Site specific monitoring from multiple information systems – the HappyFace Project

Content:
An efficient administration of computing centres requires sophisticated tools for the monitoring of the local computing infrastructure. Moreover, a large number of external monitoring information is required for centres in a grid infrastructure, like the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid. The resulting enormous flood of information from many different sources and for multiple user groups retards the identification of problems and complicates the local administration unnecessarily.

The meta-monitoring system "HappyFace Project" offers elegant mechanisms to collect, process and evaluate all relevant information from different monitoring systems and to condense it into a simple rating visualisation, reflecting the current status of a centre. Having chosen a modular architecture, each query is represented by a HappyFace module. The basic functionality needed by all these modules is supplied by the HappyFace core. As information retrieval and visualisation are decoupled by using a database, history and summary functionality is intrinsically offered.

Being the local monitoring system of several ATLAS and CMS Tier centres, a huge variety of modules for different information sources is available and maintained by the administrators of the participating sites. They are covering the areas of dCache, local batch systems, Nagios, CMS Phedex and many more. If new functionality is needed, a corresponding module is developed and finally published in the central repository of the project. In this paper, we give an overview of the HappyFace architecture and selected modules.

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