



the dice project



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Infrastructure Unit 2012T3 Report

Reports for previous periods can be found [here](#). There's also an archive of all Units' reports linked from the [CEG wiki front page](#).

The Infrastructure Unit has 3 FTE members. The first row of the table below 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 remaining rows show corresponding figures from previous periods for comparison (note that these will not necessarily sum to 100%, as columns with completed projects have been omitted here).

Christmas and other ad hoc holidays had their usual effect in this T3 block. In particular, development time was down slightly, while the Unit's other activities remained at around their usual levels.

	Account mgmt	Data clean	SL6 upgrade	OpenLDAP upgrade	KDC upgrade	Doc update	Passwd strength	Comp mchns	Misc dev	Ops	Personal dev	Meetings	Mgmt	Misc	Holidays ill, etc.
12T3 FTE	0.00	0.03	0.14	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.12	0.45	0.81	0.12	0.23	0.18	0.32	0.48
12T3 %	0%	1%	6%	2%	2%	1%	1%	5%	18%	32%	5%	9%	7%	13%	
12T2 %	2%	0%	16%	3%	0%	2%	-	-	19%	28%	6%	10%	4%	10%	
12T1 %	4%	2%	11%	2%	1%	-	-	-	17%	25%	5%	9%	4%	11%	

The Unit's individual [Development Projects](#) are given separate buckets. In the current period there was only a small amount of work undertaken on behalf of other Units; this has been put in the "misc dev" bucket..

The following project was signed off in this period:

- [Upgrade LDAP master and slaves to OpenLDAP 2.4](#)

The following projects continued through this period:

- [Account management \(Prometheus\)](#) and its associated sub-project:
 - [Account reconciliation](#) aka data clean
- [SL6 server platform work](#)
- [KDC upgrade to 1.9 \(and KDCs to SL6\)](#)
- [Documentation update](#)

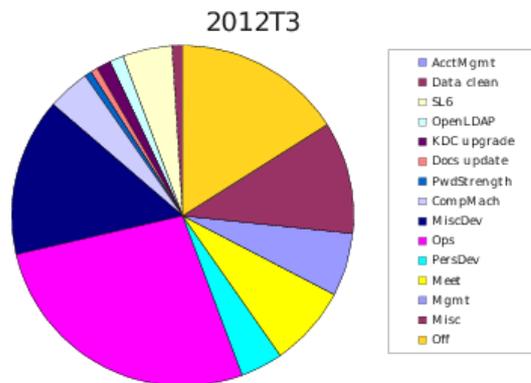
The following projects were (re)started in this period:

- [Password strength checks](#)
- [Scanning for compromised machines](#)

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 or some other requirement. In the current period this included:

- DHCP and ARP protection for the network switches
- Detection of rogue access points
- Additional energy monitoring graphs
- Some cosign enhancements
- Prometheus changes, including conduit configuration and perl-AFS
- Sundry updates to components and tools as a result of upstream package or firmware changes
- Sundry other small-scale changes, improvements and enhancements

Overall the Unit gave over 0.86 FTE to development work, which is 29% of its available time for the period. This is down on our normal levels, due to holidays as our other ongoing activities stayed around their usual levels. In the current period much of the project work was concentrated on the SL6 upgrade, which is now complete.



"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. In the current period this was again spread pretty evenly across all the Unit's responsibilities.

"Meetings" includes all meetings not specifically attributable to some other bucket. In particular, it includes attending Operational and Development meetings, as well as Unit meetings and extra-Informatics meetings. CEG meetings are bundled as "management", as are convening the Operational meetings by rotation.

Looking Ahead

The SL6 upgrade has continued to form a substantial part of the Unit's T3 work. This is now complete, and we hope to sign off all the related projects at the February Development meeting. This should free us up to concentrate on new work. In particular:

- Having given up on the Prometheus lifecycle code, we will be starting a new project to review what we did get and, either based on this or as a fresh start, to produce a design for the remaining functionality, which will then be implemented in a followup project. Meantime, the existing lifecycle project is stalled.
- Our existing MIT-Kerberos infrastructure has been in place since the start of the DICE project. At the time it was basically the only viable option, and it has served us well since then. At least two other options (Heimdal and EASE) are now open to us, and with SL6 out of the way now seems a good time to undertake a strategic review of our authentication technology.

However, we would note that some time will be given over to Documentation Week and the Innovation Groups in this T.

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