

# One step ahead of technology

## CERN and HP – an ideal team project

In 2004, the IT team at CERN recognized the comprehensiveness and future of the LHC Computing Grid Project and realized that the IT infrastructures were not sufficient enough to manage the data. CERN therefore partnered with HP ProCurve the following year to minimize the day-to-day workload and improve infrastructure for data output.

**Why HP?** – According to David Foster, the Communication Systems Group Leader at CERN, “The decision to buy ProCurve was based on the high performance, reliability and low overall cost of ownership that ProCurve’s products would bring to [the] organization.” Because of the high capacity at which data is processed, it was necessary that CERN partnered with a computing company that would reach such demands and specifications.

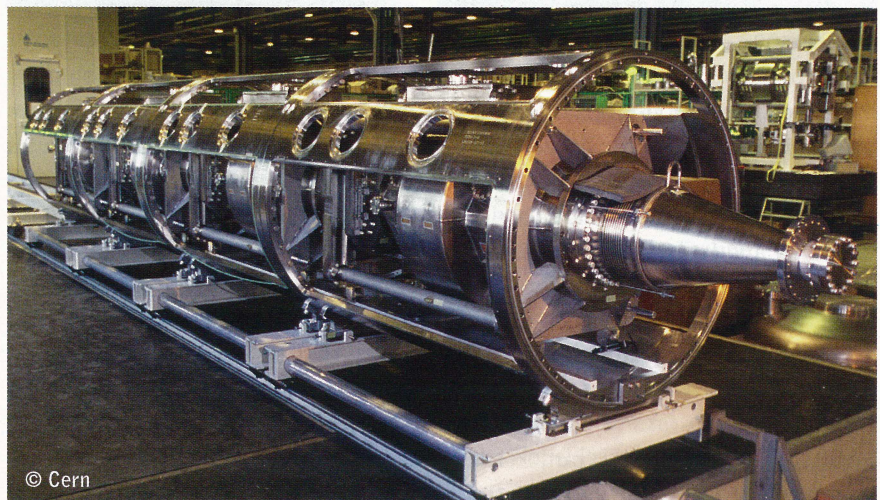
Foster adds that, “Ambitious initiatives such as the Large Hadron Computing Grid Project demand technical specifications that are ahead of the industry standard – therefore we like working with vendors such as ProCurve Networking who are flexible enough to invest in developing appropriate solutions. Our campus strategy is to deploy intelligence and increase security at the edge of our network, making ProCurve’s Adaptive Edge Architecture™ the ideal strategy for us to adopt.”

**Advantages of the partnership** – HP ProCurve also offers a low total cost of ownership as well as a lifetime warranty. Other than managing the data output for the LHC Grid Project, HP ProCurve has also helped jumpstart other projects within CERN. It has collected and stored large amounts of data for the CERN Investigation of Network Behavior and Anomaly Detection, or CINBAD, Project. Since the mission of the project is to detect the relationship between large computer networks and high-performance computing companies, CERN has found HP ProCurve to be a reliable source and partner.

**Another HP contribution** – EDS, an HP company, has also served as a contributor to the Grid Project. Though the services of the company stretch across many fields, EDS has provided a

grid monitoring domain and, more specifically, a GridMap application that is an interactive visualization of the Grid’s data distribution across the globe. Other applications, such as the “Critical Services Map” and the “Site Monitoring GridMap”, have stemmed from the GridMap and EDS has used the application beyond the LHC Computing Grid Project.

**Future plans** – As the world’s largest technology company, HP is always one step ahead of technology; the company understands, simplifies and manages technology for consumers and businesses across the globe. The nearly 2-year collaboration between HP and CERN seems promising in future, particularly with the role of HP ProCurve in relation to the LHC Grid Project. «««



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