

## 6<sup>th</sup> TF-VVC meeting

7 November 2005

Face-to-face meeting held in Utrecht, the Netherlands

Author: Baiba Kaškina

### Participants:

1.	Jesus Alcober	i2CAT	in Utrecht
2.	Christos Aposkitis	GRNET	in Utrecht
3.	Foad Boroujerdi	University of Edinburgh, Scotland	in Utrecht
4.	Mirosław Czyrnek	PSNC	in Utrecht
5.	Alessandro Falaschi	University of Roma	in Utrecht
6.	Franca Fiumana	CINECA	via video
7.	Jose Maria Fontanillo	RedIRIS	in Utrecht
8.	Giorgio Giorgetti	University of Trieste	in Utrecht
9.	Baiba Kaškina ( <i>minutes</i> )	TERENA	in Utrecht
10.	Dan Mønster	UNI-C	in Utrecht
11.	Cezary Mazurek	PSNC	in Utrecht
12.	Mihály Mészáros	NIIF/HUNGARNET	via video
13.	Karen Nagra	UKERNA	in Utrecht
14.	Saverio Niccolini	NEC	via video
15.	Antonio Pinizzotto	CNR-IIT	in Utrecht
16.	Juan Quemada	UPM	via video
17.	Rui Ribeiro	FCCN	in Utrecht
18.	Jan Ruzicka	CESNET	in Utrecht
19.	Harri Salminen	CSC / Funet-TV	in Utrecht
20.	Marco Sommani	CNR-IIT	in Utrecht
21.	Egon Verharen ( <i>chair</i> )	SURFnet	in Utrecht
22.	David Vrtin	ARNES	via video

### Apologies:

1.	Andras Kovacs	NIIF/HUNGARNET
2.	Michal Krsek	CESNET

### 1. Welcome

Egon welcomed the participants of the sixth TF-VVC meeting in Utrecht and via video. This meeting was scheduled longer than usual which provided opportunity to discuss topics more in-depth.

### 2. Agenda bashing

The final order of the presentations was agreed.

### 3. Action items from the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. All the open action items were reviewed.

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

*Ongoing. Ulrich did not participate in the meeting, Egon commented that the testing possibilities were over, but the group still could expect the test results.*

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

*On hold. See agenda item 5.*

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

*Ongoing.*

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

*Ongoing. No decision has been taken yet. See agenda item 6.F.*

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

*Ongoing.*

4.2 Egon, Dan – to contact MUPBED project regarding the possible collaboration on end-to-end measurements. [*On hold, depending on the action item 2.13.*]

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

*Ongoing. See agenda item 6.K.*

5.1. Stephen – to send information about the ENUM related issues from the APAN meeting to the TF-VVC mailing list.

*Ongoing.*

5.2. Baiba, Egon – to send out the logistical information for the HQ workshop and TF-VVC meeting.

*Done.*

5.3. Harri – to report about the meta-data survey results at the next TF-VVC meeting.

*Done. See agenda item 6.D.*

#### **4. Report on Isabel for InternetNG conference**

Juan thanked Erik for participating in the InternetNG conference and presenting the TF-VVC work. The conference took place on 18 October 2005, 32 sites were connected, and most of them were from Spain, some from other European countries and North America. The information about the conference, programme and recorded presentations is available on-line from the conference website.

Juan shortly described the Isabel system and invited TF-VVC to run a test conference with it.

Egon told the group about the Erik's experience with setting up Isabel system. He experienced technical problems, but Juan helped him to get on-line in time. Jose-Maria added that he had configured Isabel for some participants of the InternetNG conference and had no problems. Juan told the group about Isabel installation, from their experience about 10% of users experience installation problems. He promised to send information about the technical support to the TF-VVC mailing list.

Egon asked if Isabel was compatible with other systems. Juan said that they were working on gateways with Netmeeting and SIP.

## 5. IP telephony Cookbook Annex

Saverio said that he has not done anything in this area and has not heard any comments from others. He would be interested in writing about security, but even that topic was not mature enough for the Cookbook yet.

Egon mentioned SURFnet's experience with the Cookbook. SURFnet's users have found it very useful. Other people had similar experience. Egon's concern was that the Cookbook soon would be outdated and to continue using it, the Cookbook should be updated. In the updated version new chapters, like security, also could be included. Marco suggested that the updated version should be more uniformed.

Egon suggested adding some questions about the Cookbook to the IP telephony survey to find out how many people have heard about it and how useful they have found it. Depending on the survey's results a new project proposal could be submitted to TERENA. It was agreed to stop discussions on the annex and wait for the results of the survey.

*ACTION 6.1 – Saverio – to include questions about the IP telephony Cookbook in the IP telephony survey.*

## 6. Discussion of Activity areas and Work items

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

### K: IP telephony deployments

Saverio spoke about the IP telephony survey. With help of Andras he has put the survey on-line and asked people to send their final comments before 17 November 2005. After that the survey would be activated and everyone should contribute by asking their constituency to fill in the survey. Saverio hoped to have results and publish a report before the next TERENA conference.

Rui said that he was doing a similar survey within the FCCN constituency. His survey was in Portuguese, but he offered Saverio to tell about their survey and maybe add some more questions to the Saverio's study.

*ACTION 6.2 – Rui – to provide Saverio information about the FCCN's survey.*

The distribution of the survey was discussed. It was agreed to send personal invitations to the active task force participants to answer the survey and to distribute it to their constituency. Also it was suggested to call it a study or a request for information. Baiba would ask the TERENA's task force TF-PR to distribute the survey with added introductory text describing the importance of the survey.

*ACTION 6.3 – Baiba, Egon – to send personal invitations to the active task force participants to answer the IP telephony survey and to distribute it in their constituency.*

*ACTION 6.4 – Baiba – to ask the TERENA's task force TF-PR to distribute the IP telephony survey with additional introductory text.*

Regarding the goals of the survey Saverio said that it would aim to understand the current status of the IP telephony deployments, differences among implementations, how much SIP was used, what prevented people from using it. The survey would give a better insight in the

developments and allow providing better recommendations for interconnecting the IP telephony deployments.

Saverio proposed considering closer collaboration between activity areas F and K, because they were working towards the same goal. He doubted if he was the right person to provide recommendations for the NRENs while not working for an NREN. Egon assured him that the recommendations should be given by an expert in the area, no matter where he was working. He also thought that Erik could take over the responsibility for the recommendations, but that should be discussed with Erik. Egon also reported that Erik has been working on recommendations for SIP.EDU.

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

Rui spoke about the FCCN project “Projecto Estudios”. The project has been delayed; there has not been any progress with documentation either in Portuguese or English. He emphasized that this documentation was important to FCCN, so eventually it would be produced.

Rui proposed to collect links to the existing on-line resources. For example, UKERNA's web pages contained a lot of useful information about video conferencing. Juan said that there were a lot of guides for Isabel written including general, not Isabel specific, information. He would send the link of the resources to the mailing list. Christos and Jose-Maria also promised to send relevant links and information to the mailing list.

*ACTION 6.5 – Rui – to collect links of on-line resources relating to providing voice, video and data collaboration services and create a webpage.*

*ACTION 6.6 – Juan, Christos, Jose-Maria – to provide documents and links to on-line resources relating to providing voice, video and data collaboration services.*

Rui thought that in order to have a complete overview a viewpoint about the technology of a sociologist and/or psychologist should be added. He asked if anyone knew such resources. Egon said that he knew some projects in the Netherlands that were looking at usage aspects of the technology in the higher education.

The configuration and development of the studio rooms in Portugal and other countries were discussed. Rui listed the applications they were supporting and told about their scheduling system.

#### **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. His report is available on-line, linked from the TF-VVC webpage. Alessandro encouraged people to participate either by setting up remote replication nodes, or contribution of live streams, or by participating in development and testing. He did not see much sense to continue his work if nobody was interested in using the OpenCDN.

Egon summarised that the CDN network would not grow if there were not enough netcasts. He wanted to clarify if the source of the live stream could be something other than Helix or Darwin streaming server. The answer was positive as long as a Helix or Darwin server could act as reflector.

Rui asked why Alessandro was not developing the OpenCDN for the Windows Media (WM) streaming server, which has been used in many NRENs. Alessandro said that it was due to licensing and invited somebody else to write the implementation for WM.

Dan asked about the demand for the OpenCDN in general. The general feeling was that there were very few events when audience was too large to be supported by the NREN resources. Although viewers might benefit from the OpenCDN by getting better quality of the content from the nearest server. Egon told the group about large SURFnet events that all were WM based. The public broadcasters together with ISPs including SURFnet had developed their own CDN software for WM. Egon promised to send details about it to Alessandro.

*ACTION 6.7 – Egon – to send information about SURFnet’s CDN for WM to Alessandro.*

Egon encouraged everyone to use the OpenCDN if they were streaming large events from Darwin or Helix streaming servers. Harri doubted that they would have such events although Funet was using these platforms. Rui summarised that the WM format was going to stay and if Alessandro wanted wider usage of the OpenCDN, then WM should be supported.

*ACTION 6.8 – Baiba, Alessandro – to update the activity area B webpage with link to the report and updated work items.*

Rui told the group about the FCCN project with local radio stations to stream about 1000 radio channels simultaneously. The project would be WM based.

### **C: Content Access Portal**

Egon said that no work has been done on the international portal. However there has been significant interest to exchange metadata about the existing portals. He described various different initiatives. He has been following the Open Archives initiative (OAI) lately and told the group about the OAI Protocol for Metadata Harvesting. Dan asked if the Moving Images Collection (MIC) was not doing similar tasks. Egon agreed with him adding that the MIC did not accept all kind of archives; they focused on libraries and broadcasting archives.

### **D: Metadata**

Harri gave an update about the meta-data survey. He had finished the first version of the survey report. There were only 7 responses to the survey, therefore he had summarised each response separately, without the statistical analysis. There were common trends in all responses, e.g. all portals had some VOD assets and metadata that would be freely available to others in the academic community; all portals had met minimum requirements for a meaningful metadata exchange using RSS. The recommendation for other portals could be to enable RSS output whenever possible. Egon asked if there was any overlap among the meta-data models. Harri replied that a medium overlap could be seen.

Harri doubted that the survey reached right people in the NRENs, which could explain the low number of responses. Maybe the survey was also too long and complicated for some part of the target audience. He said he know at least two more sites in Finland with meta-data which did not answer the survey. There were about 80 unique IP addresses visiting the survey during September and October 2005.

### **E: Academic Netcasting Channel (Live Streaming Infrastructure)**

Since Michal did not participate in the meeting, Jan gave a very short update about the Academic Netcasting Channel. He said that no new features have been implemented and encouraged people to submit more content to the portal.

## **F: Global Dialing Scheme**

Egon summarised that people highly involved in this activity area, i.e. Bernie, Kewin, Erik, were not participating in the meeting. He gave an overview about the historical developments of GDS hierarchy, SIP and ENUM. As the directory service the H.350 standard was used for multimedia services.

Two papers would be published soon about reaching recipient located at a different SIP server. Egon asked those interested to participate to contact Erik and/or Kewin.

Egon reminded the group about the situation with supporting the ViDe. The new home of ViDe was not known yet. Some of the world gatekeepers were hosted by NRENs, e.g. AARNet, HEAnet, UKERNA. Dan summarised that the problem was not a world gatekeeper hosting, but hosting and maintaining the directory.

Egon spoke about the other activity area F work item – updating videoconferencing services information. He and Erik had contacted all NRENs active in voice and video area and gathered information about their services and future plans. The preliminary conclusion was that majority of the operational services would stay H.323 based. Few NRENs were looking into SIP and group collaboration software. The webpage about the available services would be updated within one month.

*ACTION 6.9 – Egon, Erik – to update webpage about the available videoconferencing resources in Europe before 15 December 2005.*

Harri asked if commercial sites could join the GDS. Egon replied that the only restriction was that the national gatekeeper (NGK) is open and there can be only one NGK per country.

The usage of private ENUM trees was discussed. Participants agreed that smaller number of trees would make the search faster; therefore Europe should join either the APAN or the Internet2 ENUM tree.

The official ENUM developments in different countries were discussed as well. Austria and Switzerland were the most advanced countries in this respect. Harri said that in Finland after official trial for couple of years, a tender has been launched. He expected a lot of bureaucratic problems and high maintenance fees. Dan reported that Denmark has rejected the UNI-C's request to run an official trial. Other countries also had not very optimistic developments.

## **G: Integration of conferencing, streaming and data collaboration systems**

Nobody of the activity area G leaders participated in the meeting, therefore no update was given.

## **H: High-end/quality systems**

The High-end/quality workshop was held on 7 November in Utrecht, the Netherlands, hosted by SURFNet. Egon gave a short summary about the workshop. The DV over IP was presented by Kazunori Sugiura from Japan, the DVTS Consortium. In the afternoon sessions Egon has discussed the HD over IP as well as different systems that are available. The HQ conferencing and HD wiki was presented as well. The presentations of the workshop are available be on-line.

Jesus has proposed to work together on the HD over IP and to submit a project proposal to the EC. Egon asked those interested to contact Jesus.

The workshop was not streamed or recorded. If there is sufficient interest, another HQ workshop can be organised.

## **J: Access control to video resources**

Jose-Maria told the group about the RedIRIS activities in the area of access control to video resources. He was working on aligning the solution with the GN2 JRA2 developments, the working system could be expected approximately in May/June 2006. So far only a test bed was available at RedIRIS. Jose-Maria promised to send updated information about the developments to the TF-VVC mailing list.

*ACTION 6.10 – Jose-Maria – to send updated information about the activity area J developments to the TF-VVC mailing list.*

## **7. Collaboration study**

Egon told the group about the study on “Recommendations on real-time group communication and collaboration services in support of international projects for TERENA”. The study was done by him and Erik; it was presented to the TERENA TTC on 14 October 2005. The publicly available version would be published soon.

The study looked into available group-collaboration solutions such as voice, video and data collaboration tools. Egon told about the starting points of the survey, targeted user profile, user environment, overview of the available systems. They also tried to provide a decision tree on choosing the most suitable system. It has provided to be too difficult to create a tree; therefore only some dimensions of the multi-dimensional matrix were covered.

Egon and Erik had contacted all the active NRENs in the voice and video area to gather information about the services they were providing and their future plans. The information would be available on-line. (*See agenda item 6.F.*)

Recommendations for TERENA about supporting collaboration of international projects and groups were also given.

Egon summarised that he was surprised how few NRENs have investigated the web-based collaboration tools. He announced that SURFnet was stopping the H.323 service providing. They would offer the Breeze system instead. The main reason for this was not sufficient number of H.323 users. SURFnet would continue maintaining the Dutch national gatekeeper, but it would not be possible to reserve ports in their MCU anymore.

Egon thought that the NRENs in general should improve their marketing skills in order to attract more users to the new services they have been deploying.

If some NRENs would be interested to deploy a group collaboration system now, Egon would suggest them to consider only web based collaboration systems like Breeze, Marratech and similar.

*ACTION 6.11 – Baiba – to inform the group when the public version of the Collaboration study would be available.*

## 8. Future activities

Egon asked the group if they have any new ideas for future collaboration. The project proposal for the IST Call 41 on “High Definition over IP” by i2CAT was mentioned, as well as the possible update of the IP Telephony Cookbook.

Rui proposed to organise international interoperability tests on IP telephony. Egon suggested him to contact IP telephony people and to organise the event.

### Resulting action items

2.7 Ulrich - to send information about the H.239 test results to the TF-VVC mailing list.

2.11 Baiba, Saverio - to discuss possibilities to write an annex for the IP telephony Cookbook with advanced topics. *[On hold. Waiting for results from the IP telephony survey.]*

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

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6.7 Egon – to send information about SURFnet’s CDN for WM to Alessandro.

6.8 Baiba, Alessandro – to update the activity area B webpage with link to the report and updated work items.

6.9 Egon, Erik – to update webpage about the available videoconferencing resources in Europe before 15 December 2005.

6.10 Jose-Maria – to send updated information about the activity area J developments to the TF-VVC mailing list.

6.11 Baiba – to inform the group when the public version of the Collaboration study would be available.

### **9. Date and time of the next meeting**

The following TF-VVC meeting will be held on 7 February 2006 at 14:30 CET via H.323 videoconference.

### **10. Any other business**

Egon thanked participants for the very productive meeting. The group thanked Egon for organising the meeting.

Baiba announced that she will leave TERENA at the end of January 2006. Valentino will represent TERENA in the next TF-VVC meeting.