IAC Unix Advisory Group minutes for 2014-07-24

In attendance:

Daniel Hamp
Kevin Swab
Curtis Brown
Jeremiah Baughman
CJ Keist
Robin McGee
Scott Janssen
Wayne Hall
Elden Flick
Greg Chvatal
James Cizek
Saul Lozano
Tyler Eike
Joe Strecker
Charles Heppner

* High Performance Computing

  • Daniel asked who has HPC needs.
  • Joe described his for scientists in bioinformatics.
  • CJ described what Engineering currently has in place: uses Univa Grid, has
    19 nodes with dual Xeons and another 8 GPU compute nodes.
  • CJ also says support for software is the largest struggle.
  • James talked about Storage concerns behind HPC and then talked about Globus
    and its planned direction for research computing.
  • Charles described his need to have the ability to move large data between
    collaborators.
  • Bandwidth in the form of 10Gb ethernet would be needed.
  • Jeremiah warned that although Globus is compared to Dropbox, it's not
    feature compatible.
  • There's some discussion about access controls on Globus hosted data and how
    it works.
  • What about long term storage of data, the repository aspect? James said ACNS
    doesn't have this kind of service but they are looking at what vendors are
    offering. Daniel says that the Library is working on plans for data
    repository.
  • For long term storage, Engineering offers storage by using tape, although CJ
    notes it's not used that often.

* Other topics

  • James asked what other Unixes other than Linux is in use.
  • Charles uses AIX and one IRIX, CJ still uses Solaris in the form of
    OpenIOndiana.
  • ACNS is close to getting rid of AIX.
  • Lamar users will be migrated to Office 365 while their personal websites
    will be migrated to LAMP.
  • Charles said VTH billing and scheduling software is on AIX and is looking to
    migrate off the platform.

  • James asked who was buying RH licenses. Most everyone is running CentOS.

- CJ ask what people thought about OneDrive. He notes that he wants to warn users about lack of administrative control. Wayne noted that would be a problem with CORA requests.

- Joe asked about how virtualization is used. CJ, Daniel, and Charles gave their thoughts. James asked what platforms are used. A mix of VMware, Citrix, KVM, and Hyper-V was mentioned. Then James asked about SAN storage and talked about Vmware's vSAN and HP's VirtualSAN.