

Steinbuch Centre for Computing of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology cordially invites you to its

Scientific Colloquium

The data challenge The view from England

Alistair Mills – Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

14th of December, 2011
10:00 am

Steinbuch Centre for Computing
Campus Nord, Kursraum 3

Abstract

Ten years ago, STFC started work on a project to provide a catalogue for data collected during scientific experiments carried out in its laboratories. The software known as I-Cat, for Information Catalogue, is now in continuous use with the Diamond Light Source, the ISIS Muon Source and the Central Laser Facility. Every day, I-Cat catalogues millions of files. Other large experimental facilities have adopted I-Cat and it is in production use at ILL in Grenoble, France, SNS in Tennessee, USA, and Elettra in Trieste, Italy. Other large facilities around the world, in Australia, Switzerland and Spain are considering it for use with their work. In 2008, STFC decided to make the software for I-Cat available as open source, and there is an active collaboration which is hosted by Google Code and the software is available on the Internet. The collaboration is led by a group in the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory.

The presentation will discuss the IT infrastructure which is used at the UK's Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC) laboratories at Rutherford Appleton and Daresbury. In addition to covering the functionality and integration of data management into the life cycle of the experiments on the large facilities operated by the Council, the speaker will discuss the current project to integrate the Information Catalogue into the life cycle of investigations using the Astra-Gemini Laser which is part of the Central Laser Facility of STFC.

Alistair Mills is a Project Manager in the eScience department at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and leads a group which is developing data management applications. His principal responsibility at the moment is the development, operations and support of data management systems to support the Central Laser Facility at the laboratory; a secondary responsibility is to lead the Google Code project for I-Cat. Alistair was a Project Manager at CERN on the EGEE project from 2004-2008 and visited FZK/KIT many times to work with the GGUS team on the deployment and operations of the Grid Ticketing System.