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neuGRID

A GRID-BASED e-INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DATA ARCHIVING/ COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTATIONALLY INTENSIVE APPLICATIONS IN THE MEDICAL SCIENCES

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Glossary

Term	Definition
AMGA	Metadata Catalog Service of gLite UI
GCC	Grid Coordination Center. Core (common to all sites) services of the grid infrastructure
DCC	Data Coordination Center. Core (common to all sites) services of the database infrastructure
DACS	Data Archiving and Computational Site. neuGRID site offering and managing a set of physical resources
DCS	Data Collection Site. End-user sites acquiring data and connecting to a given DACS
Gridification	The engineering process of porting an existing application to the grid, so that it can be executed via the grid enactment environment
Pipeline	A pipeline is a set of data processing elements connected in series, so that the output of one element is the input of the next one (extracted from Wikipedia.org)
CE	Computing ElementDisk Pool Manager
DPM	Disk Pool Manager
LFC:	LCG File Catalog
SE	Storage Element
CA	Certificate Authority
sBDII	Site level Berkeley Data Base Information Index
tBDII	Top Level Berkeley Data Base Information Index
VOMS	Virtual Organization Membership Service
UI	gLite User Interface
WN	Worker Node
WMS	Workload Management System

Executive Summary

This document attempts to describe all of the tasks related to the deployment of the neuGRID infrastructure. As such, it covers aspects including the definition, profiling and hardware specifications, the selection of the technologies that have been/will be used in the infrastructure, the deployment logistics preparation and the tests that were/will be performed on the hardware (see work package 11 – WP11 – deliverable D11.1 for more information about the grid infrastructure and neuGRID system tests) to ensure that the deployed sites well perform and can support the project activity.

This first version of the deployment report has been prepared according to the activity carried out in the tasks T8.1 “Deployment Logistics Preparation” and T8.2 “Infrastructure Ground Truth”.

1. Introduction

This document is meant to be updated throughout the duration of the WP8 activity. It is split into two well distinguished parts.

The first aims to precisely define the needs to successfully deploy a neuGRID site at a given center (i.e. a hospital and a research institution). It includes a hardware portfolio specification and elements of the deployment logistics. The document also includes the justification of the selected technologies by means of an analysis of the gLite technology that is used in neuGRID as the foundation middleware.

The second part reports on the deployments performed during the first 12 months of activity. This summary includes a detailed description of the sites, in terms of physical and logical descriptions of the services deployed. It also shows the results of the hardware tests that have been run using the deployed hardware.

Please note that this report was too long for submission as is. It has therefore been decided to submit an outline and let expert download the rest from a public URL:

>><https://80.245.17.60/Members/dmanset/D8.1 - Ground Truth and Phase 1 ANNEXES FINAL.doc>

1.1. Purpose of the Document

This document aims to illustrate the main objectives of the first 12 months of the project deployment activity; these objectives are detailed in the following list (extracted from the DoW):

- *To define the hardware specifications for the different sites and levels of the infrastructure,*
- *To design a series of basic hardware and software tests for validating hardware and proper connectivity performance,*
- *To deploy the infrastructure at the different institutions of the project. This includes the grid middleware and project prototype, as well as the establishment of appropriate and efficient logistic support.*

1.2. Document Positioning and Intended Audience

The deliverable D8.1 – “Ground Truth and Phase 1 Deployment Test Report” aims to serve as a deployment reference guide for future sites that will be part of the neuGRID infrastructure.

By the definition of the recommended hardware portfolio, the specification of all the technologies involved in the relying infrastructure and the technological constraints, WP8 wants to help new sites to select appropriate hardware in order to successfully deploy a neuGRID Site.

2. Hardware Portfolio

This section provides technical explanations on the spreadsheet that WP8 has developed (See Annex 1 – Hardware Portfolio) in order to support partners in selecting the most suitable access point configuration.

The spreadsheet presents the developed configurations in 3 different versions: Basic, Advanced and Premium. These configurations range from basic hardware specifications to the most advanced and powerful configurations.

In the spreadsheet, the following parameters for each configuration are summarized:

- Price
- Number of CPU(s)
- Raw Disk Space
- Memory
- Power Consumption
- Heat Dissipation

WP8 has developed 2 sets of configurations. The first set is destined to hospitals, with the main configurations having been calculated to fit within a budget of 30.000 € as was planned by the partners. The second set has been designed to fit within a budget of 10.000 € and is destined to technical partners.

The following of this section describes these 5 different hardware configurations:

- *Blade Servers + Dell PowerEdge 2950*: The main advantages of this configuration are moderate physical space, power consumption and heat dissipation. By using 2 DPM, running in 2 Dell PowerEdge 2950 allows the infrastructure to manage some redundancy.
- *Blade Servers + Dell PowerEdge 2900*: As in the previous configuration, the use of blade servers provides moderate physical space, power consumption and heat dissipation. In this case, the use of only 1 Dell PowerEdge 2900 removes the redundancy but increases raw Disk Space.
- *Blade Servers + M300 iSCSI*: This is the most powerful configuration, maintaining moderate physical space, power consumption and heat dissipation. The use of an iSCSI device allows the upgrade the DPM, should this be necessary in the future. On the other hand, this solution is the least cost effective.
- *Dell PowerEdge 2950 + Dell PowerEdge 1950*: This is a good solution if only taking the Power (CPU and storage) to Cost ratio into account. The main problems of this configuration are the space used, the power consumption and the heat dissipation. By

using 2 DPM running in 2 Dell PowerEdge 2950, the infrastructure is able to manage some redundancy.

- Dell PowerEdge 2900 + Dell PowerEdge 1950: This is a good solution when looking at the Power (CPU and storage) to Cost ratio. The main problems of this configuration are the space used, the power consumption and the heat dissipation. In this case, the use of only 1 Dell PowerEdge 2900 removes the redundancy but increases raw Disk Space.

Secondly, the configuration for technical partners will be shown:

- Dell PowerEdge 2950 + Dell PowerEdge 1950: This is the best solution for technological partners, offering flexibility and a good ratio between price and raw disk space. In this case, the best option is to choose the premium option. This option offers the best ratio between cost and power and also fitting within the 10.000 € budget.

In the "Annex 2 – neuGRID Hardware Template Tests", we can find a set of tests that all of the servers must pass in order to ensure correct operation.

3. Technologies

One of the main challenges that WP8 has been and still is facing is the shifting of needs from a development environment to a real production environment. Working within the constraints that this places on the architecture of system deployment, the solution must provide a high level of security, stability, and cost effectiveness. These requirements have therefore motivated the WP8 partners to look into solutions that enable, in a realistic way, the deployment of a neuGRID site in complex environments.

An additional important technological challenge that WP8 has been facing is the use of the gLite grid technology. gLite is a grid middleware software stack from the European project "Enabling the Grid for e-sciEnces (EGEE)."

As stated on the EGEE official website "gLite provides a bleeding-edge, best-of-breed framework for building grid applications tapping into the power of distributed computing and storage resources across the Internet." gLite was conceived as a large-scale project for providing grid capabilities to sites using a large number of computers. The architecture of gLite is complex and includes services including security, user interfaces, computing and storage elements, information systems and data and workload management.

For the sake of exemplifying gLite's usage and scalability, it is currently used in production in the WLCG/EGEE infrastructure¹. This infrastructure operates a grid distributed over more than 200 sites around the world, with more than 30,000 CPUs and 20 PB of data storage. These numbers can give the reader a better idea of the capabilities and sheer complexity of gLite.

While a single gLite service can be deployed in a single operating system, a site containing multiple grid services cannot be deployed in a single operating system due to its complex architecture. This causes software / security dependencies problems.

In neuGRID, a significant number of servers are expected to be deployed, which will provide reasonably enough resources for the end-users to execute data and processing intensive pipelines. In order to facilitate the maintenance, WP8's intent is to virtualize all servers and use pre-configured OS images with pre-installed grid services.

¹ <http://glite.web.cern.ch/glite/>

3.1. Virtualization Technologies Introduction

Virtualization is performed on a given hardware platform using a so-called "host" software (a control program), which creates a simulated computer environment (a virtual machine) for its "guest" software. The "guest" software, which is often itself a complete operating system, runs just as though it were installed on a stand-alone hardware platform. Typically, many such virtual machines are simulated on a given physical machine. For the "guest" system to operate properly, the simulation must be robust enough and must support all the guest system's external interfaces, which (depending on the type of virtualization) may include hardware drivers.

The type of virtualization that WP8 has been and will be used is the so-called paravirtualization². This is a virtualization technique that presents a software interface to virtual machines that is similar (but not identical) to that of the underlying hardware [BAR03]. This requires operating systems to be explicitly ported to run on top of the Virtual Machine Monitor (VMM), which the owner of exclusive rights in a proprietary operating system may decline to allow for strategic reasons, but which may enable the VMM itself to be simpler or virtual machines that run on it to obtain performances closer to non-virtualized hardware.

3.2. Virtualization Software Overview

This section contains a (non-exhaustive) overview of the current virtualization techniques and corresponding implementations. In accordance with existing legacy IT assets (e.g. gLite grid middleware) and other constraints that WP8 had to respect (e.g. budget limitation for hardware purchases), several criteria have been formulated for selecting an appropriate virtualization technology. These criteria are the following:

Support virtualization of Scientific Linux CERN 3 and Scientific Linux CERN 4, this constraint is imposed³ by the gLite grid middleware, perform reasonably well when running a virtualized Operating Systems, common requirement, allow the use of SMP Kernels, all server computers use multi-processors architectures nowadays, run on i686 and x86_64 Architectures with the ability of mixing 32 and 64 bits Kernels for host Oss. 64 bits and the various possible mixed modes have to be supported for allowing future use of 64 bits-based software to be distributed under a GPL License.

3.2.1. Xen

Xen⁴ is free software VMM for IA-32, x86-64, IA-64 and PowerPC architectures. It is software which runs in a host operating system and which allows several guest operating systems to be installed and used on top of, and at the same the time as, the host on the same computer. Xen originated as a research project at the University of Cambridge, led by Ian Pratt, senior lecturer at Cambridge and founder of XenSource, Inc. This company now supports the development of the open source project and also sells enterprise versions of the software. The first public release of Xen was made available in 2003.

² http://www.vmware.com/pdf/virtualization_considerations.pdf

³ gLite is heavily reliant on the host OS. The packages for installing gLite 3.1 version are only certified to work on Scientific Linux 4.0; this is also the only operating system that is certified to properly run gLite.

⁴ <http://www.xensource.com>

3.2.2. Kernel-based Virtual Machine

Kernel-based Virtual Machine (KVM)⁵ is a Linux kernel infrastructure for supporting virtualization. KVM currently supports full virtualization using Intel VT or AMD-V. Limited support for paravirtualization is also available for Linux guests and Windows in the form of a paravirtual network driver, a balloon driver to affect the operation of the guest virtual memory manager, and CPU optimization for Linux guests. KVM is currently implemented as a loadable kernel module although future versions will likely use a system call interface and be integrated directly into the kernel. Architecture ports are currently being developed for s390, PowerPC, and IA64. The first version of KVM was included in the Linux kernel version 2.6.20.

By itself, KVM does not perform any emulation. Instead, a user-space program uses the `/dev/kvm` interface to set up the guest VM's address space, feeds it simulated I/O and maps its video display back onto the host. Currently, the only known program that does this is a modified version of QEMU⁹. KVM's components are available under various GNU licenses.

3.2.3. OpenVZ

OpenVZ⁶ is an operating system-level virtualization technology based on the Linux kernel and operating system. OpenVZ allows a physical server to run multiple isolated operating system instances, known as Virtual Private Servers (VPS) or Virtual Environments (VE).

Compared to virtual machines such as VMware and paravirtualization technologies like Xen, OpenVZ is limited as it requires both the host and guest OS to be Linux-based (although Linux distributions can be different in different VEs). However, OpenVZ claims a performance advantage; according to its website, there is only a 1-3% performance penalty for OpenVZ as compared to using a standalone server.

OpenVZ is a basis of Virtuozzo⁷, a proprietary software product provided by SWsoft⁸, Inc. OpenVZ is licensed under the GPL version 2.

3.2.4. QEMU

QEMU⁹ is a fast processor emulator, allowing full virtualization of a PC system. It is free software and was written by Fabrice Bellard. QEMU is a hypervisor and is similar to projects such as Bochs, VMware Workstation and PearPC, but lacks several features, including increased speed on x86 architectures, although achievable through an optional accelerator KQEMU¹⁰, and support for multiple architectures (work in-progress at the time of writing). By using dynamic translation it performs reasonably well, and turns out to be easy to port to new host CPUs.

3.2.5. Linux-VServer

⁵ kvm.qumranet.com

⁶ <http://openvz.org/>

⁷ <http://www.swsoft.com/en/products/virtuozzo>

⁸ <http://www.swsoft.com>

⁹ <http://fabrice.bellard.free.fr/qemu>

¹⁰ <http://fabrice.bellard.free.fr/qemu/kqemu-tech.html>

Linux-VServer¹¹ is a virtual private server implementation which achieves virtualization by adding operating system-level virtualization capabilities to the Linux kernel. Linux-VServer is a jail mechanism which can be used to securely partition resources on a computer system (such as the file system, CPU time, network addresses and memory) in such a way that processes cannot mount a denial-of-service attack on anything outside of their partition. Each partition is called a security context, and the virtualized system within it is the virtual private server. A chroot-like utility for entering security contexts is provided. The contexts themselves are robust enough to boot many unmodified Linux distributions, including Debian and Fedora Core.

Virtual private servers are commonly used in web hosting services, where they are useful for segregating customer accounts, pooling resources and containing any potential security breaches. Conceptually Linux-VServer is similar to the Solaris Containers (including Solaris Zones isolation technology), or FreeBSD Jail, or OpenVZ.

Linux-VServer is developed and distributed as open source software, licensed under the terms of the GNU General Public License (GPL).

3.2.6. VMware

VMware¹² is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the EMC Corporation which supplies proprietary virtualization software for x86-compatible computers, including VMware Workstation and the freeware VMware Server and VMware Player products. VMware software runs on Microsoft Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X.

There are several flavors of VMware, depending on the needs of the client. VMware is offering a large variety of products, including free and non-free products licensed under a commercial license. VMware is not licensing its products under an open source license.

Free products:

- VMware Player: VMware makes VMware Player available, free of charge, to run guest virtual machines produced by other VMware products. VMware Player itself is not able to create new virtual machines.
- VMware Server: VMware Server can create, edit, and play virtual machines. It uses a client-server model, allowing remote access to virtual machines, at the cost of some graphical performance. VMware Inc. makes VMware Server freely available in the hope that users will eventually upgrade to the VMware ESX Server.

Non-Free products:

- VMware Workstation: VMware Workstation software consists of a virtual-machine suite for x86 and x86-64 computers. This software suite allows users to set up multiple x86 and x86-64 virtual computers and to use one or more of these virtual machines simultaneously with the hosting operating system. Each virtual machine instance can execute its own guest operating system. In simple terms, VMware Workstation allows one physical machine to run two or more operating systems simultaneously.
- VMware ESX: This is the most professional solution. VMware ESX implements what is referred to as the "VMkernel", which is a bundle of hypervisor codes along with the device driver modules used to support a given set of hardware.
- VMware ESX Server uses a Linux kernel that loads additional code. It is referred by VMware, as the "VMkernel". The VMware FAQ states 'ESX Server also incorporates a service console based on a Linux 2.4 kernel that is used to boot the ESX Server

¹¹ <http://linux-vserver.org/>

¹² <http://www.vmware.com/>

virtualization layer'. The Linux kernel runs before any other software on an ESX host, witness the console of a booting ESX machine. After the Linux kernel has loaded, there is a script that loads the VMkernel. VMware states that VMkernel is not derived from Linux. The Linux kernel continues running but under VMkernel, providing functions including the proc file system used by the ESX and an environment to run support applications.

3.3. Conclusions

These virtualization techniques and technologies have been evaluated and, when possible, tested. In the following table, their most interesting characteristics are reflected, together with the features that were retained for making further decisions regarding upon which solution to base the neuGRID deployment. As formerly stated, the following properties have been partially extracted from the virtualization technologies state-of-the-art literature.

Properties	Xen	KVM	QEMU	OpenVZ	VServer	VMWare
Full VT	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Paravirtualization	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
OS Level VT	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
License	GPL	GPL	GPL BSD Core: LGPL	GPL	GPL	Proprietary
Architecture	i686 x86-64 IA64 PPC	i686 x86-64	i686 ARM	i686 x86-64 PPC	i686 ARM	i686 x86-64
Performance	PV: Fast FV: Medium	PV: Fast FV: Medium	FV: Slow Best if kQEMU enabled	Fast	Fast	PV: Medium FV: Medium
SMP Gheuests	Yes	Development	Development	Yes	Yes	Yes
CPU Hot Plug	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mem Hot Plug	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Standalone Host	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Standalone Hypervisor	No	No	No	No	No	Only with ESX Server

From this table, it can be noted that some of the virtualization techniques do not fulfill the main WP8 criteria, exposed in the Point 2.2. For instance, QEMU and Vserver cannot run, at the time of writing, x86_64 hosts, and VMware is distributed under a commercial license, which turns out to be quite expensive and inappropriate given the needs of our project.

WP8 has been in direct contact with the gLite development team at CERN in order to obtain additional expert advice regarding virtualization solutions and their potential current use in other projects. From this feedback, the formerly introduced evaluation and the experience of the partners using gLite, WP8 therefore decided to adopt Xen.

Xen has been extensively tested and appears to work properly with the gLite grid middleware. It allows the running of a large variety of Linux Kernels, such as i686, i686 PAE and x86_64 as host and guest kernels.

Nevertheless, WP8 is still investigating other technologies such as OpenVZ, in the spirit of comparing performance and stability aspects, for a potential future migration in case significant improvement in quality of services can be obtained.

4. Data Coordination Centre (PRODEMA)

In the DoW we can find the DCC defined as: *"DCC takes care of coordinating and maintaining the different DACS centres from level 1. The DCC's primary functions early in the neuGRID development phase are the development, deployment and maintenance of the user-facing services, including the development of the neuGRID access portal. Towards the later phases of the project these functions will shift towards oversight and more operational responsibilities, where the DCC will coordinate operations such as standardization of acquisition protocols; development of quality control procedures; monitoring of data consistency; ontological mapping of existing databases; use, performance and validation of image analysis algorithms; use of statistical analyses procedures, etc. Many of these functions will be implemented by consensus-building among the partners as well as the user communities. The DCC will also participate in the grid as a level 1 node, providing storage space and CPU resources to the grid"*

This site was deployed during month 8 of the project, in parallel to the GCC. The current activity in the DCC is a series of developments concerning the LORIS database software, which is being integrated in the grid and in the neuGRID services.

5. Grid Coordination Centre (MAAT)

In the DoW we can find the GCC defined as: *"GCC is in charge of hosting, maintaining up and running the grid middleware information system services 24/7. These services are the cornerstones of the grid. They provide the inner mechanics of the distributed infrastructure. The GCC will be installed as part of the Ground-Truth phase of the neuGRID Infrastructure deployment, and once available will host its newly created virtual organization"*.

The GCC was successfully deployed at month 8 at Archamps, France within the servers provided by maat Gknowledge.

The GCC will host the entire infrastructure to run the gLite GRID middleware. This includes gLite core services, a site performing CE and SE, and the necessary infrastructure to provide servers and users with the digital certificates, which will allow operating against the neuGRID infrastructure.

- gLite Core services, including: VOMS, WMS/LB, LFC, tBDII and AMGA
- Site level services, including: UI, CE, SE and sBDII
- neuGRID UI
- CA

5.1. Services

To run a new gLite middleware infrastructure it is necessary to install some gLite services. The basic infrastructure that will allow neuGRID to provide grid services is the following:

- VOMS: Virtual Organization Membership System. This service will manage the users, the resources and the possible interactions between them.
- LFC: LCG File Catalogue, this service will store a global index of files to allow the grid users to find these files stored in the grid.
- tBDII: Top Level Berkeley Database Information Index, this service will read the configuration of the different grid sites, and will present it with an LDAP interface.
- AMGA: It is a metadata catalog for gLite.

- WMS/LB: gLite Workload Management System

These services have been installed in one DELL PowerEdge 2950; virtualization techniques have been used in this hardware in order to install 4 distinct services in one server. This technique is commonly used when deploying gLite. As explained in Section 2, gLite has significant constraints regarding the mixing of different services in one OS.

The complete gLite infrastructure security model relies on digital certificates. This means that to operate with the grid, each user and server will need a digital certificate ensuring that the actor is who he or she is supposed to be. With this purpose in mind, the neuGRID project has deployed a local Certification Authority, which will be able to issue certificates to operate with neuGRID infrastructure.

OpenCA software has been installed in a virtual machine. OpenCA provides a complete suite of Certification Authority services. This suite enables the management of the certificate life cycle of the users and servers.

An SE and a DPM were also deployed as a CE and WN.

The Computing Element is composed by 3 DELL Power Edge 1950 servers, with the specifications outlined in **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** These servers will be part of a gLite Computing Element, by running Worker Node software in each one. The main function of these servers is to execute the jobs that are submitted to the GRID infrastructure.

The Storage Element was deployed in a DELL PowerEdge 2950.

5.2.Services Configuration

5.2.1. Hardware Distribution

The following table shows the dom0 servers list, in addition to the management IP that will be performed over a Dell Remote Administration Card, and its Service TAG (Serial Number of the Server).

Server Name	Dom0 IP	Management IP	Service TAG
dell-1950-1	80.245.17.57	80.245.17.40	CKWZM3J
dell-1950-2	80.245.17.48	80.245.17.41	BKWZM3J
dell-1950-3	80.245.17.61	80.245.17.42	8KWZM3J
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.50	80.245.17.38	6310N3J
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.44	80.245.17.43	9310N3J

5.2.2. gLite Services Distribution

The following table presents a summary of the gLite middleware services deployed at GCC, including the reference to the physical machine that is hosting the guest virtual machine, which is running the gLite middleware service identified in the last column of the table.

Server Name	External IP	FQDN	gLite
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.45	ng-maat-server2.maat-g.com	WOMS
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.49	ng-maat-server4.maat-g.com	Lfc tBDII
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.51	ng-maat-server5.maat-g.com	amga
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.52	ng-maat-server6.maat-g.com	gLiteUI
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.47	ng-maat-server3.maat-g.com	DPM sBDII
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.58	ng-maat-devel1.maat-g.com	AMGA gLiteUI
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.59	ng-maat-server7.maat-g.com	Myproxy
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.61	ng-maat-server8.maat-g.com	CE
dell-2950-1	80.245.17.62	ng-maat-server9.maat-g.com	WMS LB
dell-1950-1	80.245.17.63	ng-maat-server10.maat-g.com	WN
dell-1950-2	80.245.17.64	ng-maat-server11.maat-g.com	WN
dell-1950-3	80.245.17.65	ng-maat-server12.maat-g.com	WN

5.2.3. Support Services Distribution

In the following table we can see all the data related to the openCA and a support web for deployments and developments that was also deployed in the GCC.

Server Name	External IP	FQDN	Services
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.46	ng-maat-server1.maat-g.com	WEB
dell-2950-2	80.245.17.46	openca.ng-maat-server1.maat-g.com	OPENCA

5.3. Infrastructure

This site will be installed over 5 servers: 2 DELL PowerEdge 2950, and 3 DELL PowerEdge 1950 in the first stage of the deployment; gLite Core Services have been deployed over one of the DELL PowerEdge2950. In the second stage, a Site including a Storage Element has been deployed in the second DELL PowerEdge 2950 and finally, a Computing Element over the 3 remaining DELL PowerEdge 1950 servers remains to be deployed.

Detailed hardware tests for each server can be found in "*Annex 3 – GCC Hardware Tests*" in which we can see that all the servers pass the hardware test suit detailed in the Annex 2.

5.3.1. Servers Configuration

DELL PowerEdge 2950

In **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** we can see the final hardware configuration for the server DELL PowerEdge 2950, corresponding to the advanced configuration of the portfolio of solutions. This server offers a good cost to raw space ratio.

In order to fit the services, 2 of these servers have been acquired. In the first, the Core Services have been deployed, the other one will host SE and the DPM. The second one will host all core services.

PE2950	
1	PE2950 III QUAD-CORE XEON E5410 2.33GHZ/
1	RISER WITH PCI EXPRESS SUPPORT (2X PCIE
1	PE2950 SPANISH RACK POWER CORD
1	PE2950 BEZEL ASSEMBLY
1	8GB 667MHZ FBD (2X4GB DUAL RANK DIMMS)
1	PE2950 III ADDITIONAL QUAD-CORE XEON E54
2	80GB SERIAL ATA2 7.2K 3.5" HD HOT PLUG
4	750GB SERIAL ATA2 7.2K 3.5" ADDITIONAL H
1	PE2950 III - CHASSIS 3.5HDD X6 BACKPLANE
1	PERC 6/I, INTEGRATED CONTROLLER CARD X6
1	8X IDE DVD-ROM DRIVE
1	CD/DVD CABLE
1	PE2950 III - REDUNDANT PSU NO POWER CORD
1	POWER CORD, PDU (RACK)
2	BROADCOM NETXTREME 5721 SINGLE PORT GIGA
1	BROADCOM TCP/IP OFFLOAD ENGINE FUNCTIONA
1	DRAC 5 CARD
1	PE2950 OPEN MANAGE CD + DRIVERS
1	CFI EMEA SERVICE ORDER READY POWEREDGE P
1	PE2950 RAPID/VERSA RACK RAILS
1	PE2950 III - C6, MSSR0/R0, ADD IN PERC 5/
1	POWEREDGE ORDER - SPAIN
1	BASE WARRANTY
1	1YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY -
1	3YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY

The total power of the DPM is described in the following list:

- 8 cores running at 2.33GHz
- 8 Gigabytes of RAM
- 2 Terabytes of local space in RAID5

DELL PowerEdge 1950

In **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** we can see the final hardware configuration for the server DELL PowerEdge 1950, which corresponds to the advanced configuration of the portfolio of solutions. This server offers a good ratio between effective cost, number of cores and RAM capacity. The full solution consists of 13 servers with these characteristics that are part of the cluster that will run the computing element.

PE1950	
1	PE1950 III QUAD-CORE XEON E5410 2.33GHZ/
1	PE1950 PCIE RISER (2 SLOTS)
1	SPANISH - DOCUMENTATION AND RACK POWER C
1	PE1950 BEZEL ASSEMBLY
1	8GB 667MHZ FBD (2X4GB DUAL RANK DIMMS)
1	PE1950 III - ADDITIONAL QUAD-CORE XEON E
2	73GB SAS (15, 000RPM) 3.5 INCH HARD DRIVE
1	PE1950 III 3.5" HDD SUPPORT CHASSIS
1	PERC 6I INTEGRATED CONTROLLER
1	8X IDE DVD-ROM DRIVE
1	PE1950 III REDUNDANT POWER SUPPLY - NO P
1	POWER CORD, PDU (RACK)
1	BROADCOM TCP/IP OFFLOAD ENGINE FUNCTIONA
1	DRAC 5 CARD
1	NO OPERATING SYSTEM
1	PE1950 OPENMANAGE KIT AND FI DRIVER
1	YOU HAVE CHOSEN NOT TO TAKE THE DELL POW
1	CFI EMEA SERVICE ORDER READY POWEREDGE P
1	SLIDING COMBINATION RAPID/VERSA RAIL WIT
1	PE1950 III - C3, MSSR1, ADD IN PERC 5I/6I
1	POWEREDGE ORDER - SPAIN
1	BASE WARRANTY
1	1YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY -
1	3YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY

In the following table **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** we can see the partition table common to the 3 servers that comprise the Computing Element. Each one will run one host OS and one guest OS. All of them will run WN gLite software.

dev	lvm	Size
/dev/sda	boot	100 Mbytes
/dev/sdb	swap	2 GBytes
/dev/sdc	root	10 Gbytes
	wn	66 GBytes
	wn_swap	2 GBytes

The total power of the Computing Element is described in the following list:

- 24 cores running at 2.33GHz
- 24 Gigabytes of RAM
- 198 Gigabytes of local space in RAID1

6. DACS1 - IRCCS Fatebenefratelli (FBF, Brescia - Italy)

IRCSS will contribute to the neuGRID infrastructure with a site composed by a computational node and a data node. These nodes are part of the PROD infrastructure defined in the DoW.

6.1. Services

The site at DACS1 will provide an SE and a DPM, and a CE and WN to the grid infrastructure. This infrastructure will allow users to store and access files, and to execute jobs. This fits with the specifications of the DoW.

Due to the gLite grid middleware architecture, it is necessary to set up a service sBDII that will present the site to the core services of the neuGRID infrastructure.

This site will provide 4,5 TBytes of usable space in 3 different data stores, but the most impressive numbers come from the CE, running 12 WN of 8 cores each one. This infrastructure provides a total of 96 cores running at 2,3GHz and 96 GBytes of RAM.

6.1.1. Services Configuration

In this section we will describe the distribution of the gLite services deployed in the FBF servers. In the followings tables we can see the deployed services in the set of servers. Those can be categorized in two major families: the gLite grid-site related services (UI, DPM, CE, WN) and the neuGRID Gateway. Service TAG and the IP distribution can be also viewed in the following tables.

Each server will have 3 IP addresses, the first IP address is attached to the dom0 (host OS), the second IP address is attached to the dom1 (guest OS), and finally the third IP address is attached to the remote administration card.

Server Name	Dom0 IP	Management IP	Service TAG
ng-fbf-dell-1	192.168.1.227	192.168.1.200	GPL2W3J
ng-fbf-dell-2	192.168.1.228	192.168.1.201	JFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-3	192.168.1.229	192.168.1.202	BFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-4	192.168.1.230	192.168.1.203	CFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-5	192.168.1.231	192.168.1.204	DFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-6	192.168.1.232	192.168.1.205	GFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-7	192.168.1.233	192.168.1.206	HFL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-8	192.168.1.234	192.168.1.207	1GL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-9	192.168.1.235	192.168.1.208	9FL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-10	192.168.1.236	192.168.1.209	2GL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-11	192.168.1.237	192.168.1.210	4GL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-12	192.168.1.238	192.168.1.211	5GL3W3J
ng-fbf-dell-13	192.168.1.239	192.168.1.212	6GL3W3J

Server Name	External IP	FQDN	Internal IP	gLite
ng-fbf-dell-1			192.168.1.214	SE DPM
ng-fbf-dell-2			192.168.1.215	gLiteUI CE sBDII
ng-fbf-dell-3			192.168.1.216	WN
ng-fbf-dell-4			192.168.1.217	WN
ng-fbf-dell-5			192.168.1.218	WN
ng-fbf-dell-6			192.168.1.219	WN
ng-fbf-dell-7			192.168.1.220	WN
ng-fbf-dell-8			192.168.1.221	WN
ng-fbf-dell-9			192.168.1.222	WN
ng-fbf-dell-10			192.168.1.223	WN
ng-fbf-dell-11			192.168.1.224	WN
ng-fbf-dell-12			192.168.1.225	WN
ng-fbf-dell-13			192.168.1.225	WN

6.2. Infrastructure

This site will be installed over 13 servers: 1 DELL PowerEdge 2900, and 12 DELL PowerEdge 1950 in the first stage of the deployment.

Detailed hardware tests for each server can be found in "Annex 4 – DACS1 Hardware Tests" in which we can see that all the servers pass the hardware test suit detailed in the Annex 2.

6.2.1. Servers Configuration

As previously explained, for the neuGRID deployment, all of the servers have been virtualized with XEN Software; the host Operating System is Scientific Linux 5.2. It runs a XEN Kernel in the top, allowing the server to run paravirtualized Virtual Machines. This technique has some advantages when compared to deploying the OS running gLite services directly in the hardware. These advantages are:

- Fast deployment of preconfigured images in the Guest OS.
- Simple maintenance and upgrades of the Guest OS.
- Simple backup of the whole system.
- Allows the running of more than one Guest OS in one physical server.

DELL PowerEdge 2900

In the next table, we can see the final hardware configuration for the server DELL PowerEdge 2900, corresponding to the advanced configuration of the portfolio of solutions. This server offers a good ratio between cost and raw space.

PE2900

1	PE2900 III - QUAD-CORE XEON E5410 2.33GHZ
1	PE2900 III SERVER RACK CHASSIS
1	RACK BEZEL ASSEMBLY
1	8GB 667MHZ FBD (4X2GB DUAL RANK DIMMS)
1	PE2900 III - ADDITIONAL QUAD-CORE XEON E
1	3.5 INCH 1.44MB FLOPPY DRIVE
8	750GB SERIAL ATA 7.2K 3.5" HD HOT PLUG
1	PERC 6/I INTERNAL RAID CONTROLLER CARD
2	80GB SATA 7.2K 3.5INCH FRONT BAY HDD
1	16X SATA DVD
1	REDUNDANT POWER SUPPLY (2 HOT PLUG PSU)
1	POWER CORD, PDU (RACK)
1	BROADCOM TCP/IP OFFLOAD ENGINE FUNCTIONA
1	TCP/IP OFFLOAD ENGINE 2P
1	DRAC5 CONTROLLER
1	NO OPERATING SYSTEM
1	OPENMANAGE SERVER SOFTWARE, WITH CD & DO
1	PE2900 UNIVERSAL SLIDING VERSA/RAPID RAC
1	PE2900 III - C11 RAID5/1 PERC5I/6I 3-8HD
1	BASE WARRANTY
1	1YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY -
1	3YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY

The following table shows the partition table of the DELL PowerEdge 2900, including host OS and the partitions to be installed in the guest OS. This server will run the DPM with 3 data stores, 2 of 1,43 GBytes, and one of 1.2 GBytes, with a total usable space of 4 TBytes as data stored in the GRID. As explained before, the physical support of this space relies on a RAID5 and a spare disk in order to ensure maximum data security and stability.

Dev	lvm	Size
/dev/sda	boot	100 Mbytes
	lvswap	8 GBytes
	lvroot	10 Gbytes
	dpm	24 GBytes
	dpm_swp	2 GBytes
/dev/sdb	dpm_data	1.43 TBytes
/dev/sdc	dpm_data_2	1.43 TBytes
/dev/sdd	dpm_data_3	1.2 TBytes

The total power of the Storage Element is described in the following list:

- 8 cores running at 2.33GHz
- 8 Gigabytes of RAM
- 4500 Gigabytes of shared disk space in RAID5 with 1 spare disk to increase data integrity and security.
- 80 Gigabytes of local space in RAID1

DELL PowerEdge 1950

In the following table **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.**, we can see the final hardware configuration for the server DELL PowerEdge 1950, corresponding to the advanced configuration of the portfolio of solutions. This server offers a good ratio between effective cost, number of cores and RAM capacity. In the full solution there are 12 servers with these characteristics that are part of the cluster that will run the computing element.

PE1950	
1	PE1950 III QUAD-CORE XEON E5410 2.33GHZ/
1	PE1950 PCIE RISER (2 SLOTS)
1	PE1950 BEZEL ASSEMBLY
1	8GB 667MHZ FBD (4X2GB DUAL RANK DIMMS)
1	PE1950 III - ADDITIONAL QUAD-CORE XEON E
2	73GB SAS 15K 3.5" HD HOT PLUG
1	SAS 6/IR INTEGRATED CONTROLLER FOR C1
1	PE1950 III 3.5" HDD SUPPORT CHASSIS
1	8X IDE DVD-ROM DRIVE
1	PE1950 III REDUNDANT POWER SUPPLY
1	POWER CORD, PDU (RACK)
1	TCP/IP OFFLOAD ENGINE 2P
1	DRAC 5 CARD
1	NO OPERATING SYSTEM
1	PE1950 OPENMANAGE KIT AND FI DRIVER
1	SLIDING COMBINATION RAPID/VERSA RAIL WIT
1	PE1950 III - C1, MOTHERBOARD SATA/SAS RAID1
1	POWEREDGE ORDER - SPAIN
1	BASE WARRANTY
1	1YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY -
1	3YR BASIC WARRANTY - NEXT BUSINESS DAY

In the following table **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** we can see the partition table common to the 12 servers that comprise the Computing Element; each one will run one host OS and one guest OS. One of them will run CE and other gLite site services; the other 11 will run WN gLite software.

dev	lvm	Size
/dev/sda	boot	100 Mbytes
/dev/sdb	swap	2 GBytes
/dev/sdc	root	10 Gbytes
	wn	66 GBytes
	wn_swp	2 GBytes

The total power of the Computing Element is described in the following list:

- 96 cores running at 2.33GHz
- 96 Gigabytes of RAM
- 876 Gigabytes of local space in RAID1

7. Conclusions

The present document has introduced the solution, designed within the course of the 12 first months of the project, for deploying a complex set of software in heterogeneous information systems, which satisfies the security, budget and physical concrete constraints of the neuGRID project. The document also elaborated on the achievements of the work package contrasted with the initially foreseen workplan.

The first step WP8 accomplished as part of this work, was to analyze the neuGRID platform requirements in order to deliver an appropriate set of hardware configurations for supporting the project infrastructure.

Indeed, technologies such as gLite are quite new and resource demanding due to their scope and nature. The challenge WP8 therefore faced, was to build a solution that is capable of running such technologies, while maintaining a reasonable overall quality of services. To do so, it investigated various aspects related to hardware, software and associated costs.

As a significant output of the work package, a complete portfolio of hardware specifications has been specified, which can be used as a reference by both technical and clinical partners to make their decision for a given access point.

Indeed, WP8 successfully exercised and exemplified its approach through the deployment of GCC and getting significant advances in the deployment of the Level1 DACS. The deployment of DACS1 was a big challenge, (we should keep in mind that the DACS1 is composed of 12 WN and 1 DPM) in terms of logistics and deployment.

In the first 12 months of the project, WP8 faced some problems related to the strict requirements imposed by neuGRID. Common issues for IT centres, such as rDNS, are challenges that most institutions have never faced before, and these institutions do not know the procedures to request these requirements.