

7th TF-VVC meeting

7 February 2006

Videoconference meeting

Author: Valentino Cavalli – Issue 1

Participants:

Foad Boroujerdi	University of Edinburgh
Valentino Cavalli	TERENA
Erik Dobbelsteijn	SURFnet bv
Franca Fiumana	CINECA
Geir Olav Jensen	UNINETT
Tamas Maray	NIIF/Hungarnet
Nicolas Meneceur	Paris Academic Network
Mihaly Meszaros	NIIF
Seán O'Brien	HEAnet
Antonio Pinizzotto	CNR - IIT
Rui Ribeiro	FCCN
Lorenzo Rossi	CNR - IIT
Jan Ruzicka	CESNET
Roberto Sabatino	DANTE
Harri Salminen	CSC / Funet
Ulli Schwenn	Max-Planck-Society
Marco Sommani	CNR - IIT
Fabio Vena	SWITCH
David Vrtin	ARNES

Apologies:

Jesus Alcober	i2CAT Foundation
Ivan Doležal	CESNET
Alessandro Falaschi	University of Rome
Jose M. Fontanillo	RedIRIS
Giorgio Giorgetti	University of Trieste
Laurent Gydé	Paris Academic Network
Andras Kovacs	NIIF/HUNGARNET
Michal Krsek	CESNET
Dan Mønster	UNI-C

1. Welcome

Egon welcomed the participants of the seventh TF-VVC meeting.

2. Agenda Bashing

Egon presented the agenda and the goal of the meeting. He expressed the will to have a face-to-face meeting before the task force end, in order to assess results and plan ways of continuing or renewing the mandate of the task force.

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. HEANet and SWITCH representatives reported about their experiences. Ulrich said he had tested the Hungarian and German (DFN) MCUs. The result was positive with all types of clients. Rui said he had some test results as well and offered to exchange them with Ulrich

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

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

3.4 Egon – to send information about the developments with ViDe new home to the mailing list.
Ongoing. No decision has been taken yet.

4.1 Robert – to translate documentation relating scheduling system and MCU.
Ongoing. Egon would send Robert a reminder.

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

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

5.1. Stephen – to send information about the ENUM related issues from the APAN meeting to the TF-VVC mailing list.
Ongoing. No information available: Egon would remind Stephen.

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

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

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.
Done.

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

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

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

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

Done.

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

Ongoing. The report was linked, updated work items were not linked yet.

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

Done.

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

Ongoing.

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

Dropped.

4. Progress of Ongoing Activity Areas

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

Rui did not have time to progress on this activity; however he had been gathering some related information in the context of another project; he said he can post some links to the list.

It was asked what will be delivered as the end result of this work item: more specifically, will a web page be ready before the TERENA Networking Conference? Rui confirmed that he will provide the information both on the web and a separate document.

B: Content Delivery Infrastructures for Live Streaming

Alessandro did not attend the meeting. No report was given about the progress. Egon would separately check the status of this activity area by contacting the leader.

C: Content Access Portal

Egon reported that the progress was not very good. He had not heard from project partners and said he would solicit decision at the spring Internet2 Member meeting; however he did not have positive expectations about anything happening.

D: Metadata

Harri said that nothing happened in this activity since the last meeting. For the final result he could add very little, but he will check the information to see if it needs updating.

It was remarked that due to the new implementation of the TERENA website the link to Harri's "Report on video-on-demand metadata and portal" via:

<http://www.terena.nl/activities/tf-vvc/D/> was broken.

Egon volunteered to report to the TERENA webmaster about any broken links in the TF-VVC web pages.

ACTION 7.1: Egon to report to TERENA webmaster about any broken links in the TF-VVC web pages.

E: Academic Netcasting Channel (Live Streaming Infrastructure)

Michal did not attend the meeting. No report was given about the progress. Egon would separately check the status of this activity area by contacting the leader.

F: Global Dialling Scheme

Erik provided some updates on the progress of this activity. He made a good suggestion: to investigate whether a hierarchical model would be good or not, but he would need to do some small scale tests to proof the concept and see if it works.

Erik discussed the comparison between the role of H.350 and ENUM: ENUM provides a way to reach a certain person, whereas H.350 is the local directory; typically not a cross domain technology. This subject was being formulated in a little document that should be sent by Erik to the list as a small extra deliverable. The list of deliverables would then look like:

- 1) update the web page
- 2) recommendations about GDS hierarchical model
- 3) document on the role of H.350 and ENUM

G: Integration of conferencing, streaming and data collaboration systems

Erik mentioned work done in the SURFnet surfgroepen service (<http://www.surfgroepen.nl>), which resulted in a paper about the integration of a data collaboration environment (MS Sharepoint), webconferencing (breeze) and messaging.

A pointer to this paper was sent to the list during the meeting and made available via: <http://www.terena.nl/activities/tf-vvc/G/>.

Fabio updated the attendees about the work item “how to stream a videoconference”. A paper on related subject was submitted to TNC and was accepted.

Andras, the person responsible for work item “Best practice document on archiving video conferences”, did not attend the videoconference. Tamas Maray said he would ask Andras to update the group about any progress.

H: High-end/quality systems

A successful workshop was held on 7 November 2005 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The HDoIP wiki had become an interesting resource. Egon would ask Jesus to provide updates on signaling for VoIP systems.

SWITCH had been doing tests with the Òpera Oberta project, which was coordinated by i2Cat. Fabio said more information was available in the proceedings of the HQ workshop and mailing list archive.

Egon said he would update the web page on activity H.

J: Access control to video resources

Jose Maria did not attend the meeting. It was not clear whether there was any progress to report. Egon would separately check the status of this activity area by contacting the leader.

K: IP telephony deployments

Saverio did not attend the meeting. Nobody was able to update about the status of the survey and the recommendations on how to connect different nodes.

Erik reported on his work item: Setting up SIP.edu services. The initial idea turn out not to be feasible but because different SIP proxies were being deployed he thought there is interesting scope for testing interconnection and he volunteered to coordinate this. People asked whether this would replace the planned SIP.edu service. Erik thought not much value could be added in that respect.

Egon suggested changing the work item into something different, reflecting the spirit of the new proposed work.

ACTION 7.2: Erik to reformulate the scope and definition of work item “Setting up SIP.edu services”.

Egon asked the participants if there were any presentations planned for the TERENA Networking Conference. There were three presentations in the programme: one by FCCN and two by SWITCH.

5. General Assessment of the Task Force Activity

Egon asked the opinion of the attendees about the outcomes of TF-VVC; whether this was a successful task force and they would like to continue after its mandate terminates on 14 September 2006.

Fabio remarked that he was missing a common project, something to be built together, like it happened with eduroam in TF-Mobility. He thought the only way to have a good task force was to have a common activity.

Egon remarked that he had raised such issue during a TERENA Technical Committee (TTC) meeting last year, but the TTC did not agree with that view. He said the following form of TF-VVC (or a new task force) should identify common work. He was hoping to have a smaller and more focused task force.

Valentino clarified that the previous task force, TF-Netcast, was indeed a smaller and more focused task force; but the actors involved were frustrated because they did not manage to commit the needed resources and deliver the scheduled results. So TERENA, Egon and the TTC had agreed to make the remit of TF-VVC much wider and open that the previous task force.

6. GÉANT2 Videoconferencing Services

TERENA had awarded SURFnet a study on “Recommendations on real-time group communication and collaboration services in support of international projects for TERENA”. The study was carried out by Egon and Erik; it was submitted to the TTC and was currently still under revision, so the document was not publicly available yet. This document was now an input to a potential new Service Activity (SA) of the GN2 project.

The idea was to set up some GÉANT2 Videoconferencing Services based on the national H.323 services deployed by NRENs, covering, for instance, issues like identifying available resources of finding a back-up resource in case one MCU is not available, etc. There was

some research aspect involved in order to make the service effective, including make sure that dialing scheme works across all participants.

Roberto Sabatino joined the videoconference for this particular item and explained that in practice 50% funding for this activity would come from the European Commission GN2 budget.

Roberto explained the structure of the GN2 project, which besides providing the GÉANT2 network infrastructure has a number of Service Activities (SA) and Joint Research Activities (JRA). He said there was an ongoing review of the GN2 plan for year 3, which will start in September 2006 and the new plan ought to be approved by the GN2 executive Committee in summer and submitted to the Commission.

Egon agreed to circulate the TERENA report, in the version that was submitted to the TTC in 2005, and ask feedback. He also agreed to be part of a small group of expert to write down ideas of what services should be provided in GN2, collect feedback and produce a one-page high-level outline of the service to be submitted to the GN2 Executive Committee by the end of the following week. Representatives of HEANet, SWITCH and NIIF participating in the meeting expressed their interest in collaborating.

Roberto said if the idea is accepted by the GN2 Executive Committee then the short document would need to be developed further in order to be presented and discussed during the GN2 year-3 planning meeting scheduled on 3 April at the Sheraton Hotel in Schiphol, the Netherlands.

7. Open Action Items

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

On hold.

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

Ongoing. No decision has been taken yet.

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

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

Ongoing.

New 7.1: Egon to report to TERENA webmaster about any broken links in the TF-VVC web pages.

New 7.2: Erik to reformulate the scope and definition of work item “Setting up SIP.edu services”.

8. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next TF-VVC meeting will be held on Tuesday 4 April at 14:30-16:30. This meeting should focus on assessment of end results and deliverable.

The following meeting will be held in Catania, Italy, after the TERENA Networking Conference, on Thursday 18 May 2006 at 14:00-16:00.

9. Any other Business

Egon thanked Baiba Kaskina, who had left TERENA at the end of January, for her excellent job in supporting the task force.