

AppDB Y2A Activities Summary and Workplan (TNA3.4)

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In the past six months:

- NGI testing successfully complete
- About 86% of previous term work-items complete

Extra completed items that spawned from user stories re-evaluation:

- Reporting tool for Managers
- Web gadget and gadget editor
- Various enhancements (in news feed, UI, preferences, etc.)
- Major speed improvements
- Non-UMD middleware support
- User documentation (usage, FAQs, announcements, etc.)

| Sprint | Tasks | Duration (person-weeks) | Status |
|--------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| S1 | Add NGI entities | 3 | Complete |
| S2 | Add VO entities | 3 | Complete |
| S3 | Integration - VO data sync from Central Operations Portal - NGI data sync from GOCDDB | 3 | 50% Complete 50% Stalled |
| S4 | Add requested details in app,tool,people entries Interconnect apps,tool,people with new entities (NGIs, VOs) | 3 | Complete |
| S5 | Testing of new additions | 1 | Complete |
| S6 | CSS/Styling integration | 1 | Complete |
| S7 | Re-evaluation of user stories | 1 | Complete |
| S8 | Localization - Enhance XML post interface - Document the PHP API - document the database | 3 | Complete |
| S9 | Other person profile management by NGI reps | 1 | Complete |
| S10 | Official MSIE 8+ support | 2 | WIP |
| S11 | Future planning | 2 | Complete |

- S3: NGI part has been stalled due to technical reasons pertaining to the way information is stored in the GOCDB. Alternatives are being explored, though this is not considered top priority
- S10: IE8 compatibility is WIP, as the constant addition of new features greatly impairs our ability to thoroughly test. IE9 future testing might turn out to be more fruitful
- S7: The mid-term re-evaluation yielded a multitude of non-programmed items, the web gadget being the most prominent
- All other sprints were completed successfully, delivering amongst others the web-API and VO integration

Requirements gathering procedure produced following areas of interest:

- Quality of Information: Information quality assurance through dedicated features [S5-S10]
- Information retrieval: Simplify and empower end users' ability to access the data they want on-site [S3,S4]
- Notification / dissemination: Subscription services to deliver selected information to end users off-site [S11]
- Cross-browser compatibility: Estimate IE9 compatibility and potential for mobile browsers compatibility [S12]
- EGI User Support Platform: Identification of additional services that can be provided through web gadgets, and interactions thereof [S13,S14]
- Architecture: End of Y1 marks the end of a RAD phase. The rise of requirements demands that we fortify and expand the existing architecture [S1,S2]

| Sprint | Tasks | Duration (person-weeks) |
|------------|--|-------------------------|
| S1 | Migrate DBMS to PostgreSQL | 4 |
| S2 | Audit and re-factor existing codebase | 4 |
| S3 | Re-implement searching/filtering mechanism | 3 |
| S4 | Applications entry tagging mechanism | 2 |
| S5 | User comment/ranking system | 3 |
| S6 | Entry problem reporting system | 1.5 |
| S7 | Broken link detection notification system | 1.5 |
| S8 | Application revocation mechanism (only for Managers) | 2 |
| S9 | Detect and promote or remove non-finished apps based on status | 1 |
| S10 | Application/tool name uniqueness validation mechanism | 1 |
| S11 | Notification services (email/RSS) | 2 |
| S12 | Investigation and estimation of Internet Explorer 9 (IE9) compatibility | 1 |
| <i>S13</i> | <i>Provide write-access through API</i> | <i>4</i> |
| <i>S14</i> | <i>Develop new/extend existing gadget with write access to the AppDB</i> | <i>4</i> |

- The first couple of months should be focused on architecture, in order to efficiently provide the rest of the requirements, and prepare for the future
 - A more powerful RDBMS, such as PostgreSQL, will deliver greater data transformation abilities inside the data tier, and thus better performance
 - Extending the presentation tier with a client-side MVC design, by exploiting the web-API, will provide a unified development framework for the existing GUI, gadgets, and mobile devices alike
- Following months will focus on new requested features, mainly pertaining to QoI
- Time permitting, effort will be attributed to providing write-access through the web-API and gadgets, lest it be transferred to the next term.

- The AppDB subtask has used the second six-month term to, among other:
 - Provide a read-only RESTful web-API
 - Integrate with the Operations Portal to provide VO data
 - Provide a web gadget for other sites to integrate with the AppDB
 - Implement various improvements requested by users
- The following term will:
 - Initially focus on architecture enhancements
 - Later focus on quality and delivery of stored information
- RAD is no longer viable and familiar alternatives such as Scrum/Agile should be more faithfully followed