NGI_CH Input

NGI_CH supports mainly the WLCG project as part of its involvement in EGI. For this, it deploys both ARC and gLite middleware flavours:

- ARC for computing
- gLite for both computing and storage

Sites deploying ARC and also deploying gLite storage resources thus they are obliged to operate and maintain two different IS mechanisms.

Operational infrastructure

From the operation point of view it is quite clear the benefit of having a uniform information system model that would allow all grid services to report to the operational services.

Computing and data model

From the user community point of view (usage of both storage and computing resources) the situation is slightly different; the large communities (HEP) are accessing resources using centralized data and execution control engines that mask the differences of the two (three) middlewares. These engines make all the assumptions on the underlying infrastructure. Some uses top-BDII, some not, some both.

- ATLAS: Atlas is using NGI-CH resources mainly through the arcControlTower: ARC submission, no integration of cream_CEs. This is only true for the ARC CEs (at BE, CSCS, GE). There are two instances of CREAM at CSCS. These are the "main" CEs at CSCS and receive jobs by PanDA pilot factories from the DE cloud. These are also fully decoupled from the top-BDIIs.
- CMS. CMS uses the submission front ends from T1 and other centralized ones (that use top-BDII). CMS is also mainly using FTS for file transfers that is tightly coupled with the top-BDII.
- LHCb. LHCb submits its jobs through the DIRAC framework, which can use many different front ends; currently we are however using mainly centralized and/or front ends at Tier1s which all rely on top-BDII. LHCb is also mainly using FTS for file transfers that is tightly coupled with the top-BDII.

Conclusions

The current computing and data management use cases do not show an immediate need for an integrated Information system; nevertheless, it is quite clear, especially from the operational point of view, that a uniform information system model will be of a great benefit.