



The future of IP Video Conferencing management and scheduling

A presentation by Steve Cox on behalf of
AARNet and the MCU Project Team.

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and Research Network

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MCU Review Project Group	
	➡ 1. The project (background, service, approach) – Steve Cox (Flinders University) 2. Changes to the AARNet Booking System – Kewin Stoeckigt (AARNet) 3. The technical solution, CMP and easy 1-2-3 – Simon Downey and Chris McKay (Codian) 4. BOF – Open discussion/demo
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AARNet MCU Review Project Group: Background	
	➤ Idea formed during the review of the IPTEL/VIDEO groups and results of the AARNet/CAUDIT Video Conferencing Survey in 2006 ➤ AARNet has teamed up with Codian and 7 Universities to form the MCU Review Project Group. ➤ <u>Member Universities</u> – Charles Sturt University, Australian Catholic University, Australian National University, Flinders University, University of Southern Queensland, University of Ballarat, and Deakin University. ➤ <u>Scope</u> – Deliberately narrowly focused on improving conferencing services in a pragmatic way to meet 1 year lifespan, then look at expansion thereafter. ➤ <u>Benefits to Members</u> - Increased Interoperability, Cost Savings, Increased Capacity, Standardised Services, Shared Knowledge, Shared MCU Resources and a Buying Club.
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Key
 Chairman

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MCU Project: Achievements to date

- AARNet (under advice from the group) has purchased 2 x Codian Mgt Platform servers (& software) for the sector (plus HD MCU)
 - Redundancy: Systems hosted at different PoP Sites to meet user expectations, and to minimize interruptions, in the case of...
- Group participants are using this platform to
 - Configure their MCUs and share ports in a pool for mutual benefit
 - Support an easy as 1-2-3 web based booking form with MCU ports
 - Integrate booking and scheduling with internal calendar systems
 - Gather usage and billing information
- The group have reviewed AARNet's current conferencing service, reviewed the CMP, and are documenting a service framework to identify the costs and recommendations to deliver a sustainable, scalable and secure service.
- Working with AUSCert to determine the security of the CMP & Web based booking systems.



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Changes to the AARNet Booking
System

Kewin Stoeckigt (AARNet)

Remember this one??

- Old
- Clunky
- Complicated
- Unstructured
- ...and you haven't seen the backend!!

The following time is when you would like to have your meeting:

Meeting start: 16:00 16 May 2007
(local NSW, VIC and ACT time)
click the date to change it.

Meeting end: 20:00 16 May 2007
(local NSW, VIC and ACT time)
click the date to change it.

Initial video screen layout:
What initial screen format would you like?:
Most CAVE persons can change the layout (even during the conference), and can set up special layouts such as for remote teaching.

Contact Information:
This enables us to contact you in the event of a problem and to send you an email with instructions and confirmation of the booking:

name1: name2: optional
email1: REQUIRED email2: optional
phone1: REQUIRED phone2: optional
Phone number during meeting: optional
Coordinator (CAVE): RECOMMENDED
This is the local person who looks after your site's conferencing services.

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1-2-3 at a glance

- Simple web-based booking form
- Enables users to book, delete and modify conferences
 - On their institutional MCU
 - On the AARNet MCU
- MCU Pool
 - You have access to hundreds of ports, if your institution is part of the pool
 - You have access to the AARNet VC service (Standard and High definition), even if you institution is not contributing to the Pool
 - Maybe you wish to suggest to your institution to join the pool
- Designed for Ad-hoc/Pre-booked conferences

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The Technical Solution:
CMP and easy 1-2-3

Simon Downey and Chris McKay
(Codian)

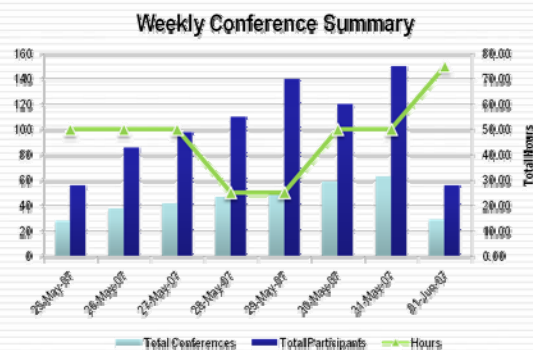
AARNet and CMP

- Codian and the AARNet community – the background
 - The first MCU
 - The first software development
- The significance of the acquisition by Codian
- AARNet and CMP – a hosted offering
 - The Telco model
- Pushing scheduling to the users
 - The AARNet 1-2-3 Form
- Future Partnership

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Future Developments

- Reporting from Call Detail Records



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Future Developments

• Billing Records

Conference details for Monday, 11 November 2007, 8:00am – 6:00pm Australian Eastern Time

Organizer: Chris McKay

Department: Physics

Total conferences – 2, Total hours - 2, Total video ports – 11, Total audio ports 20

+ Weekly Staff Meeting 9:30am – 10:30am
 - Stage III Physics Prof H 10:00am – 11:00am
 Scheduled, Billing Code: 1001

- 4 video participants

+ Sydney Tutorial Room3

- Melbourne Main VC room

Incoming call

ISDN, 4 channels

Duration: 45 minutes

Disconnect: Participant ended call

+ Technical Details

+ Geelong VC Room

+ Coffs Harbour Conf Room

+ 20 audio participants

+1 Simultaneous Stream

Actual Duration: 58 minutes

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The Future of Video Conferencing

➤ High Definition Video Conferencing is coming, it means clearer video quality and PowerPoint slides that are readable even for standard definition endpoints using HD MCUs!

➤ AARNet has now purchased a 20 port Codian 4500 MCU*

➤ Flinders has now purchased a 12 port Codian 4500 MCU*

➤ Examine ways to Improve and Expand the Conferencing Service (e.g. ISDN, IPVCR)

➤ Link the Service to other manufacturers MCUs

* Codian 4500 supports 1080p (Codian ClearVision™)



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Special Thanks

- Steve Cox & Greg Donhardt (Flinders University)
- Steve Neville, Chris McKay, Simon Downey and David Taylor (Codian)
- Arno Besse (University of Ballarat)
- Dean Gray (Deakin University)
- Rod Ibell (University of Southern Queensland)
- Paul Wagner (Australian Catholic University)
- Travis Terry (Charles Sturt University)
- Australian National University

Thank you for attending

- For more information please visit the newly revamped AARNet web site at
- <http://www.aarnet.edu.au/>
- The MCU Review Project Group web documentation & contact details can be found under the projects menu
- Visit the Codian stand for demonstrations.

Any Questions?

If not please stay for the BoF in 10 minutes

Opportunities for discussion

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MCU Review Project Group BOF

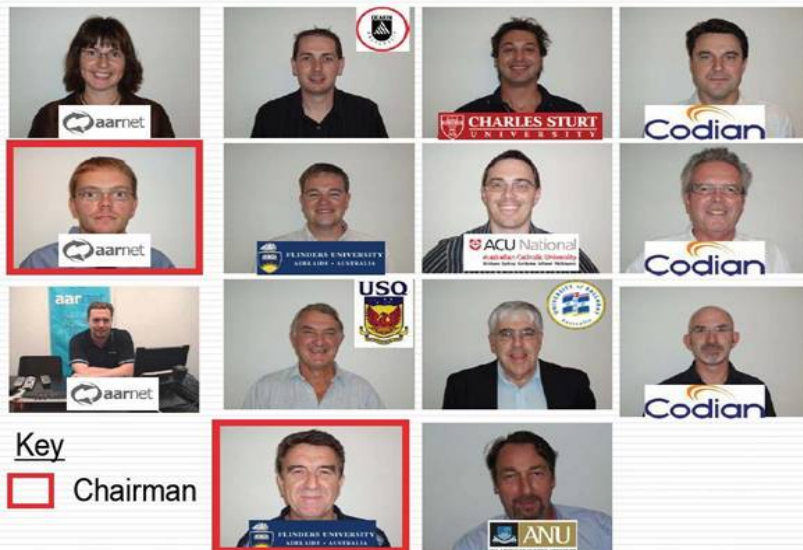
Kewin Stoeckigt
Technical Chairman

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- Member Universities – Charles Sturt University, Australian Catholic University, Australian National University, Flinders University, University of Southern Queensland, University of Ballarat, and Deakin University.
- Scope – Deliberately narrowly focused on improving conferencing services in a pragmatic way to meet 1 year lifespan, then look at expansion thereafter.
- Benefits to Members - Increased Interoperability, Cost Savings, Increased Capacity, Standardised Services, Shared Knowledge, Shared MCU Resources and a Buying Club.



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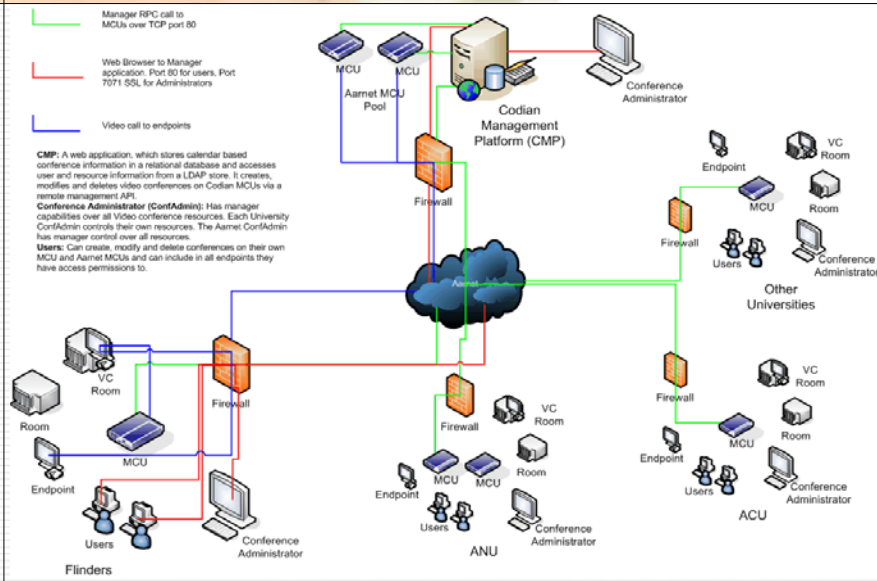


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MCU Review Group – Key activities

- Trial and provide an easy to use conference booking service
 - Globally (AARNet VC service)
 - Locally (Institutional booking system)
- ALL IN ONE
- Provide an enhanced VC/Room Resource booking system to VC administrators and CAVE's
- Provide access to hundreds of MCU ports through cascaded MCU pooling
- Provide policy/documentation advise on support, eligibility criteria, usage policy, test documentation and advanced support through additional AARNet services

For the technical ones amongst us ☺



What lies ahead – Challenges/Work items

- Technical challenges
 - How to cascade MCU?
 - MCU prioritization
 - E.164 numbers – IP vs. ISDN
 - SD vs. HD usage
 - Usage reporting
 - What about other MCUs?
- Service challenges
 - Usage policy, e.g. who is eligible? Use of other MCUs?
 - Support services
 - Who do I contact first?
 - How is my problem solved?
 - Service description/framework
 - How has the service improved?
 - CAVEs & Training
- Other challenges
 - Future enhancements

What lies ahead – Challenges/Work items

- NOT everything is a problem!!
- We have achieved a lot already
 - Booking system up and running and currently tested
 - Service documentation
 - See www.aarnet.edu.au
 - 1-2-3 system currently tested, broken and fixed

Discussions/Questions and more...

Some Questions

- What VC equipment do you have/use?
- Have you heard of the AARNet conferencing service?
- Do you use the AARNet conferencing service?
- Have you heard of this group?
- Are any work items of interest?
- What is important to you?

Thank you for attending the BoF

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