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Infrastructure Unit 2009Q2 Report

Personnel

Averaged over the year, the Infrastructure Unit has 3.6 FTE members. At the time of writing, the actual "fractional" input was not available. There was no explicit CSO input to the Unit in this quarter.

Significant Events

The following were the main "significant events" for the quarter:

1. Forum planning continued to take a significant, though reducing, amount of time, mostly accounted for by inSpace in the current quarter. This is expected to tail off in Q3, after which it is hoped that the "project" can be signed off as complete.
2. The Appleton Tower basement refurbishment planning and decant continued in this quarter. This will also continue into Q3, though it is expected to be complete during that quarter.
3. A security problem with the cosign authentication mechanism gave rise to a considerable amount of "miscellaneous" development work in Q2, with some consequent operational work to deploy the fixed version.

Unit Time Breakdown

As noted above, for this quarter the Unit's actual available effort was 3.X FTE. The first row of the table shows the amount of the Unit's time in fractional-FTE terms given to each activity; this is also shown in the pie-chart. The second row shows time as a fraction of total available Unit personpower, ignoring holidays, illness and the like. The third row shows the corresponding 2009Q1 figures for comparison.

	Forum	Appleton Tower	LDAP client	Account mgmt	SL5	AFS	OpenVPN	Docn review	Forum info screens	misc dev	Ops	Personal dev	Conferences	Meetings	Mgmt	Overhead	Holidays ill, etc.
09Q2 FTE	0.16	0.13	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.xx	0.04	0.08	0.09	0.53	0.59	0.15	0.xx	0.20	0.19	0.27	0.49
09Q2 %	6%	5%	1%	1%	1%	xx%	2%	3%	4%	21%	23%	6%	xx%	8%	8%	11%	-
09Q1 %	12%	5%	6%	2%	1%	1%	1%	-	-	12%	24%	3%	4%	5%	5%	16%	-

Individual [Development Projects](#) are given separate buckets where significant effort was applied. In the current quarter these were: [Forum](#), [Appleton Tower](#), [LDAP client configuration](#), [account management](#), [OpenVPN](#), [Documentation review](#), and [Forum info screens](#). There is also some residual time accruing to the SL5 upgrade project, which was coordinated in the Unit, and some small-scale AFS work.

Overall the Unit gave over 0.82 FTE to development work, excluding the fractional FTE and the Forum and AT, which is 27% of its available time for the quarter. Note that a substantial proportion of the fractional FTE time normally also accrues to development work.

Other small-scale and non-Project development has been lumped together as "miscellaneous development". This includes all aspects of the Unit's work where the existing code or equipment base required to be enhanced for some reason, even where this arose as a result of some operational requirement. In addition to the cosign-V3 work already noted, some time was given over to enhancing the nagios monitoring of the network infrastructure.

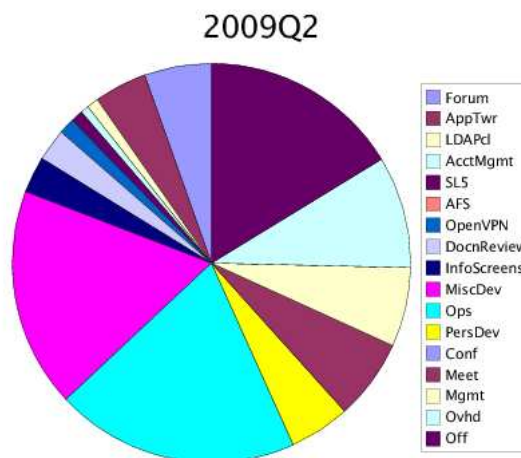
"Operations" covers everything to do with the day-to-day running of the Unit's services, together with any reconfiguration which did not require development work. As noted above, this category included some exceptional items this quarter. The bulk of the time in this category splits roughly equally between underlying infrastructure and authentication and directory services.

"Meetings" includes all meetings not specifically attributable to some other bucket; specifically, it includes Operations and Development meetings, as well as Unit meetings and extra-Informatics meetings. CEG meetings are bundled as "management".

Looking Ahead

Significant Unit activities in 2009Q3 are likely to include:

- Setting up Appleton Tower basement for use, following its refurbishment
- The [Forum](#) "project" is expected to be signed off as complete in this quarter
- The [logging](#) project kicks off in this quarter.
- Available Unit person-power will be affected by the usual seasonal factors.





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