

Quarterly report 2004 Q1 (ARDA project)

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The ARDA project has been launched at the end of February and its main focus will be the deployment of prototype systems for analysis for the LHC experiments.

Compared to the scope of the original ARDA report, the LCG ARDA project concentrate on exposing the experiments to the new middleware being developed in EGEE and to channel back experience back into the EGEE project. This will be possible if a substantial number of users will be exposed to the prototypes in making their analyses (for detector studies and other activities). Grid middleware development will be pursued in the GM areas of LCG (contained in the EGEE Middleware development group)

During this quarter, the main activities were:

- The discussions with all 4 experiments have started to prepare the work plan
- 4 new people have been hired (EGEE funding) and a new section (about 12 people) put in place
- Some pilot activities (basically to learn about the experiments environments) have been started, mainly on investigating the performances of Metadata catalogue service under analysis conditions
- A web site is being put in place <http://lcg.web.cern.ch/LCG/peb/arda> containing some presentations were the project has been presented and discussed (notably, GAG and LCG workshop)
- A preliminary set of milestones has been produced

The main activity in the next quarter will be a formal description of the work plan, to settle down all technicalities of the new section (including logistics) and to start working with the EGEE middleware, expected by the beginning of May (The definition of the detailed plan for the 4 prototypes are due in the next quarter: milestones 1.6.2-5).

During 2004, each experiment prototype will be interfaced with the EGEE middleware (end 2004 Q3) and tested in analysis mode (end of 2004 Q4).