

VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2003 September (Quarter 3, Month 3)

1. Software

Progress against deliverables for Quarter 3 is summarised in the attached table. Owing to delay in establishing the SSA relational database on the Catalogue Servers, some tasks requiring interaction with this system for testing have remained unfinished and other tasks have been brought forward. The SSA user interface has been further developed with implementation of a VOTable output option and on-line documentation. The prototype (<http://grendel12.roe.ac.uk/~avo/ssa/sql.html>) can be seen at the ROE.

2. Hardware

The first node of the pixel server, which will also act as Curation Server and client for transfer of data from CASU, has been delivered and is now awaiting final installation on the network, This completes acquisition of the Day 1 hardware for the WSA. The pixel server holds 4 TB on SATA IDE disk drives and will be expanded periodically to accommodate the pixel data as they arrive in 2004.

We have had frustrating problems with the Catalogue Server hardware installed last month, possibly caused by an intermittent fault in one or more of the disks. This has required repeated installations of the SSA using different configurations of the disks and controllers. The consequences are delay in the deployment of the SSA and its exposure to the user community and to the integration with curation tasks. We are working with the vendors and ATC IT Support to fix the problem and are making progress.

3. General

We have now received the re-announcement of the WFA Revisable Grant, which includes funding for the WSA Staff effort, travel etc until 31 March 2005 and the "Day 1" equipment agreed with the VDFS PI.

PMW
2003 Sep 30