD	Update deliverables list and post on TF-MSP list and web page	NEW
20080929-02	ALL	Participate in media portal workshop Jan/Feb 2009	NEW
20080929-03	AP	Work with JD on monthly topic	NEW
20080929-04	KS	Develop a questionnaire for NRENs on Customer Segmentation	NEW

11. List of Participants

Lajos	Balint	NIIF/HUNGARNET
Brian	Boyle	HEAnet
John	Dyer	TERENA
Ann	Harding	SWITCH
Harri	Kuusisto	FUNNET/CSC
Yannis	Mitsos	GRNET
Alberto	Perez	RedIRIS
Koen	Schelkens	BELNET
Maurice	Van den Akker	SURFnet
Walter	Van Dijk	SURFnet
Shirley	Wood	JANET(UK)

Apologies

Gerti	Foest	DFN
Magnus	Stromdal	UNINETT
Helmut	Sverenyak	CESNET