

4th TF-VVC meeting
9 June 2005
Face-to-face meeting held in Poznan, Poland

Author: Baiba Kaškina

Participants:

Roger Bolam	UKERNA	in Poznan
Hansruedi Born	SWITCH	in Poznan
Dimitris Daskopoulos	GRNET	in Poznan
Ivan Doležal	CESNET	in Poznan
Alessandro Falaschi	University of Roma	via video
Jose Maria Fontanillo	RedIRIS	in Poznan
Giorgio Giorgetti	University of Trieste	in Poznan
Ted Hanss	University of Michigan	in Poznan
Beatrice Huber	SWITCH	in Poznan
Bartłomiej Idzikowski	PSNC	in Poznan
Baiba Kaškina (<i>minutes</i>)	TERENA	in Poznan
Stephen Kingham	AARNET	in Poznan
András Kovács	NIIF/HUNGARNET	in Poznan
Robert Maček	CARnet	in Poznan
Gisela Maiss	DFN	via video
Chris van der Merwe	ARNES	in Poznan
Dan Mønster (<i>chair</i>)	UNI-C	in Poznan
Wojciech Nawrot	PSNC	in Poznan
Saverio Niccolini	NEC	in Poznan
Joao Pereira	FCCN	in Poznan
Andrijana Prskalo	CARnet	in Poznan
Juan Quemada	UPM	in Poznan
Bob Riddle	Internet2	in Poznan
Jan Ruzicka	CESNET	in Poznan
Harri Salminen	CSC / Funet-TV	in Poznan
Renate Schroeder	DFN	in Poznan
Ulrich Schwenn	Max Planck Society	via video
Terence Scott	University of Malta	in Poznan
Wojciech Śronek	PSNC	in Poznan
Krzysztof Turza	PSNC	in Poznan
Fabio Vena	SWITCH	in Poznan
Egon Verharen	SURFnet	via video
David Vrtin	ARNES	via video
Klas Wierenga	SURFnet	in Poznan

1. Welcome

Dan welcomed the participants of the fourth TF-VVC meeting. He was chairing the meeting because Egon participated via video.

2. Agenda bashing

The final order of the presentations was agreed.

3. Action items from the last meeting

All the open action items were reviewed.

1.1 Rui - to inform the TF-VVC mailing list about the details of the FCCN project.

Done. See agenda item 4.A.

1.3 Egon - to send the links from the SURFnet's projects stream splitting area to the TF-VVC mailing list.

Done.

1.5 Egon and Baiba – to organise a workshop about the high-end-quality systems.

Ongoing. The workshop will be organised in November 2005.

2.3 Michal - to send contact details of the Czech publishing company interested in the CAP.

Done.

2.4 Michal - to inform the group about the progress with the project to develop Google searching in the European video content.

Done.

2.5 Harri - to send the first draft of the Meta-data survey to the mailing list before the 4th TF-VVC meeting.

Done. See agenda item 4.D.

2.6 Christian - to send details about his experiments with Starback product for recording and sharing of conferences to the mailing list.

Done. See agenda item 4.G.

2.7 Ulrich - to send information about testing possibilities of H.239 and the test results.

Ongoing.

2.9 Egon - to contact Jose-Maria and to ask for an update about the activity area "Access control to video resources" by email.

Done. See agenda item 4.J.

2.11 Baiba, Saverio - to discuss possibilities to write an annex for the IP telephony Cookbook with advanced topics.

Ongoing. See agenda item 6.

2.13 Egon - to contact the GN2 JRA1 chairmen and to discuss possibilities to collaborate in the end-to-end measurements area.

Ongoing.

3.1 Egon - to ask in the mailing list who would be interested to participate in the high-end-quality systems workshop.

Done.

3.2 Baiba – to send the details and requirements for the TF-VVC meeting to Bartolomiej.

Done.

3.3 Egon, Baiba – to ask the activity leaders to prepare presentations about the results of their activity area for the next TF-VVC meeting.

Done.

3.4 Egon – to send information about the developments with ViDe new home to the mailing list.

Ongoing. Egon said that ViDe itself did not have any news yet.

3.5 Egon – to send information about the high-end/quality systems initiative wiki to the mailing list.

Done.

4. Discussion of Activity areas and Work items

Dan asked each activity area and work item leader to give an overview on the status and achievements of the area.

[Presentations from the meeting can be found at
<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-vvc/meeting-4/>]

E: Academic Netcasting Channel (Live Streaming Infrastructure)

Ivan spoke about the live.academic.tv portal and the activity area E. He explained the working principles of the portal and how to enter the information. Lately multilanguage search and selection of preferred languages has been implemented.

Ivan showed the usage graphs of the portal and emphasized that almost all portal users were from the Czech Republic. He would like to change the situation and to make the portal more international. In CESNET Ivan has been working on that by encouraging people to submit content in exchange for technical assistance, as well as by publishing articles. He proposed various actions to increase the number of portal visitors, including announcing streams with limited access, introducing possibility to interact with speakers, etc. He asked the group to contribute to the portal by submitting information and using it.

Dan asked if anybody was providing live streaming as service to the constituency. In that case information submission to the portal could be automated. Dimitris replied that they have some content but it is in Greek and restricted to a very small constituency. He doubted it would be worth advertising that in the portal. Ivan added that the portal could be configured to allow seeing some streams only to a closed group of users.

A: Various guides relating to providing voice, video and data collaboration services

Joao outlined the activity area A and the FCCN project “Projecto Estudios”. He emphasized that it is very important to teach the community how to use the video content and how to produce a good content. The correct usage of the technology would improve the videoconferencing experience.

Joao spoke about the “Projecto Estudios” and the documentation that would be produced in the scope of that project. The documentation would include such topics as video conferencing infrastructure, best practices, scheduling, agenda, setup, peripherals usage, etc. The project has been delayed, some documentation has been produced in Portuguese, but nothing has been translated to English yet.

There were 6 multimedia rooms built in Portugal, located in educational institutions and accessible for all the FCCN customers. Joao gave an overview on the equipment available and technical possibilities of the rooms.

As the next steps he mentioned gathering specification from the rooms, selection and translation of the documentation for TF-VVC, improving the documentation with input from other projects.

Robert added that in CARnet as well as in HUNGARNET some documentation for the scheduling system and integration of the MCU was available. He proposed to investigate possibilities to translate that documentation.

ACTION 4.1: Robert– to investigate possibility to translate documentation relating scheduling system and MCU.

B: Content Delivery Infrastructures for Live Streaming

Alessandro gave a summary about his work with the OpenCDN and progress in the activity area B, including goals, achievements and upcoming features of the Open CDN software. He encouraged people to participate either by setting up remote replication nodes, or contribution of live streams, or by participating in development and testing.

Egon gave a presentation about four following activity areas.

C: Content Access Portal

The aim of this activity area was coordination with Internet2 ResearchChannel Global initiative to expand their portal with European content and links. Egon said that he and some other people from Europe have been collaborating with other initiatives, particularly Internet2 ResearchChannel Global group. He reported about the past meetings and presentations given. The draft content access portal has been created and would be developed further. He hoped to achieve larger European participation in the project.

F: Global Dialing Scheme

Egon gave an overview on GDS and outlined the first year achievements of the activity area, including updated service information and more countries connected. During the next year he would write the new GDS recommendations taking into account outcome of SIP deployment discussion and initiatives. Also new sites should be added to the service information page.

He discussed the GDS system for SIP. There were two approaches - either to use ENUM or to create a temporary solution – GDS system as for H.323. The ENUM approach has been stuck due to political reasons. Both solutions were discussed. Joao's presentation about bridging H.323 and SIP gateways given in the VoIP workshop on 5 June 2005 was mentioned as a good insight in the problem and possible solutions.

Saverio thought that there was a need for SIP integration with H.323 and GDS. He proposed to join effort from the activity areas F and K on this issue.

H: High-end/quality systems

Egon announced that the second high-end/quality systems workshop will be organised in autumn 2005 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

He mentioned other initiatives all over the world. One of them was a wiki by i2Cat, which was linked from the TF-VVC webpage. Also coordination with APAN working group and I2/RC bigvideo working group has been done, including presentations at the meetings.

As future activities Egon mentioned the planned workshop and SIP based framework, as well as more active participation in the i2Cat wiki.

Ulrich asked if commercial vendor presentations would be appropriate for the high-end/quality systems workshop. Egon thought that the workshop should be about both open source and vendor solutions.

L: End-to-end measurements

Egon gave an overview on the activity area and summarised that there was some collaboration with network engineers and researchers already and he would contact the GN2 JRA1 leader. Also he has participated in Dutch JRA1 meeting on VC and streaming e2e measurements scenarios.

In the upcoming year he would meet with GN2 JRA1 leader, as well as work out the scenarios and make them public.

Dan mentioned the MUPBED project which has expressed interest to collaborate in this area. Dan and Egon would contact them to discuss this in more detail.

ACTION 4.2: Egon, Dan – to contact MUPBED project regarding the possible collaboration on end-to-end measurements.

D: Metadata

Harri spoke about the metadata survey. He had sent the survey to the TF-VVC mailing list before the meeting. Harri outlined the general goals of the survey and implementation details. The target audience, form of the survey and schedule were discussed.

Dan asked if he was planning to test the survey. For example, 2-3 people could complete the survey without submitting the results and report all the encountered problems to Harri. Harri promised to consider that.

It was asked how many people in the room had metadata model in production or development. Four people replied.

G: Integration of conferencing, streaming and data collaboration systems

Andras gave a summary about the work carried out in HUNGARNET regarding recording and streaming the video conferences. Four different technical solutions were presented and conclusions discussed.

Andras spoke about the deliverables of the activity area G, including the proposed content for the deliverable “Best practice document on archiving video conferences”. He hoped to have the first version of the deliverable in September 2005. As an open issue he mentioned the chapter about metadata and asked contributions from others.

Fabio introduced himself as a new project leader in SWITCH. He presented the current development state regarding recording the H.323 video conferences. He demonstrated recorded video conferences where the complete view on MCU was recorded. In the future they would be working on integrated portal offering video conferencing, streaming and collaboration possibilities. The challenge for this portal would be the AAI infrastructure.

After the presentations pros and cons of different technical and commercial solutions were discussed.

Erik has prepared a presentation for the meeting as well, it is available on-line.

J: Access control to video resources

Jose-Maria told the group about RedIRIS activities in the area of access control to video resources. He outlined the problems and ideas how to solve them. The wrong way of using AA was presented and afterwards the correct one as well. Jose-Maria emphasized the advantages of using the AA infrastructure, including centralised policies and greater flexibility. The implementation for Darwin streaming server would be aligned with the GN2 JRA5 developments.

Dan asked if the authentication module was implemented in the Darwin streaming server. Jose-Maria replied positively and compared that with implementation in the US regarding the Darwin streaming server and Shibboleth.

K: IP telephony deployments

Saverio spoke about the activity area K. There were three work items in the area. He discussed the survey about the existing IP telephony deployments in detail, including the proposed questions and methods of distributing the survey. Andras offered to help with setting up the on-line survey based on PHP Surveyor.

ACTION 4.3: Andras – to put on-line the survey about the existing IP telephony deployments.

Saverio was concerned whether the survey was interesting for the task force because he had received very few comments about it. He would like to distribute it to as wide community as possible, including NRENs, research institutions, universities and R&D laboratories in the industry sector. To achieve that goal the help from all task force participants would be needed. Saverio presented his ideas on how to distribute the survey and asked others to comment. He also emphasized that strict deadlines would be needed in order to achieve some progress.

The second work item of the activity area K was “Recommendations on how to connect different nodes”. These recommendations should be based on the results from the survey as well as on the input from other activities, for example, SIP GDS initiative, ENUM issues, usage of TRIP, etc. He noted commonalities with the activity area F efforts and proposed to join the forces. All interested people should contact Saverio or Egon to get involved.

The third work item was setting up SIP.EDU services in Europe, led by Erik Dobbelsteijn, SURFnet. Ben Teitelbaum had given a presentation about SIP.EDU at the VoIP workshop on 5 June 2005. The European initiative would be to create SIP.EU and develop it by using GDS. He emphasized that it was very easy to connect and all the needed information was available on-line from Internet2.

Regarding the survey it was decided to raise the issue in the mailing list again. If there would not be sufficient amount of responses, Saverio would drop the survey. Egon added that he could contribute with a lot of contacts from the Netherlands.

ACTION 4.4: Saverio – to ask for contributions to the IP telephony survey in the TF-VVC mailing list.

Stephen proposed to be more personal with the survey and invite people personally. Dimitris wanted to know the motivation of the survey. Otherwise he did not see why to gather information from all Greek institutions using IP telephony. Saverio explained that the motivation would be to set up cross-organisational IP telephony connections. It was agreed to present the survey emphasizing the motivation.

5. Report on the VoIP workshop

Saverio gave an overview on the Voice over IP workshop which was held in Poznan, Poland on 5 June 2005 before the TNC. He presented the programme of the workshop and conclusions. There were about 50 participants in the workshop. The presentations were very informative and interesting; the level of discussion was good. The hands-on part should be improved in the future by dividing participants in smaller groups. He thanked all the speakers, organisers and participants for their contributions.

The feedback of the participants after the workshop was very positive. Many suggestions for the future workshops were received.

The presentations of the workshop can be found at:
<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-vvc/voip-wsh/>

6. IP Telephony cookbook Annex

Saverio reminded the group about the VoIP Cookbook and suggested to think about writing an Annex. Some relevant areas were not covered in the Cookbook, e.g. practical H.323-SIP inter working, QoS, Security, VoIP Legal issues. Saverio described his ideas regarding these topics. He wanted to hear the opinion of the group whether these areas were mature enough to consider writing the Annex.

For the QoS part Stephen suggested to focus on measurement tools for VoIP. He also thought that regarding the ENUM issues it would be wise to wait about 6 months. Saverio replied that in the annex only stable issues and practices would be described. Dan thought that the outcomes from the TF-VVC activity areas and GN2 JRA's should be considered before planning the annex. Saverio doubted about any relevant outcomes from the JRA's. No conclusions were reached.

7. Isabel: an Application for the next generation Internet

Juan Quemada introduced the group with the Isabel software. He presented the main features of Isabel, including flexible and programmable floor control and fully distributed paradigm. Three service examples were shown, i.e. telemeeting, teleclass and teleconference. Each of them required different type of floor control. Juan spoke about the Isabel platform components and demonstrated examples of Isabel usage. In the future they were planning to implement client-server architecture for Isabel and other features. He offered the TF-VVC group to test Isabel for one of the next meetings.

Egon thought it was a good idea and wanted to know the technical requirements for installing Isabel. Juan said that they would provide a CD which would install the Suse Linux and the Isabel application. They were working on producing a bootable CD, which might be ready for the TF-VVC experiments. Other technical details of the application were discussed as well.

ACTION 4.5: Egon, Juan, Baiba – to discuss possibilities to test Isabel software at the TF-VVC meeting.

8. How to continue the work of the Task Force

Egon raised his concerns about insufficient level of collaboration in the task force and focus on information dissemination. Other people agree that for many activity areas there has not been a lot of cooperation, with some exceptions. It was decided to focus more on the areas

where many people are interested, e.g. routing calls over internet between different SIP and H.323 implementations.

TF-VVC was compared with other TERENA task forces and possibilities to change the nature of the task force were discussed. It was agreed that Egon would present the results of the first year of the task force to the TTC and ask for their feedback on how to continue the work.

[Egon presented the results at the TTC on 5 July 2005. The TTC feedback was very positive and it was agreed to continue the work of the task force in the same style.]

Resulting action items

1.5 Egon and Baiba – to organise a workshop about the high-end-quality systems.

2.7 Ulrich - to send information about testing possibilities of H.239 and the test results.

2.11 Baiba, Saverio - to discuss possibilities to write an annex for the IP telephony Cookbook with advanced topics.

2.13 Egon - to contact the GN2 JRA1 chairmen and to discuss possibilities to collaborate in the end-to-end measurements area.

3.4 Egon – to send information about the developments with ViDe new home to the mailing list.

4.1 Robert– to investigate possibility to translate documentation relating scheduling system and MCU.

4.2 Egon, Dan – to contact MUPBED project regarding the possible collaboration on end-to-end measurements.

4.3 Andras – to put on-line the survey about the existing IP telephony deployments.

4.4 Saverio – to ask for contributions to the IP telephony survey in the TF-VVC mailing list.

4.5 Egon, Juan, Baiba – to discuss possibilities to test Isabel software at the TF-VVC meeting.

9. Date and time of the next meeting

The following TF-VVC meeting will be held on 30 August 2005 at 14:30 CET via H.323 videoconference.

The group tried to agree on dates for the high-quality workshop and task force meeting. The workshop and meeting will take place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands on 7-8 November 2005. Participants will be able to join via videoconference the task force meeting, but not the workshop

10. Any other business

Dan and Egon thanked PSNC for hosting this meeting, as well as all the presenters and participants.