

The EURO-VO Facility Centre: Future plans and need for SAC input

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AIDA: Astronomical Infrastructure for Data Access

- The EURO-VO proposal "Astronomical Infrastructure for Data Access (AIDA)", submitted to the first Framework Programme 7 (FP7) Infrastructure call INFRA-2007-1.2.1 "Scientific Digital Repositories", has been selected for funding at the 2.7 M€ level
- The project started on Feb. 1, 2008 and will terminate on July 31, 2010 (30 months) [kick-off meeting next week at CDS]
- Partners include: ESO, ESA, plus six national nodes: CNRS (France) [lead], INAF (Italy), INTA (Spain), Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (Netherlands), University of Edinburgh (UK), and Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (Germany)



AIDA: Astronomical Infrastructure for Data Access

- AIDA will guide the VO transition from development to operations in Europe
- Its main goals:
 - Build a community of science users through the EURO-VO Science Advisory Committee and science workshops
 - Assist the large-scale deployment of IVOA protocols and standards by data centers (tools and tutorials)
 - Provide services based on the VO infrastructure for higher education and outreach
 - Maintain and develop the VO technical infrastructure
- In short, AIDA includes bits of DCA, VOTECH, and Facility Centre
- First dedicated EC funding for Facility Centre activities



AIDA: Astronomical Infrastructure for Data Access

- AIDA Work Packages:
 - *Management*
 - *Strategy, co-operation, and dissemination* (Project program, development, and monitoring; external liaisons; medium-term strategic plan)
 - *Service Activities in support of deployment of IVOA protocols and standards* (EURO-VO registry of resources; support to data centres in the deployment of IVOA protocols and standards; VO tools adaptation)
 - *Service activities for higher education and outreach* (usage of VO tools)
 - *Evolution of VO interoperability standards* (IVOA participation; software prototypes)
 - *Data access protocols and data models* (with IVOA)
 - *Assessment of emerging technologies* (Web 2.0, semantics and ontologies, data mining)

- Work Package *Service Activities in support of provision of VO-enabled services to the science community*
- Main objectives:
 - Trigger advanced usage of VO capabilities
 - Obtain a set of well-documented science cases
 - Gather feedback about the needs of the science community
 - Adaptation of VO tools to these needs
- Deliverables:
 - Two Announcements of Opportunities
 - On-line science tutorials (two releases)
 - Three scientific workshops (2 “community feedback” and 1 “hands-on”)
 - Adaptation of VO tools to serve the science community

- Selection of projects from the two AOs (due ~ July 2008 and 2009)
- Help with scientific workshops:
 - On which topics should the “community feedback” workshops be? [due ~ Oct. 2008 and 2009]
 - How to structure the “hands-on” workshop? [due ~ Apr. 2009)
 - Provide feedback on science community needs
 - Provide feedback on science tutorials and tools